

(No Model.)

M. CAMPBELL.  
HAMMOCK STRETCHER.

No. 374,776.

Patented Dec. 13, 1887.

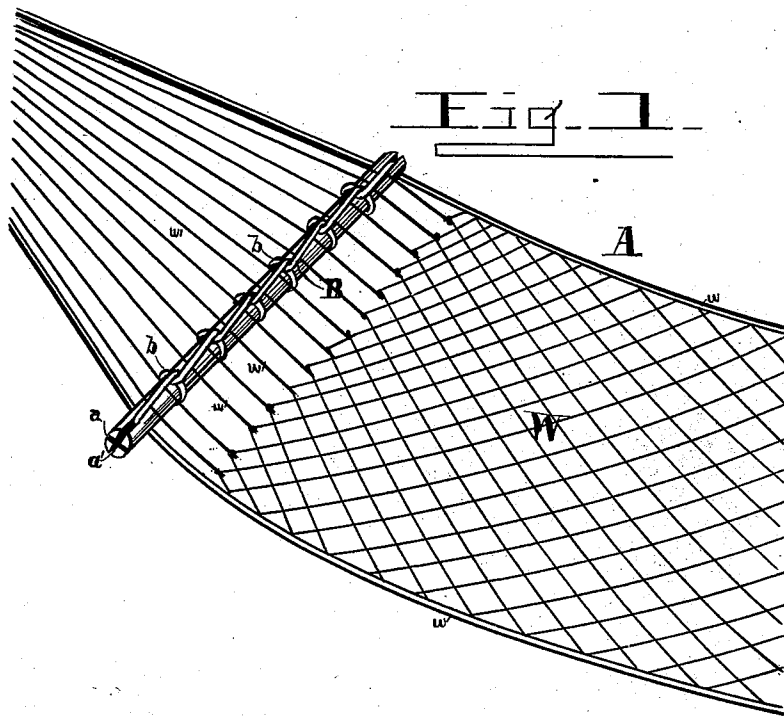


Fig. 2

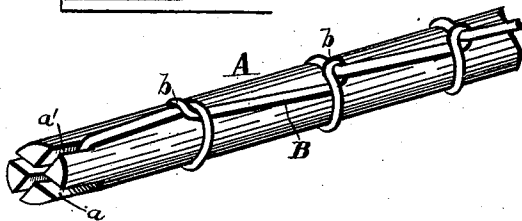
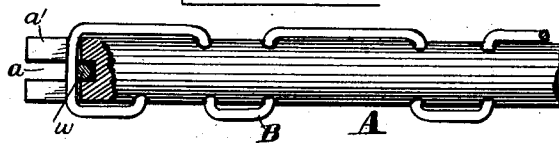


Fig. 3



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARVIN CAMPBELL, OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA.

## HAMMOCK-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 374,776, dated December 13, 1887.

Application filed October 4, 1887. Serial No. 251,481. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARVIN CAMPBELL, of South Bend, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hammock-Stretchers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved hammock-stick applied to a hammock. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the same detached. Fig. 3 illustrates a modification of the same.

This invention relates to improvements in hammock-sticks employed for keeping spread the meshes of the hammock; and it consists in the employment of a stick and attached cord for separating and distending the several strands of the hammock, so as to render it more comfortable and safe for the occupant.

To these ends the invention consists in the peculiar and novel stick and cord, hereinafter described, illustrated in the drawings, and particularly pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

Referring to the drawings by letter, W designates the hammock of usual construction, having at the ends of the net the several supporting-strands, *w w*, and the outside re-enforce strands, *w' w'*, on its edges.

A designates the hammock-stick, and B the cord thereof. The stick A may be either curved or straight, as desired, being shown in this instance as straight. The ends of stick A are cross-notched, as shown at *a a'*, respectively, the said notches crossing each other at right angles and the notches *a* being preferably deeper than notches *a'*.

The stick A is placed at the ends of the hammock, as shown in Fig. 1, with the strands *w' w'* in the notches *a a'* of the opposite ends, as shown, and the strands *w* resting upon the top surface of the stick. The cord B, which has one end secured to an end of stick A on its lower side, is then turned up through notch *a'* at its end of the stick, binding strand *w'* in notch *a*, and is then carried forward over one set of the strands *w* on top of the stick, and then tightly looped in a slip-knot around the

stick, as shown at *b*, carried forward over another set of strands *w*, looped again, and so on to the opposite end of the stick, where it is passed downward through notch *a'*, over strand *w* in notch *a*, binding the latter therein, and then has its free end secured to the stick, so that the loops and strands cannot disengage or the strands *w'* escape from notches *a a'*.

The loops *b* of cord B are preferably made as shown—that is, where it is desired to make the loop the cord B is held by one hand, its free end passed once around the stick A, thence back around itself, and forward to the next loop, as shown. These loops can be quickly formed and are well known, and can be readily understood from the drawings.

In Fig. 2 I have illustrated two kinds of loops, which can be readily understood by reference to said figure.

Instead of looping the cord, it might be knotted; but I prefer the loops, as they are equally as efficient and much readier of application or undoing.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a modification of the stick and cord. In this, in place of forming the loops in the cord, I perforate the stick at proper intervals, forming the perforations, preferably in pairs, as shown, and then pass the cords up and down through these perforations around the strands of the hammock, binding the outer strand, *w'*, in the notched ends of the stick, as before.

The advantages of this invention are, that by the use of the binding-cord in place of notches cut in the stick to separate the strands the latter are not cut out or abraded thereby, and can yield more readily to accommodate the position of the occupant of the hammock without strain or binding upon the stick unduly; also, that while the stick and cord separate the strands, yet they bind the outer strands in one relative position and prevent the escape of either from the stick, or the escape of the stick therefrom when the weight of the occupant is thrown entirely upon one outer side of the hammock, as would be the case were the strands *w'* not bound in place. That the stick is much cheaper than the notched stick is obvious, and by its use the strands may be divided separately, in pairs, or in any desired bunches, as may be desired. The application of the cord to a curved stick

is the same as to the straight stick described, as is obvious.

Having described my invention, I claim—

5 1. A stick for hammocks, having its ends notched at right angles, the similar notches at its opposite ends engaging the outer cords of a hammock, and a retaining-cord secured to said stick, adapted to enter the remaining notches to retain the hammock-cords therein, and also to be looped around the strands to separate the same, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose described.

15 2. The herein-described hammock-stick, having notches *a* in its ends for engaging the outer cords of a hammock and the cross-notches *a'* in its ends, and provided with a cord, B, adapted to enter the notches *a'* and bind the outer strands in notches *a*, and also  
20 to be looped around the stick and inner strands of the hammock at regular intervals to sepa-

rate and distend the strands, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination, with the hammock W, having outer strands, *w'*, and inner strands, *w*, of the stick A, provided with notches *a'* in its ends, the former engaging the strands *w'* of the hammock, and the binding-cord B, entering notches *a'* and binding strands *w'* in notches *a* thereby, and extending across and looped around stick A at regular intervals over one or more strands *w*, to separate and distend the same, all substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MARVIN CAMPBELL.

Witnesses:

JAMES DU SHANE,  
CHAS. W. WILEY.