J. D. LEWIS.

Cribs for Children.

No. 145,218. Patented Dec. 2, 1873.

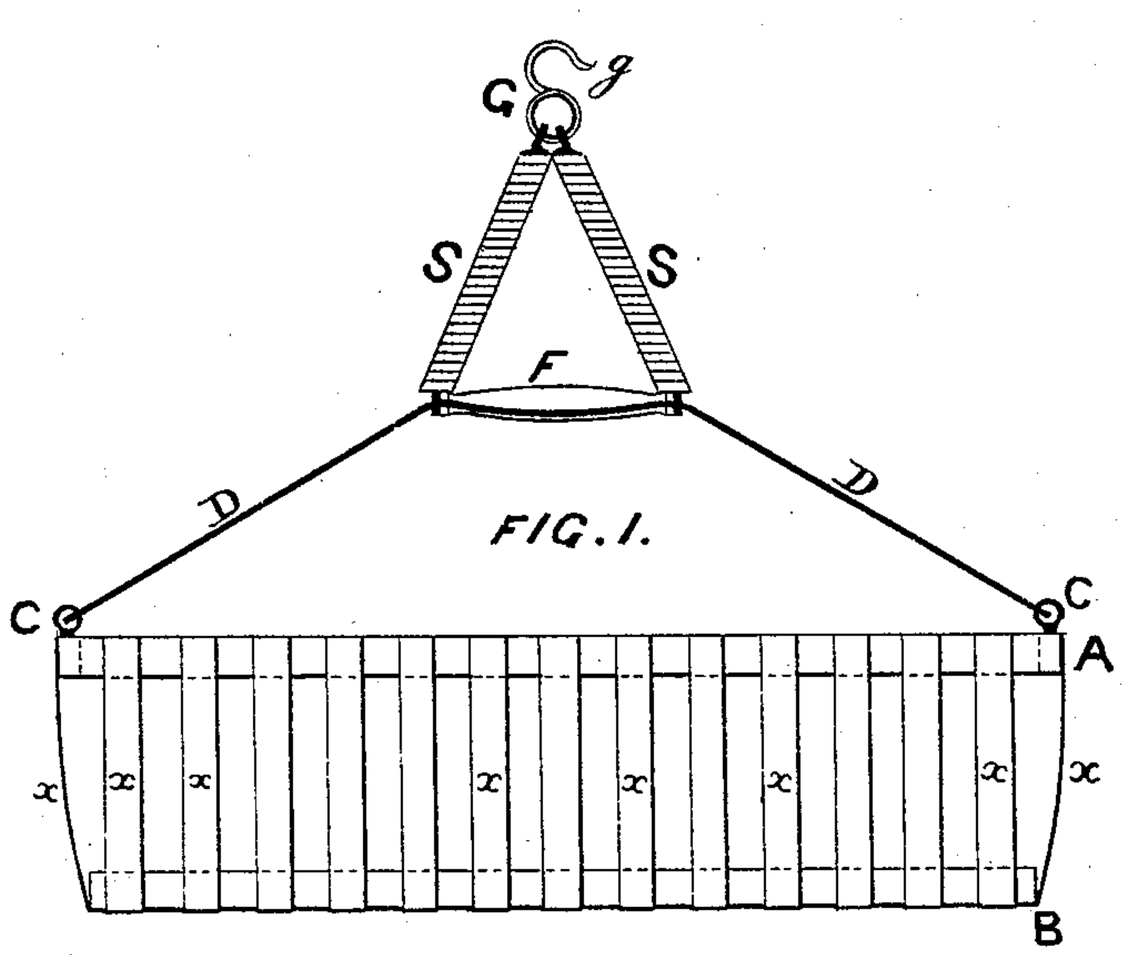


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

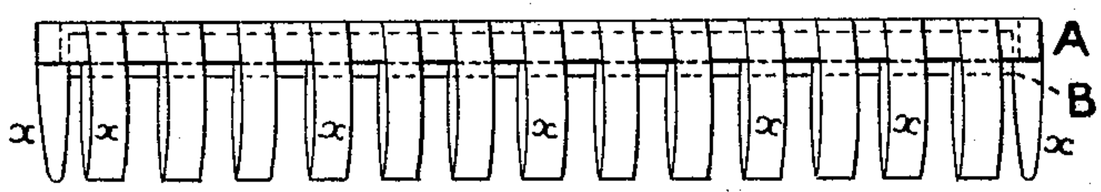
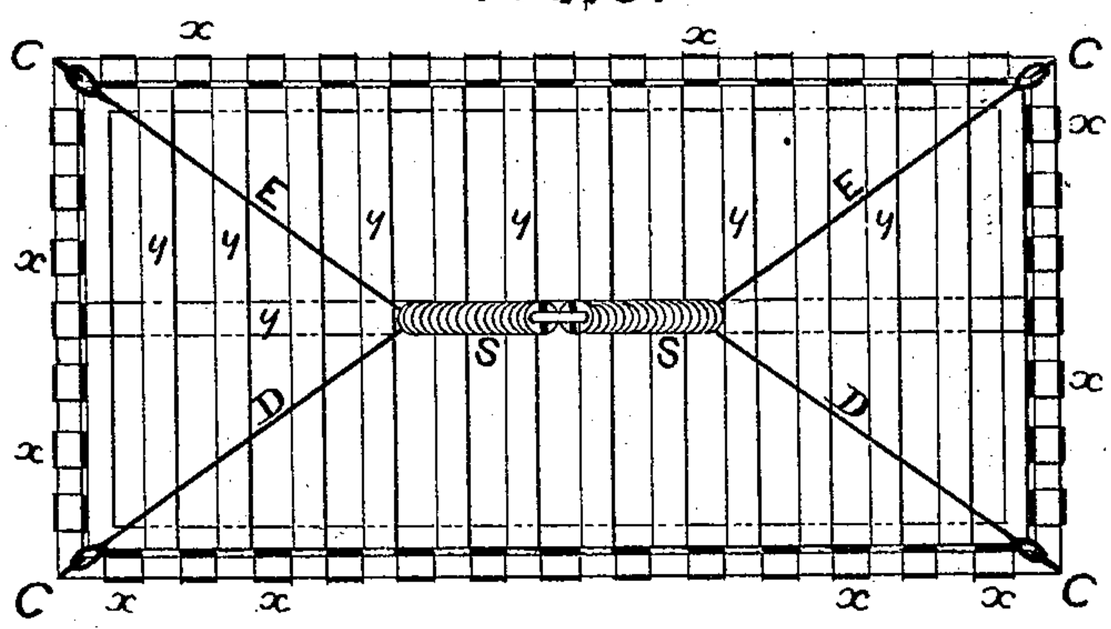


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES

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IMPROVEMENT IN CRIBS FOR CHILDREN.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **145,218**, dated December 2, 1873; application filed July 24, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. LEWIS, of Toronto, in the county of York, Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Child's Spring-Cribs; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a child's crib embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of said crib shut up when not in use, and Fig. 3 is a plan view of the upper side of the crib.

Letters of like name and kind refer to like parts in each of the figures.

My invention relates to the detail of constructing and suspending the crib, whereby a very compact and useful device is provided; and it consists in the construction of the two frames constituting the upper and lower edges, whereby the lower, to which the bottom is fastened, is made so much smaller than the upper, to which it is connected by flexible bands, as that it will fit exactly and evenly within the same when it is desirable to pack the crib for transportation, or for carrying it in a trunk. It consists, further, in the device as a whole, the crib being so made that the bottom is suspended from the upper edge or rail by flexible bands, so as to afford a pliant or flexible crib-body that will yield to a slight motion of an infant, said crib being hung or sustained by means of a spring and cords, or suspenders, so that it is capable of a vertical vibratory motion.

A and B are the upper and lower frames, of wood or other material, B being somewhat smaller than A, so that it may be shut up within A, as seen in Fig. 2. *x x x*, &c., are bands of braid or other flexible material connecting the frames A and B, and fixed at equal distances apart all round the same. *y y y*, &c., are similar bands fixed across the frame B, Fig. 3, so as to form a bottom to the crib for the reception of the mattress or blanket supporting the child. A