R. H. SLEICHER.

HOSPITAL APPARATUS.

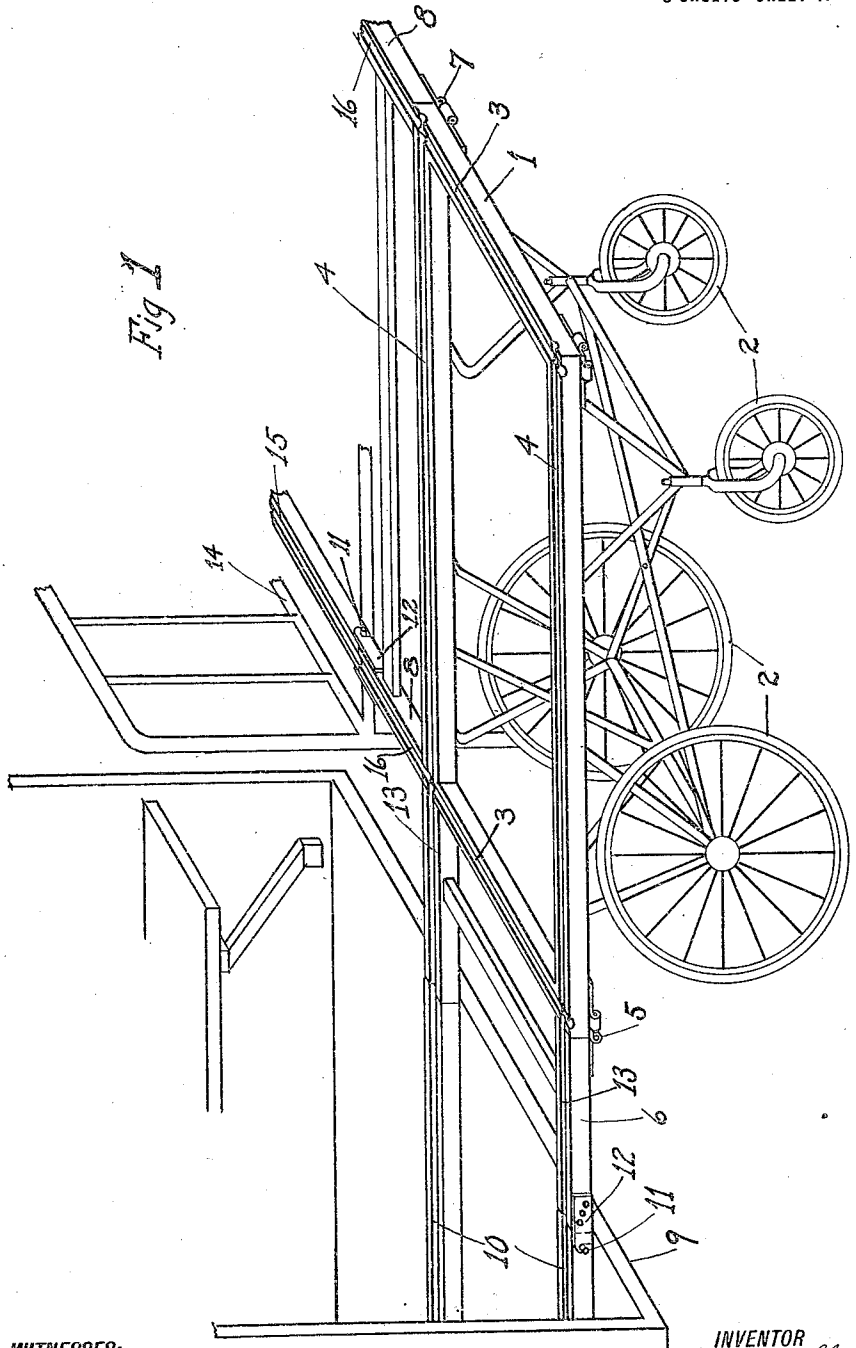
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1,138,582.

