C. A. FENNER.

Cradles.

No. 144,391. Patented Nov. 11, 1873.

Fig: 1.

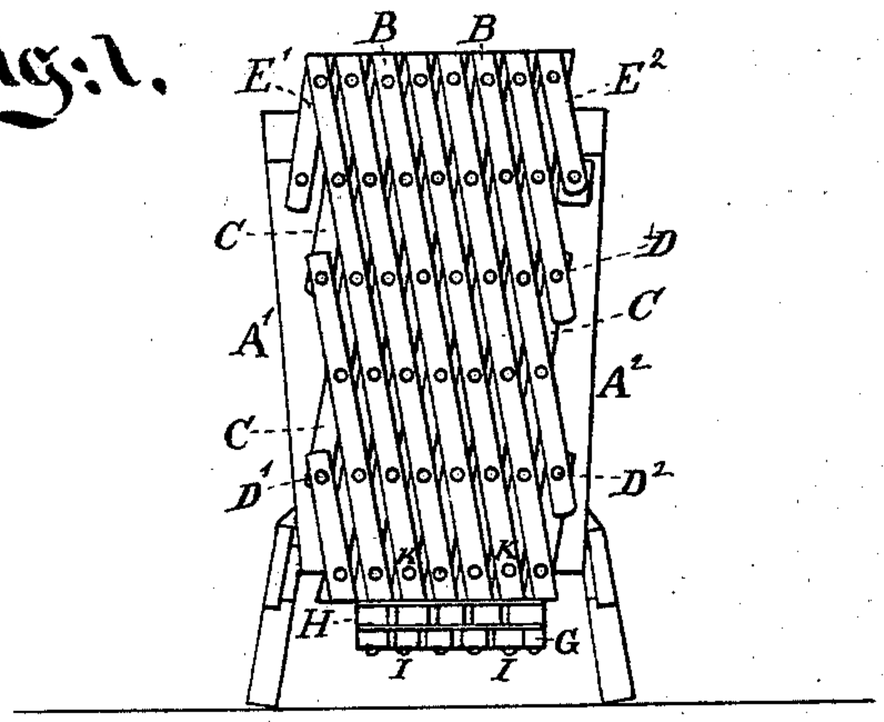


Fig: 2.

