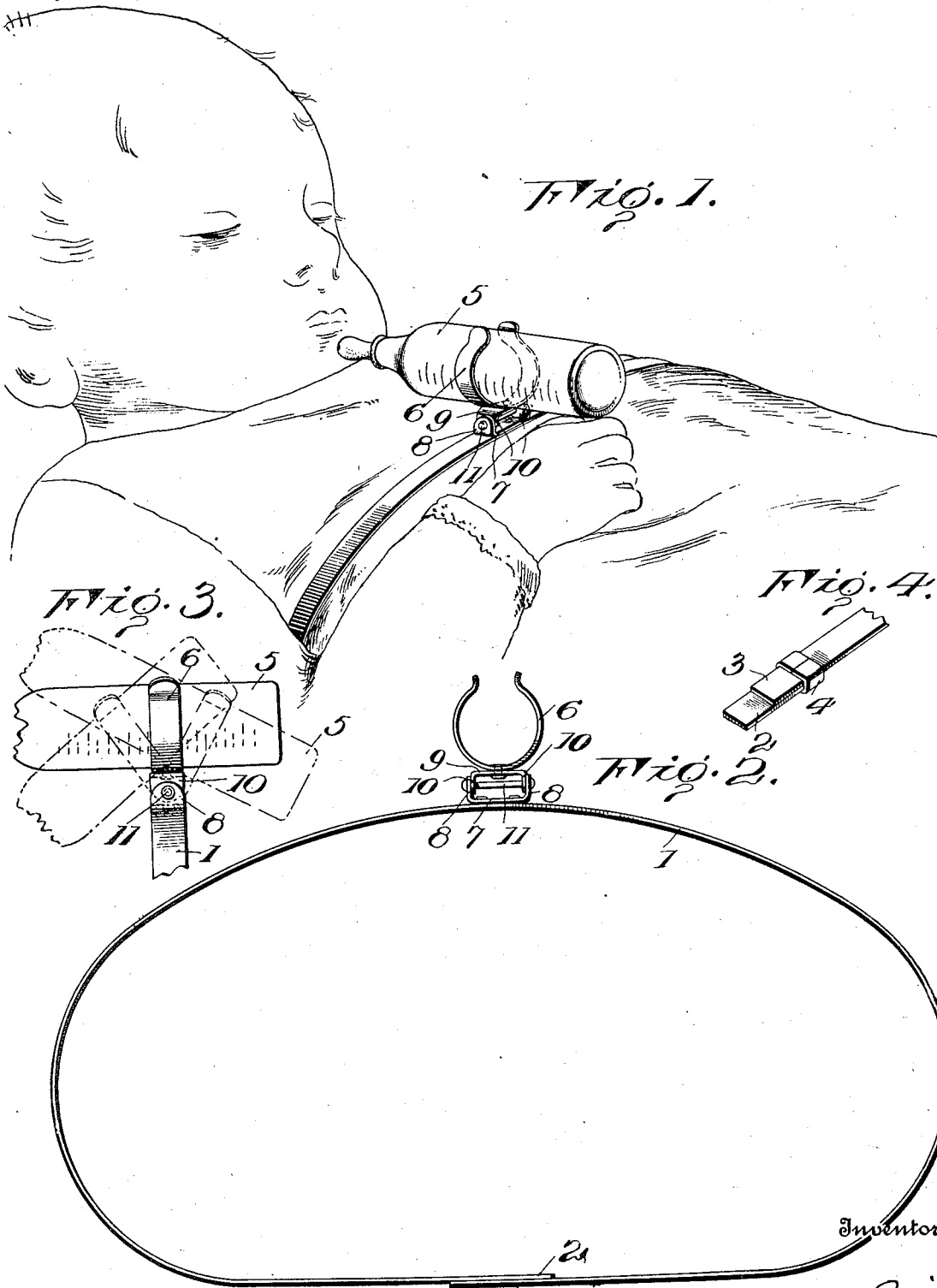


M. A. SMITH.
 BABY FEEDER.
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1,287,125.

Patented Dec. 10, 1918.



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MIRIAM AMES SMITH, OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK.

BABY-FEEDER.