Patented May 4, 1915.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig 1



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

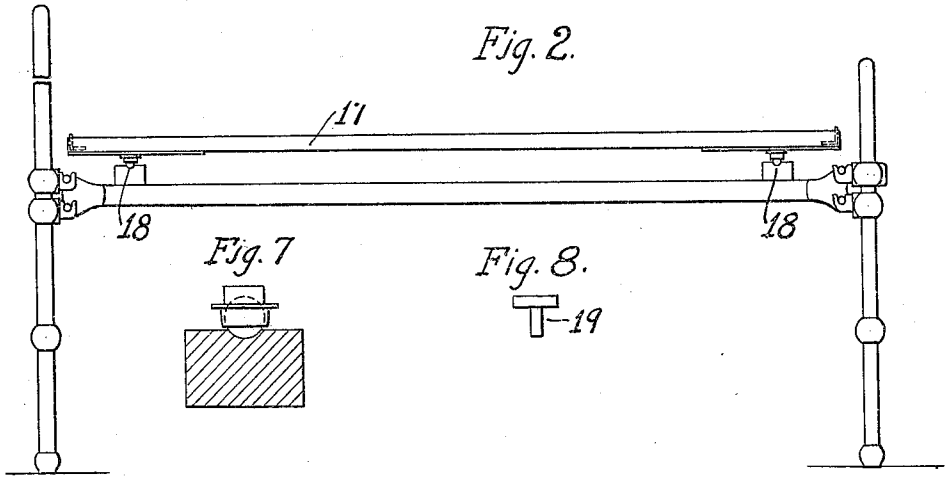


Fig. 7

Fig. 8.

Fig. 3.

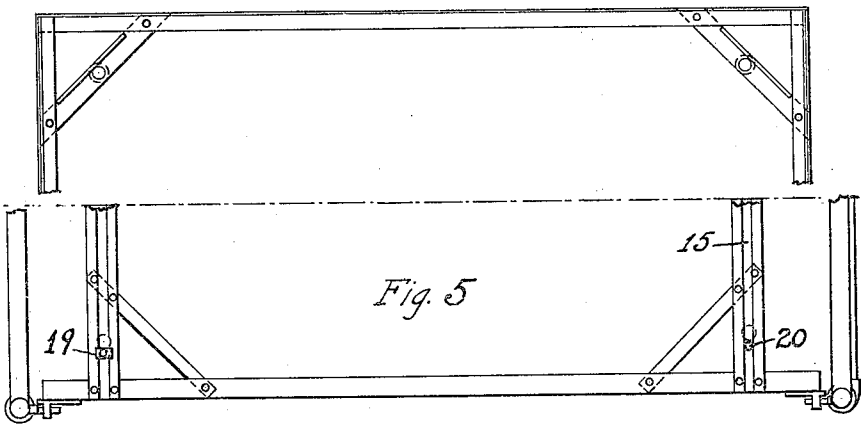


Fig. 5

Fig. 4



Fig. 6

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

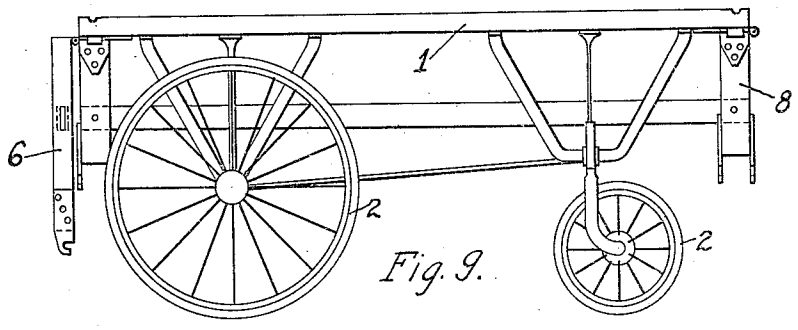


Fig. 9.

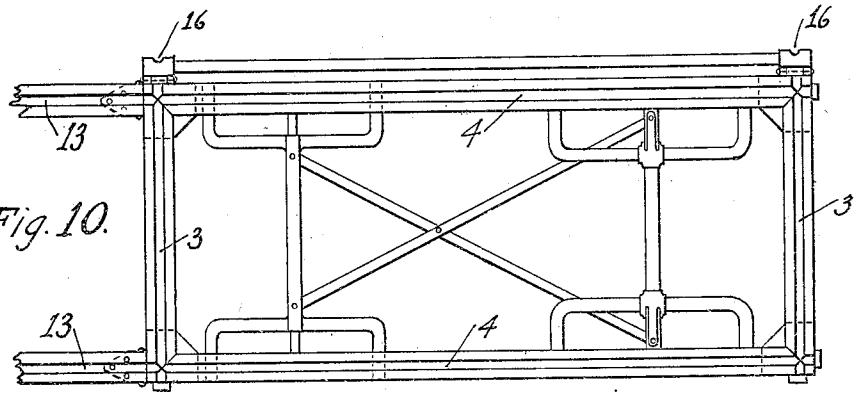


Fig. 10.