canvas bottom may be substituted for the bands *y y y*, &c. C C C C are eyes screwed into the four upper corners of the frame A. D and E are cords attached at their rear ends to the eyes C C C C, and passing through one end of each of the spiral, steel, or other wire springs S S, (or the springs S S may be made of india-rubber,) they are confined and prevented from slipping by means of the cross-bar F, which is inserted and placed between the same two ends of the springs S S, for the purpose of keeping them apart, as shown, the cords or suspenders D and E being thereby jammed between the springs and the cross-bar F. The other ends of the springs S S are attached to a suspension link or chain, G, terminating in a hook, *g*, which can be slung either to a hook fixed in the ceiling, or to a bracket projecting from the wall of a room, or, in cases of traveling, to any convenient point of attachment on board ship, railway-car, or other conveyance, or to the branch of a tree on the occasion of a picnic.

If desirable, the crib may be made stationary by suspending it to an upright frame of suitable construction resting on the ground, two or more springs similar to S S being attached to each end of the crib, instead of in the middle, as shown, and slung respectively to the corresponding ends of the cross-bar of the frame overhead.

The bands *x x x*, &c., being flexible, the frame B may be shut up into frame A, and the crib with its appendages stowed away in the smallest possible space for convenience of carriage or otherwise.

The advantages of the crib described over that in ordinary use are as follows: It dispenses with the rocking motion from side to side, so objectionable on medical grounds, a gentle vertical motion being substituted. It is inaccessible to animals and crawling insects, and it can be shut up and carried about with ease, the crib complete only weighing about four pounds.

I claim as my invention—

1. The crib-bottom composed of the frame B and bands *y*, and combined with the top frame A by means of the flexible bands *x x*, substantially as and for the purpose shown.

2. The combination of the crib A, B, *y*, and *x* with the cords or suspenders D E and springs S, in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:
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