1,287,125.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MIRIAM AMES SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Mount Vernon, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Baby-Feeders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a baby feeder and has as its object the meeting of certain requirements which are essential to practical success in a device of this character. To be of any use whatever, a baby feeder must be absolutely safe and to that end it should take all weight off the baby—both the weight of the device itself and that of the bottle and its contents. It should also hold the bottle fixed in exactly the correct position irrespective of any movement by the baby and to this end it must be incapable of tilting or otherwise shifting its position after it has once been properly located. Of course this does not exclude adjustability which, on the contrary, is highly desirable. In addition to these primary requisites, the usefulness of such a device is greatly increased if it is not necessary to fasten it to any article of furniture since this of course constitutes a limitation on its use. My baby feeder meets all of the above essential requirements and being a self-contained device, complete in itself, may be used anywhere and is therefore very convenient. My device comprises a support adapted to conform to the body of the baby and to be placed under it, the support thus being held in fixed position by the weight of the baby, and a holder for a nursing bottle. The support is preferably a spring band and is sufficiently stiff to take both the weight of the device and that of the bottle and its contents off the baby. The bottle holder is adjustable with reference to the support and for convenience the holder is preferably of such a character that the bottle may be readily removed from it.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my baby feeder applied to a baby.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the preferred form of my baby feeder, and

Fig. 3 is an incomplete elevation showing in detail the holder and bottle in adjusted position.

Fig. 4 is a detail perspective from the underside of a modified form of support in which one of the ends has a keeper for the other.

In the figures thus described, 1 is the support preferably of spring metal shaped so that it will conform to the body of the baby, though it should be understood that the support has no tendency to squeeze the baby or exert any pressure upon its body. The support furnishes a flat portion underneath the body of the baby and, as stated above is held in position by the weight of the baby. The ends 2, 3 of the support preferably overlap beneath the baby as shown in Fig. 2, so that the device may be applied and removed without lifting or reaching under the baby. One of the ends preferably the upper end 2 may be provided with a keeper 4 as shown in Fig. 4. The support, whatever its specific form, is extensible, which adapts it to use with growing babies. On the supporting band 1 is adjustably mounted a holder for a nursing bottle 5, said holder conveniently taking the form of a spring clip 6 adjustably mounted on the support. Since the purpose of the adjustment is to enable the bottle to be placed at the correct inclination, I find it satisfactory to employ a pivoted or hinged arrangement which may be constructed as illustrated, the yoke 7 being secured to the support 1 and having ears 8. Carrying the clip 6 is a reversed yoke 9 of spring metal and having ears 10 which tend to spring outward against the ears 8 of the yoke 7, both sets of ears 8 and 10 having registering holes through which passes the pintle 11. The result is that the holder and bottle may be adjusted in any desired position, the friction between the ears maintaining this adjustment. It will be obvious that the bottle is thus held fixed above the body of the baby in a predetermined position, the weight of the baby holding the entire device in place so that it has no tendency to tilt or to move in any direction. This, in the first place, removes any possibility of the device permitting the bottle to tilt against the baby's gums or jaws and obviates any danger of choking, since the baby may withdraw its mouth from the nipple and take it again, the position of the nipple remaining fixed, and can do this without any outside help.

It is obvious that the device may be read-

ily applied and that it may be removed without risk of waking the baby. This is accomplished without difficulty in the case of both forms which I have illustrated but it is perhaps more easily accomplished in the very simple preferred form shown in Fig. 2 in which the ends of the support 1 are unconnected. But to keep the band in correct position with its ends in precisely the right relation the keeper 4 may be provided on one end of the support 1, the other end of the band passing through the keeper as shown in Fig. 4.

I have not of course attempted to illustrate all modifications and it will be apparent that I am not limited to the details shown.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A baby feeder comprising a support embracing the body of the baby, movable therewith and lying in part beneath the body of the baby, and means carried by said support for holding a nursing bottle in position above the body of the baby.
2. A baby feeder comprising a holder for a nursing bottle, a stiff band carrying said holder adapted to conform to the body of the baby and to be placed under it, and when in place constituting the sole support of said holder and bottle and maintaining the bottle above the body of the baby and fixed in a predetermined location with relation thereto.
3. A baby feeder comprising a spring band adapted to conform to the body of the baby and to be placed under it, and a holder for

a nursing bottle adjustably mounted on said band above the body of the baby.

4. A baby feeder comprising a spring band adapted to conform to the body of the baby and to be placed under it, and a holder for a nursing bottle frictionally hinged on said band above the body of the baby.

5. A baby feeder comprising a stiff spring band adapted to encircle the body of the baby and be held in position by the weight thereof, and means adjustably mounted on said support for releasably holding a nursing bottle, the entire device when in place holding the bottle fixed in a predetermined position above the body of the baby, the weight of the device, bottle and contents being taken off the baby.

6. A baby feeder comprising a stiff spring band having ends adapted to be inserted under the body of the baby from opposite sides and be held in position by the weight thereof, and to be removed from under the body of the baby from opposite sides, and means adjustably mounted on said band for holding a nursing bottle, the entire device when in place holding the bottle fixed in a predetermined position above the body of the baby, the weight of the device, bottle and contents being taken off the baby.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MIRIAM AMES SMITH.

Witnesses:

ALBERT E. SMITH,
JOHN H. KIRKER.