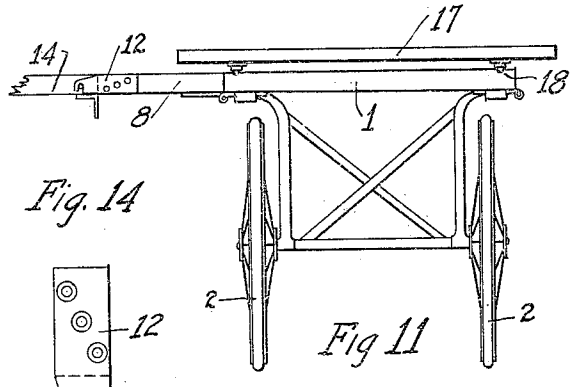


Fig 11

Fig 13

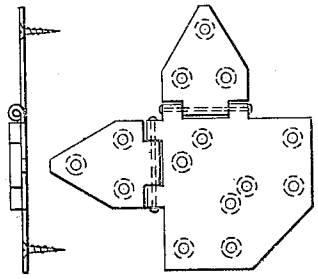


Fig 12

Fig. 14

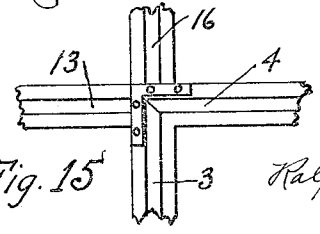


Fig. 15

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HOSPITAL APPARATUS.

1,138,582. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 4, 1915.

Application filed January 9, 1914. Serial No. 811,163.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RALPH H. SLEICHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Troy, county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hospital Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to such improvements and consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and subsequently claimed.

Reference may be had to the accompanying drawings, and the reference characters marked thereon, which form a part of this specification. Similar characters refer to similar parts in the several figures therein.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a view in perspective of my improved hospital-apparatus showing the transfer carriage, and pair of couch-supports adjacent respectively to a side and an end of the vehicle. Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation showing the bed-frame and the shiftable couch supported upon the ways on said frame. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a broken-away portion of the couch-frame. Fig. 4 is an end view of the same. Fig. 5 is a plan view of a broken-away portion of the bed-frame showing the transverse ways thereon. Fig. 6 is an end view of the same. Fig. 7 is a cross-section of one of the ways with one of the couch casters detached in engagement with the way. Fig. 8 is a view in side elevation of a stop-pin to prevent accidental displacement of the couch on the bed-frame. Fig. 9 is a view in side elevation of the carriage. Fig. 10 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 11 is a view in end elevation of the same. Fig. 12 is a plan view of a corner-hinge plate and hinges whereby the bridges are hinged to the carriage. Fig. 13 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 14 is a plan view of one of the hooks detached whereby the swinging end of the bridge is detachably connected with a neighboring couch-support. Fig. 15 is a top plan view of a broken-away corner portion of the carriage showing the ways in modified form at their point of intersection.

The principal object of the invention is to facilitate the transfer of a patient from one to the other of an ambulance and an ether-carriage, or from one to the other of an ether-carriage and a bed.

Other objects will appear in connection with the following description.

In carrying out my invention I employ a novel form of vehicle adapted to be used in place of the ordinary ether-carriage used in hospitals for transferring patients from place to place, which vehicle has ways extending toward a side or end thereof upon which ways a couch is mounted by means of casters; and I provide a bed-frame with ways adapted to aline with the respective ways on the vehicle; and I also provide an ambulance with ways adapted to aline with the respective ways on the vehicle, whereby the couch can be shifted along said ways from the ambulance to the vehicle, or from the vehicle to the ambulance, or from the vehicle to the bed, or from the bed to the vehicle, as may be desired.

