

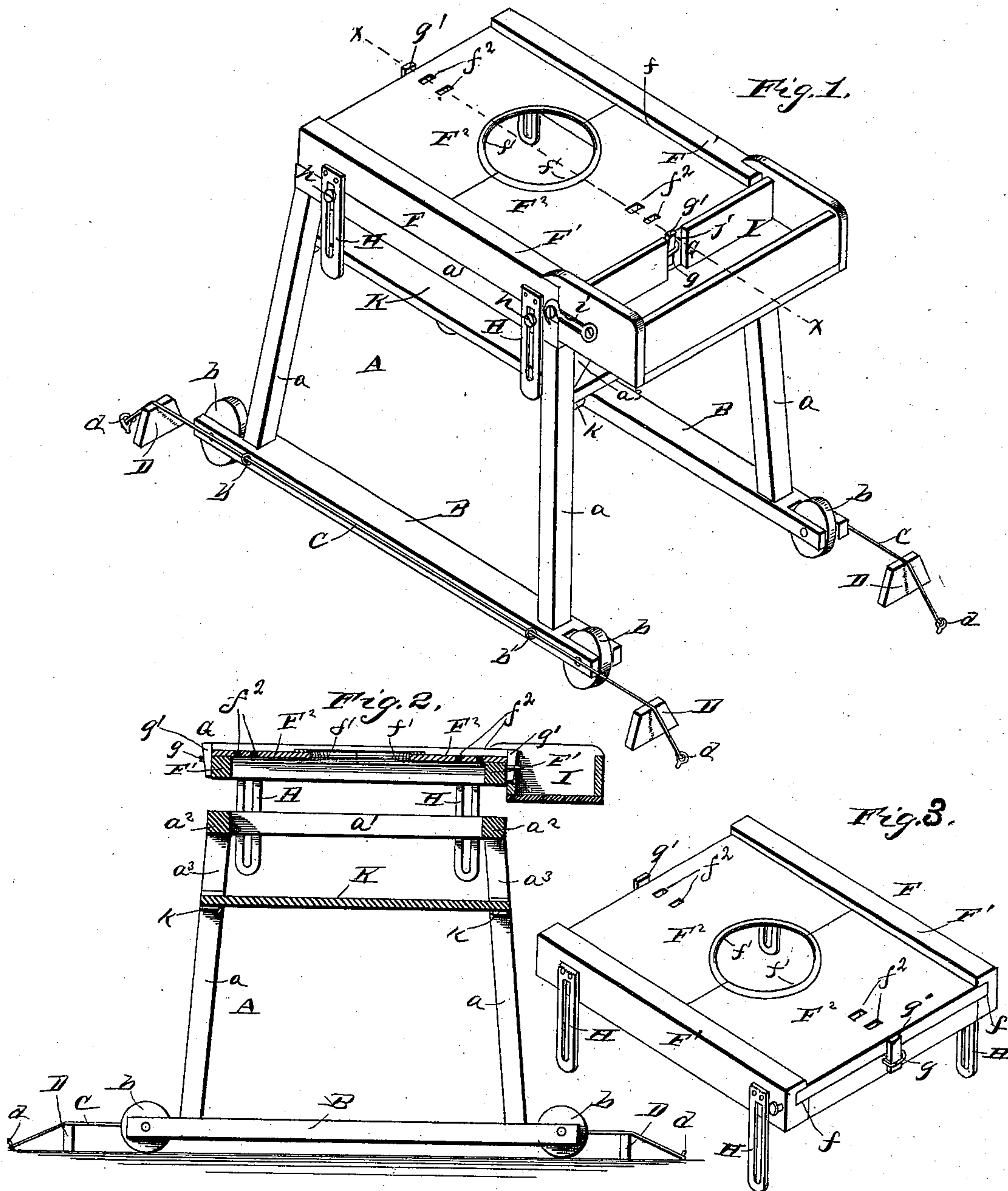
(No Model.)

W. LANE & A. DONEY.

BABY WALKER.

No. 363,899.

Patented May 31, 1887.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM LANE AND ALFRED DONEY, OF PEN ARGYL, PENNSYLVANIA.

BABY-WALKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 363,899, dated May 31, 1887.

Application filed October 12, 1886. Serial No. 216,052. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM LANE and ALFRED DONEY, citizens of the United States, residing at Pen Argyl, in the county of Northampton and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Baby-Walkers, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in nursery-chairs; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate a nursery-chair embodying our present improvements, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the chair in position to move in a straight line only, and Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on the line $x x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the upper support of the chair.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates the frame of the chair, which consists, essentially, of the inclined uprights or legs a , the horizontal longitudinal braces or pieces a' , and the transverse horizontal pieces a'' , all of which are very rigidly and securely connected together for strength and durability. The horizontal pieces and uprights or legs are braced at the points where they meet by suitable brace irons or blocks a^3 , which are secured in place by screws or other suitable devices, so that the strength of the structure is very materially increased. To the lower ends of each pair of uprights or legs are secured or connected the runners B, and to the ends of these runners are secured the brackets or supports for the carrying-rollers b ; or the rollers may be arranged in slotted portions of the runners. If preferred, however, suitable casters may be substituted for the rollers, as they are cheaper and fill all the offices of the rollers.