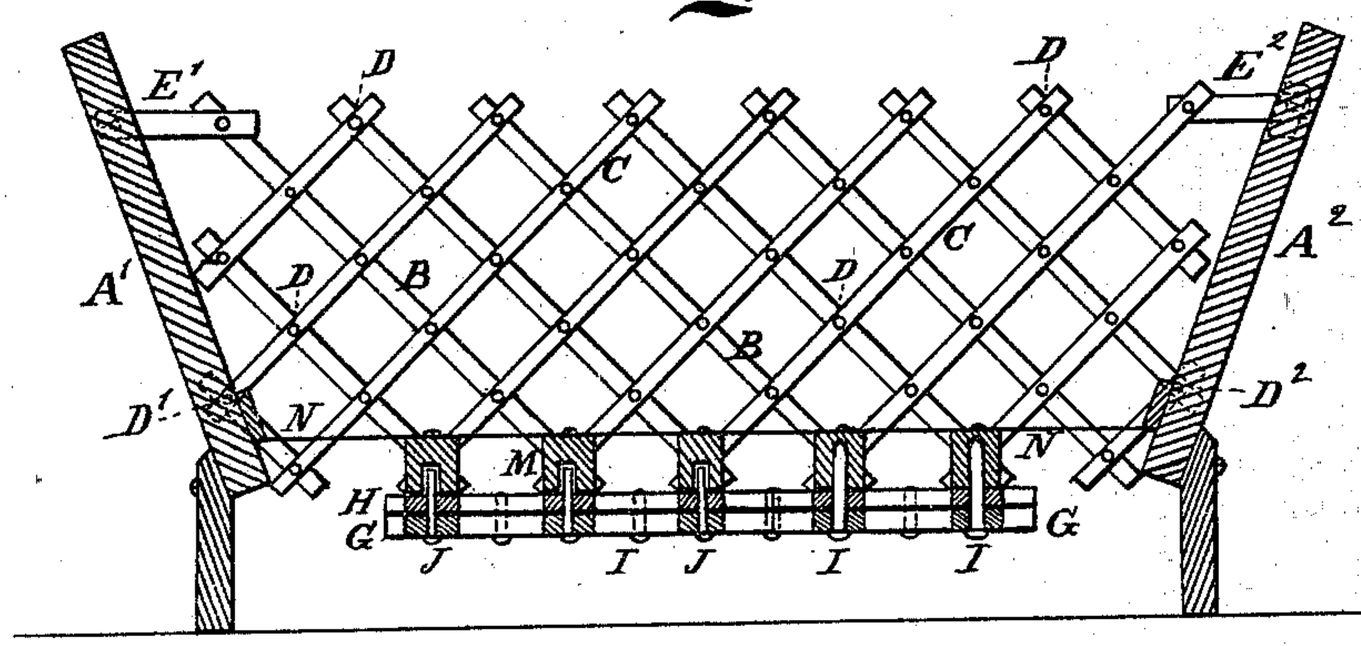
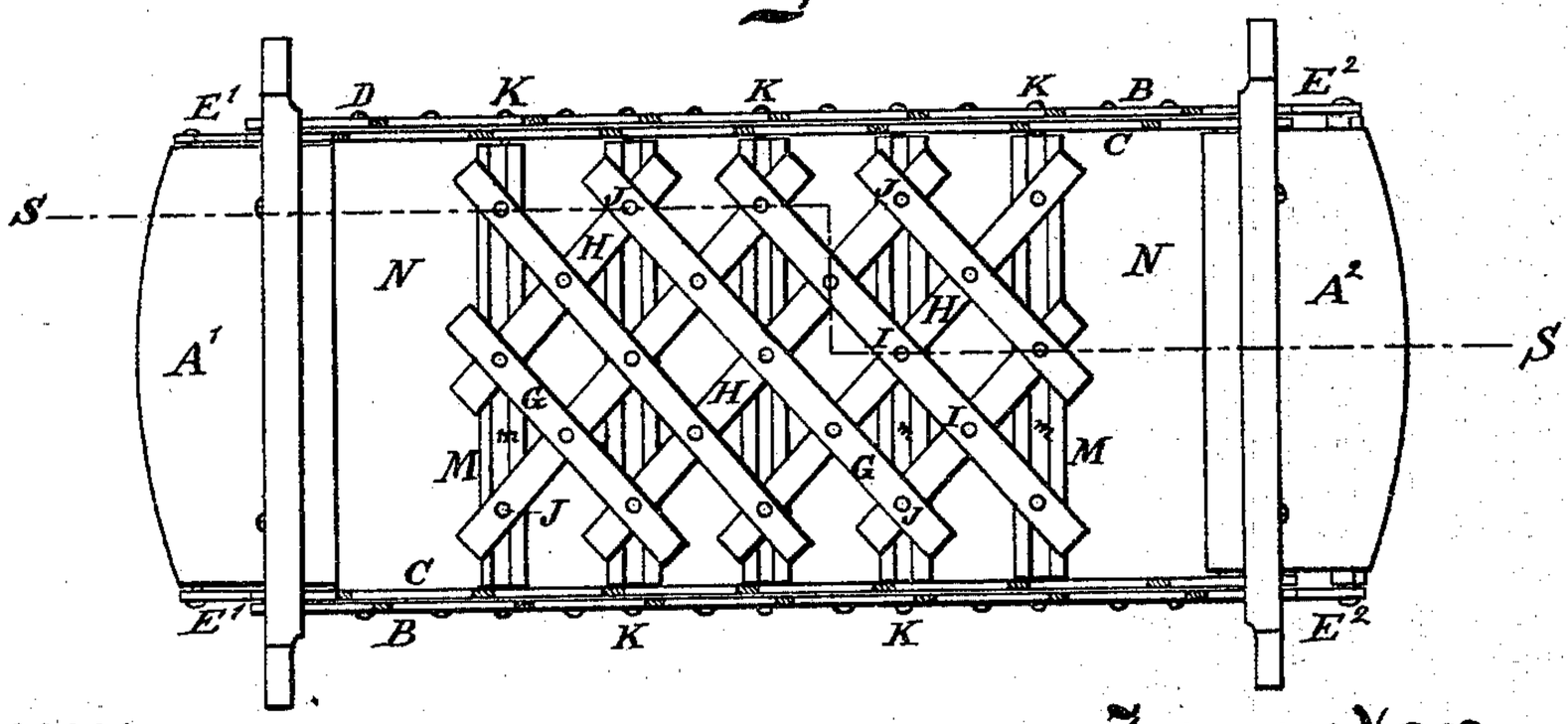


