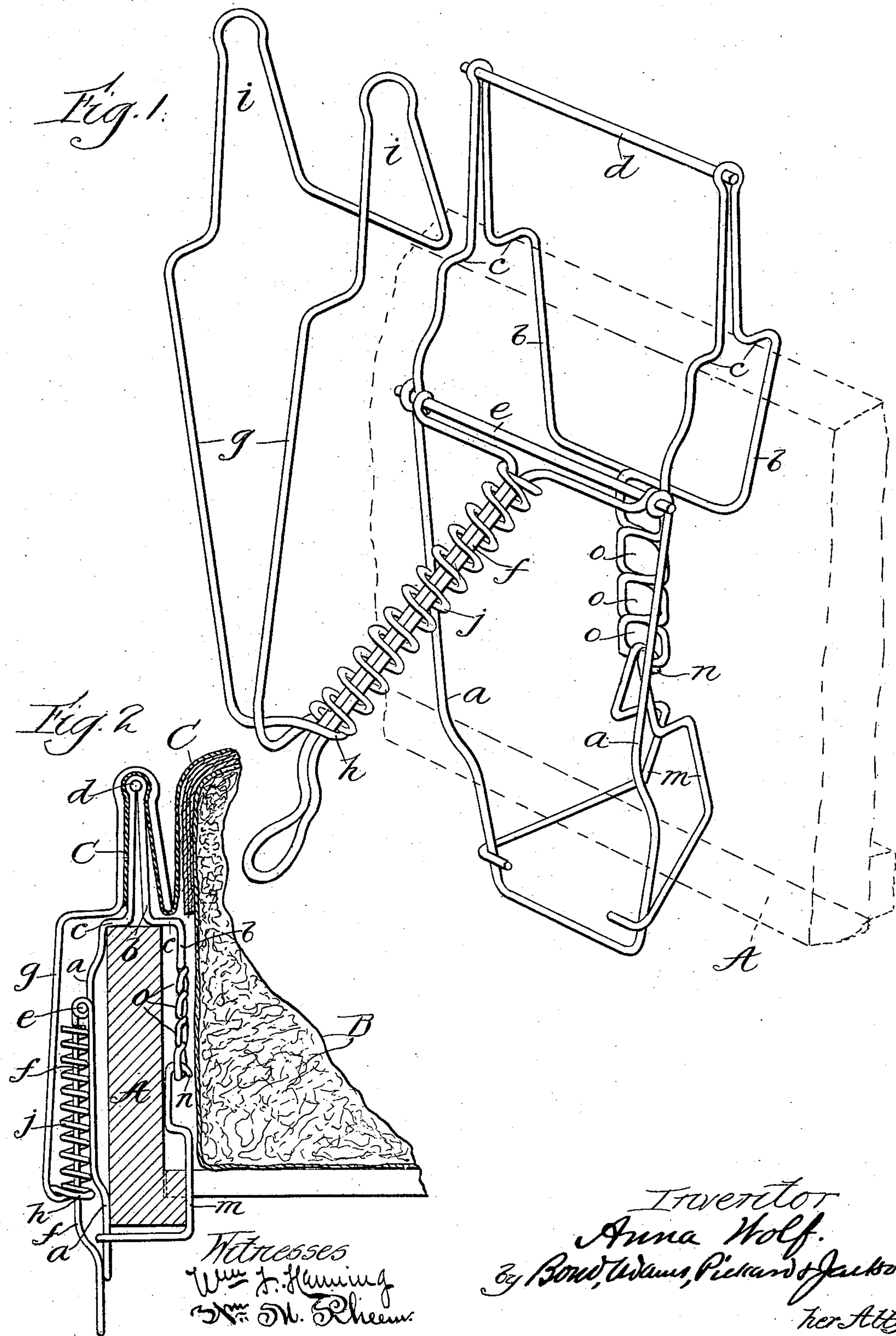


(No Model.)

A. WOLF.
BEDCLOTHES FASTENER.

No. 574,977.

Patented Jan. 12, 1897.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNA WOLF, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BEDCLOTHES-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 574,977, dated January 12, 1897.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNA WOLF, a citizen of the United States, residing in Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bedclothes-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my
10 improved device applied to a side rail of a bed and in position to receive the bedclothes that are to be retained in place. Fig. 2 is a cross-section.

My invention relates to an improved device
15 for retaining bedclothing in proper position after such clothes have been placed, as desired, over the occupant of the bed. It is designed, primarily, for such use upon beds that are occupied by children or invalids, upon
20 whom it is especially important that the bedclothing be retained properly.

The objects of the invention are to provide a cheap, simple, and effective device for the purpose stated, that can be readily applied
25 to and removed from a bed, and which can as readily be shifted to different positions on the same bed. I accomplish these objects by the devices shown in the drawings and hereinafter described in detail.