Referring to the drawings wherein the invention is shown in preferred form, 1 is the frame of the carriage mounted upon wheels, 2, the top of the frame having a set of ways, 3—3, extending transversely of the carriage, and another set of ways, 4—4, extending longitudinally of the carriage and perpendicularly intersecting the ways, 3—3. The ways, 3—3, extend to one side of the carriage, and the ways, 4—4, extend to one end of the carriage. At said end of the carriage I mount thereupon by means of hinges, 5, a bridge, 6, which when not in use may hang down as shown in Fig. 9. At said side of the carriage I mount thereupon, by means of similar hinges, 7, a bridge, 8, which, when not in use, may hang down at the side of the carriage as shown in Fig. 9. In Fig. 1 I have shown, adjacent to said end of the carriage, a broken-away portion of a couch-support, 9, which may be an ordinary hospital ambulance, except that it is provided with ways, 10, adapted to aline with the respective longitudinal ways, 4, on the carriage. Projecting laterally from the ways, 10, are pins, 11, adapted to be engaged by the respective hooks, 12, fixed upon the swinging end of the bridge, 6, whereby said bridge is adapted to be supported in substantially horizontal position in detachable connection with the ambulance, and to serve as a means for detachably connecting the carriage with

the ambulance. The bridge, 6, is provided with ways, 13, which are adapted to aline with the respective longitudinal ways, 4, on the carriage, and with the ways, 10, on the ambulance. I have also shown in Fig. 1 another couch-support, 14, which may be a bed-frame similar to an ordinary hospital bed-frame, except that it is provided with transverse ways, 15, adapted to aline with the respective transverse ways, 3, on the carriage.

Projecting laterally from the ways, 15, are pins 11, adapted to be engaged by the respective hooks, 12, fixed upon the swinging end of the bridge, 8, whereby said bridge is adapted to be supported in substantially horizontal position in detachable connection with said bed-frame, and to serve as a means for detachably connecting the carriage with said bed-frame.

The bridge 8, is provided with ways, 16, which are adapted to aline with the respective transverse ways, 3, on the carriage and with the ways, 15, on the bed-frame.

The couch, 17, forms the direct support for the patient, which couch is mounted upon casters, 18, adapted to engage the respective ways, 3, 4, 10, 13, 15 and 16, and shiftable along such of said ways as are in alinement with each other, and also shiftable at the intersection of the ways, 3 and 4, from one set of ways to the other perpendicularly arranged set of ways.

It will be readily seen that by the use of this apparatus, a patient can be conveniently and without unnecessary discomfort transferred from the ambulance to the carriage, and from the carriage to the bed; or can be transferred from the bed to the carriage and thereby conveyed to the operating-room or other desired place.

In Fig. 1 I have shown the ways, 3, extending fully to the side of the carriage, and the ways, 4, extending fully to the end of the carriage, so that the longitudinal ways are continuous from the carriage to the ambulance, and the transverse ways are continuous from the carriage to the bed. The ways may, however, be made as shown in Fig. 15, the outer flange of the longitudinal ways, 4, extending across the ends of the transverse ways, 3, and the outer flange of ways, 3, extending across the ends of the longitudinal ways, 4, in which case the outer flanges of the respective ways form stops to prevent accidental displacement of the couch on the carriage, over which stops the casters can be passed by slightly lifting the couch in shifting from one set of ways to the other perpendicular set of ways.

As a means for preventing accidental displacement of the couch upon the bed, I have shown stops in the form of headed pins, 19, adapted to be removably inserted in the respective holes, 20, in the ways, 15. Similar stops, if desired, may be employed upon the ways of the carriage and the ways of the ambulance, or any known form of stop may be employed for this purpose.

I do not wish to be limited to the particular construction of the several parts as shown in the drawings, as various modifications of the same are within the scope of my invention.

I have shown a simple form of ball-caster, 18, in place of which any other known suitable form of caster may be employed.

I have shown the several ways formed by means of grooves in the respective members, but wish it understood that by the term "ways," I mean to include any track or guiding means for the casters, which will permit the operation of the apparatus in substantially the manner above described.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. In an apparatus of the class described and in combination, a vehicle having two perpendicularly arranged sets of ways, one set extending transversely of the vehicle and the other set extending longitudinally of the vehicle; and a couch adapted to be supported upon said vehicle and having means engageable with said ways and shiftable from one set to the other thereof.

2. In an apparatus of the class described and in combination, a vehicle having two perpendicularly arranged sets of ways, one set extending transversely of the vehicle and the other set extending longitudinally of the vehicle; a plurality of bridges, one attachable at the end of each way; and a couch adapted to be supported upon said vehicle and having means engageable with said ways and also the bridges, said means also being shiftable from one set of ways to the other.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of January, 1914.

RALPH H. SLEICHER.

Witnesses:
ROSE A. LEDUC,
FRANK C. CURTIS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."