Fig: 3.



Witnesses;
Arnold Hörmann.
Wm C Dey

Inventor;
C. A. Fenner.
by his attorney F. L. Stetson

AM. PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHIC Co. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS)

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. FENNER, OF MYSTIC RIVER, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN CRADLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **144,391**, dated November 11, 1873; application filed April 7, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. FENNER, of Mystic River, New London county, Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Cradles and analogous small beds, of which the following is a specification, and describes a cradle with solid ends made in accordance with the invention.

It will be understood, however, that the ends may be of open-work, and that, instead of rockers, there may be feet with legs of any desired length, to constitute the device a crib instead of a cradle, if preferred.

The expanding lattice sides are connected to the ends, so that as the cradle is expanded the ends are inclined. The expanding lattice bottom is made to support pieces extending directly across. There is a folding canvas bottom above the cross-pieces, and there may be a flexible strap along each side at the top.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the cradle closed, and Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same open. It is on the line S S in Fig. 3, so as to show in some of the bottom pieces the peculiar arrangement for carrying the pins in transverse grooves. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the cradle open.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures.

A^1 A^2 are the ends, respectively provided with rigidly-attached rockers, as shown. B B C C are diagonal strips of hard wood, loosely connected by rivets D, so that they can turn thereon. D^1 D^2 are long nails or screws, which take the place of rivets at those points, and connect the expanding lattice sides B C to the ends. E^1 E^2 are short links, which connect the upper portions of the lattice sides with the upper part of the ends, respectively. G G H H are strips of hard wood, connected to form an expanding lattice bottom. I I are nails or screws, which connect the strips G H to each other, and also to stouter cross-pieces M, each of which has a groove, *m*, in its base, which severally receive the ends of nails or bolts J, and allow them to slide toward and from the central longitudinal line as the cradle is expanded and contracted. K K are nails or screws, which connect the lower ends of the lattice sides B C to the ends of the cross-pieces M. N is a piece of canvas secured to the ends, and also to the cross-pieces M, and adapted to aid in supporting the mattress or other soft material, (not represented,) which forms the bed for the child.

It opens into a condition which presents the ends flaring, while, on closing together, it presents the ends in parallel, or nearly parallel, positions. The space left within the structure, when collapsed, is adapted to receive the bedding when folded or otherwise prepared in a compact form. The cross-pieces M *m*, supporting the canvas bottom N, are very efficiently supported in all positions by the lattice bottom G H.

I claim as my invention—

1. The links E^1 E^2, connecting the ends A^1 A^2 with the latticed sides B C, arranged as shown, so that as the parts are closed together the ends will approximate a parallel position, and as they are extended the ends will assume an inclined position, as specified.

2. The grooved cross-pieces M *m*, in combination with the bottom lattices G H, side lattices B C, and the connected ends A^1 A^2, adapted to serve as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of March, 1873, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES A. FENNER.

Witnesses:

JOHN O. FISH,

HENRY B. NOYES.