30 That which I believe to be new and of my invention will be set forth in the claims.

In the drawings, *a* indicates the front portion of a frame, the rear portion *b* of which, when the device is in use, rests against the
35 inner face of the side rail *A* of a bed. Near the upper portion of the frame *a b* are formed shoulders *c*, which rest upon the upper edge of the side rail. As shown, the frame *a b* is continued upward for some distance above
40 these shoulders *c*. *d* is a bar extending from side to side of the frame and secured by solder or in any other suitable manner to the upper ends of said frame. This frame *a b*, as shown, is made from a single piece of heavy
45 wire bent into shape.

e is another bar. It extends from side to side of the front portion *a* of the frame, to which it is secured by loops formed in the frame through which the bar passes; but it

may be secured in any other suitable manner. 50
It is located a short distance below the shoulders *c*.

f indicates a handle pivoted to the frame *a b* by being loosely secured to the cross-bar
55 *e*. As shown, this handle is formed of a single piece of wire bent upon itself.

g is a supplemental frame which may be formed from a single piece of wire, as shown. It is loosely secured at its lower end to the
60 handle *f*, so that it may move up and down on said handle, the manner of attachment shown being by means of a loop *h* formed in the wire, which loop surrounds the handle. The lower
65 end of the handle is enlarged, as shown, to prevent the supplemental frame from becoming disengaged therefrom. The upper end of each side piece of the supplemental frame *g*
70 is, as shown, bent forward and then upward and downward, these two latter bends forming enlarged open loops *i*, which are adapted
and intended to be swung over and down upon the cross-bar *d* at the upper end of the frame *a b*.

j is a coiled spring surrounding the handle
75 *f* and bearing against the lower turned and looped end *h* of the supplemental frame *g* and the upper turned ends of said handle.

m is a locking-piece, which may be formed, as shown, of a single piece of wire. At its
80 upper end is formed a hook *n*, adapted to engage one of the numerous small loops *o* that are formed in the lower end of the portion *b* of the frame *a b*, and its lower end is turned to pass beneath the side rail *A* and engage
85 the lower end of the front portion of the frame *a b*. It is also suitably bent, as shown, to conform to the inner surface of said side rail *A*. A number of the small loops *o* are provided in order to insure a firm locking of the
90 parts together in the manner shown and described whether the device is used upon a bed having narrow or wide side boards.

By disengaging the forwardly-projecting ends that pass beneath the side rail from the frame *a b* (which can be readily done) and
95 by disengaging the hook *n* from the loop *o* the frame *a b* and the parts attached thereto can be readily shifted to a new position on the

side rail or to the side rail of another bed, and when so changed can be quickly secured in place by connecting the two parts of the frame (the front *a* and back *b*) together by means of the locking-piece *m*. This construction avoids the use of screws or other devices, which are not only inconvenient to use, but are a damage and disfigurement to the side rail.

After the device has been adjusted and secured as stated, the securing of the bedclothes, when desired, is accomplished as follows: The supplemental frame *g* is thrown back and out of engagement with the bar *d*. The bedclothes *C* are then pulled to one side toward the device until they are over and upon said bar *d*. The supplemental frame *g* is then swung forward and brought down with the enlarged loops *i* over the bar *d*, and as downward pressure is exerted on such supplemental frame or on the handle *f* the bedclothes will be caught and tightly held between the sides of said enlarged loops *i* and the bar *d*. As the handle and the supplemental frame are thus pressed down the coiled spring on the handle will be compressed, causing the upper looped portion of the supplemental frame to bear tightly on that portion of the bedclothes that has been brought between it and the said bar *d*. The swinging of the handle and the supplemental frame down to their lowest position brings the lower end of said handle slightly past the point at which it is pivoted at its upper end, thus insuring the parts remaining in their holding position. The release of the bedclothes from the device is very quickly accomplished, all that is necessary to be done being a slight outward pull on the handle, which will instantly relieve it from the action of the spring. A further outward movement enables it to be disconnected from the bar *d*, which leaves the bedclothes free to be pulled away.

Having the bar *d* at a considerable height from the upper edge of the side rail, as is the case with my invention, is a feature of considerable importance, as it will be understood that in nearly every instance the mattress (represented herein by *B*) used rises at quite a height above such side rail, and were no provision made for securing the bedclothes at a point higher than the side rail they could not in many instances be effectually secured at all.

I have shown the frame *a b* shaped to accord to the shape of an ordinary wooden side rail, but it is to be understood that such shape can be varied from sufficiently to adapt it to

be employed with other shapes and makes of side rails.

That which I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a bedclothes-fastener, a frame adapted to be attached to a side rail of a bed, and provided with a cross-bar at its upper end raised above the said side rail, in combination with a swinging supplemental frame adapted to be swung over and down upon said cross-bar, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a bedclothes-fastener, a frame adapted to be attached to a side rail of a bed, and a movable supplemental frame adapted to engage the upper end of said first-named frame, in combination with a locking-piece adapted to pass under the side rail, and attached to said first-named frame for holding the device as a whole in place, substantially as specified.

3. In a bedclothes-fastener, the combination of a frame adapted to be attached to a side rail of a bed, and consisting of a front and rear portion, said rear portion having on its lower end a series of loops, a supplemental movable frame adapted to engage the upper end of said first-named frame, and a locking-piece having a hook at its upper end for engaging said loops and bent to pass under the side rail, and provided with means for attachment to the front portion of said first-named frame, substantially as specified.

4. In a bedclothes-fastener, the combination of a frame adapted to be attached to a side rail of a bed, a handle pivoted to the front of said frame, a coiled spring located on said handle, a supplemental frame loosely attached to said handle, and adapted to be swung over and down upon the upper end of said first-named frame, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. In a bedclothes-fastener, the combination of the frame *a b*, having at its upper end a cross-bar *d* raised above the side rail of the bed to which the frame *a b* is to be attached, the handle *f* pivoted to the frame, the supplemental frame *g* loosely attached to the lower end of the handle and provided with the loops *i* at its upper end for engaging the cross-bar *d* and the bedclothes that are placed over said bar, and the coiled spring *j* surrounding the handle *f*, all substantially as and for the purpose specified.

ANNA WOLF.

Witnesses:

ALBERT H. ADAMS,
JULIA M. BRISTOL.