We will now proceed to describe the means whereby the chair is caused to travel in a straight line and prevented from upsetting by the efforts or movements of the child in attempting to walk. We employ straight runners B, which have guide-loops or eyes b' rigidly affixed thereto at suitable points, and through

these guide-loops are passed the sustaining wires, ropes, cords, or other like means, C, which are stretched taut and held firmly in place. The wire or rope is stretched over fixed supports or blocks D, which are arranged at a suitable distance from each other, and the wires are passed through slots or openings in the said blocks or supports, so that they are not liable to become detached therefrom.

The wires are arranged parallel with each other, so that the guiding means on the runners of the chair will pass very readily over the wires without binding thereon, and at the same time cause the chair to travel in a straight line and prevent it from being upset or overturned. The ends of the wires or ropes are anchored or secured to suitable eyes or stops, d , which are firmly and rigidly secured to the floor of the nursery or other place, and are arranged in line with the fixed supports or blocks D, as clearly shown.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, it will be seen that we provide an improved nursery-chair which is very securely anchored to the floor or other place, so that it is not liable to be easily upset, and at the same time it is capable of movement back and forth on the wires in straight lines without hinderance, thereby materially aiding the infant to learn to walk.

F designates the support, which is arranged in a horizontal position upon the upper end of the supporting-frame. This support comprises a frame, F' , which is made rectangular in form or of any other desired shape, and provided on its inner opposing edges with parallel grooves f , and in these grooves are fitted the sliding sections F'' , which are thus detachably fitted in place and can be readily separated to permit of the removal of the infant from the chair and to place it therein. The inner meeting edges of the said sliding sections are provided with semicircular or segmental cut-out portions f' , which align and form an opening of sufficient size or diameter to fit the child's body without injury thereto; and these sections are held against endwise movement or displacement by suitable locking devices, G, which preferably comprise a

fixed keeper, *g*, that is secured to the frame of the support, and a removable pin or latch, *g'*, which is fitted in the keeper and is adapted to bear upon the outer edges of the slides *F*² or to enter either of longitudinal series of openings, *f*², made in the said slides and adapted to successively register with the keepers *g* as the slides are drawn out. This enables the slides to be secured at any desired distance apart.

This support is capable of vertical movement or adjustment, in order to adapt the chair to children of different sizes or heights, and to the ends of the support are rigidly affixed depending bars *H*, which are adjustably connected to the support-frame of the chair. These bars are preferably slotted longitudinally, and through these slots pass binding-screws *h*, which work in a suitable socket in the supporting-frame.

I designates a tray or receptacle, which is connected to one end of the support to receive and hold the child's toys, &c. This receptacle or tray is detachably connected to the support by suitable locking devices, *i*, which, as shown herein, are in the form of pivoted hooks and fixed stops; but the form of this device can be varied. The inner wall of the tray or receptacle adjacent the end of the support is provided with a vertical notch or recess, *j*, into which the fixed keeper and removable pin of the support fits, and thereby prevents endwise movement and displacement of the tray or receptacle on the support, as will be very readily understood.

K designates a removable platform, which is arranged in a horizontal position beneath the support and top of the frame and at a sufficient distance therefrom to permit the child to sit thereon without cramping its limbs. This platform rests upon fixed stops *k*, which are secured to the inclined standards or legs of the frame, and the platform has one or more vertical depending pins or studs, which fit or take into a suitable aperture in one or more of the stops on the legs to prevent accidental displacement of the said platform.

The operation of our invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings.

Our invention is very simple, strong, and durable in construction, can be adjusted or applied by an unskilled person, is effective and

reliable in operation, and cheap of manufacture.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a nursery-chair, the combination of the fixed supports, the guiding rods or wires passing over the supports and anchored at points beyond and in line with the supports, the traveling supporting-frame mounted upon suitable rollers and having a support at its upper end, and the fixed guides near its lower end, through which the rods or wires are passed, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the supporting frame *A*, having the rollers *b*, with the frame *F*, having the side bars provided with the horizontal grooves *f* in their opposing sides, the end bars of the said frame having the keepers *g*, the slotted depending bars *H*, secured to the frame *F*, the bolts *h*, extending through the said slotted bars and entering frame *A*, to secure the frame *F* thereto at any vertical adjustment, the sliding sections *F*², fitting in the grooves *f*, and having the opening *f'* made in their opposing edges, said slides having the longitudinal series of openings adapted to register with the keepers *g*, and the keys *g'*, for the purpose set forth, substantially as described.

3. A nursery-chair having the supporting-frame, a vertically-adjustable support connected to the frame and having the fixed keepers *g* at its ends, the sliding sections *F*², connected to the support, and held therein by keys *g'*, fitting in the keepers, a tray bearing against one end of the support and having a notch or slot in one of its sides, into which slot one of the keepers *g* fits, to prevent endwise movement of the tray, and the fastening devices at the ends of the tray for detachably connecting the tray to the support, as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM LANE.
ALFRED DONEY.

Witnesses:

GEORGE W. MACKY,
A. C. LA BARRE.