No. 664,774. Patented Dec. 25, 1900.

I. E. PALMER.

HAMMOCK.

(Application filed Jan. 18, 1898.)

(No Model.)

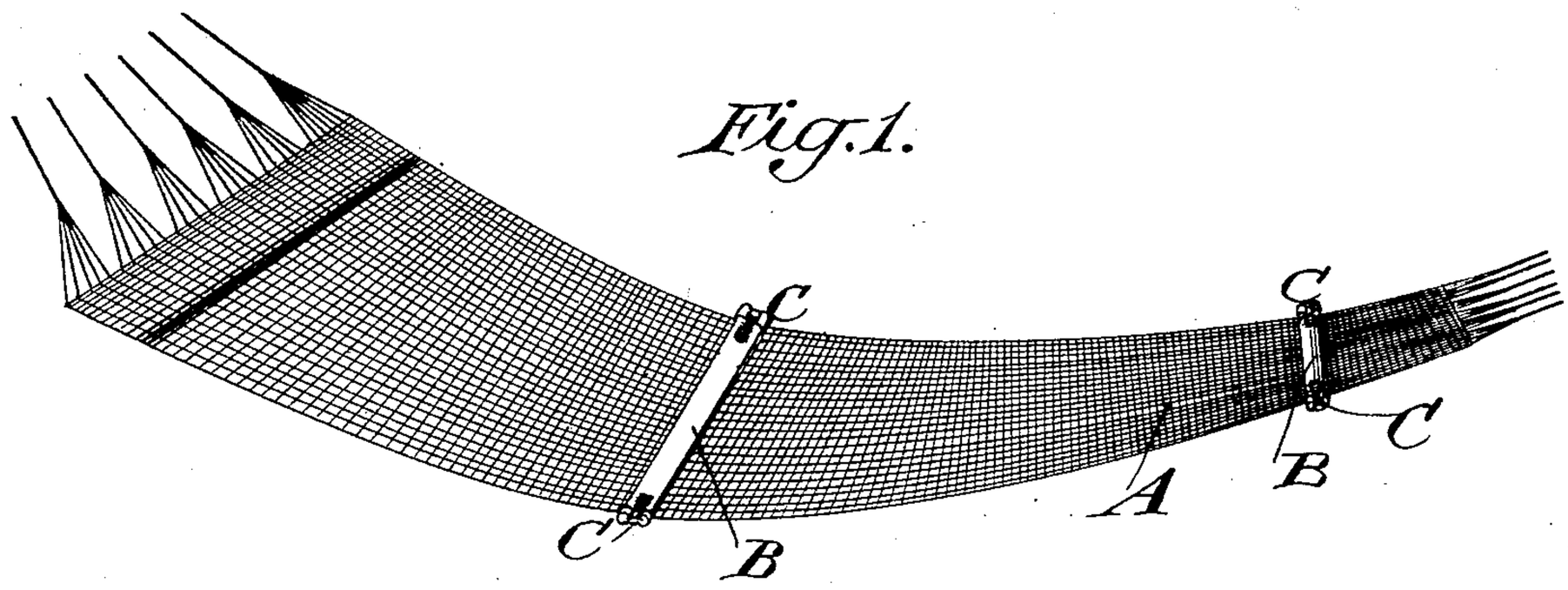


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

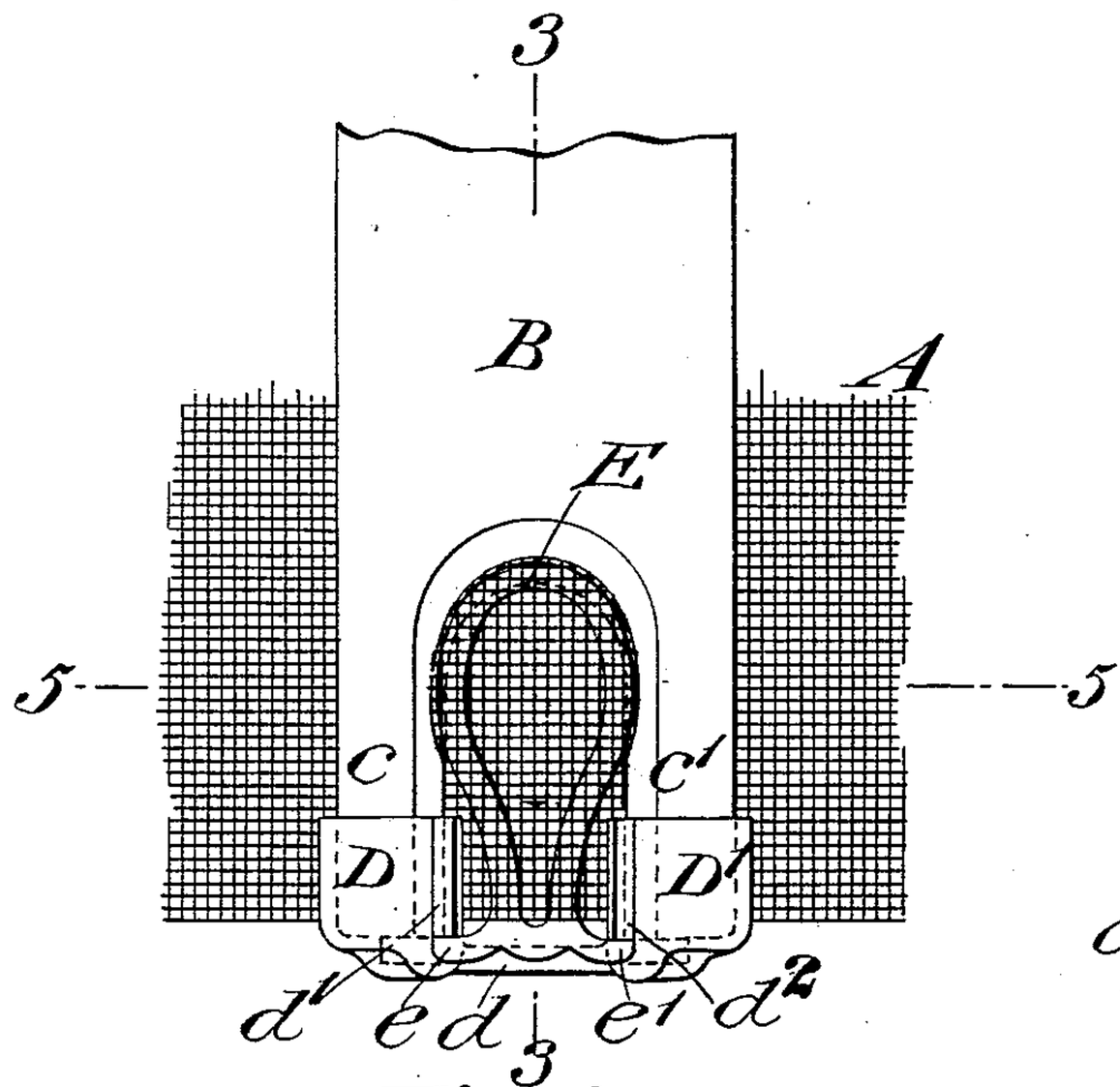
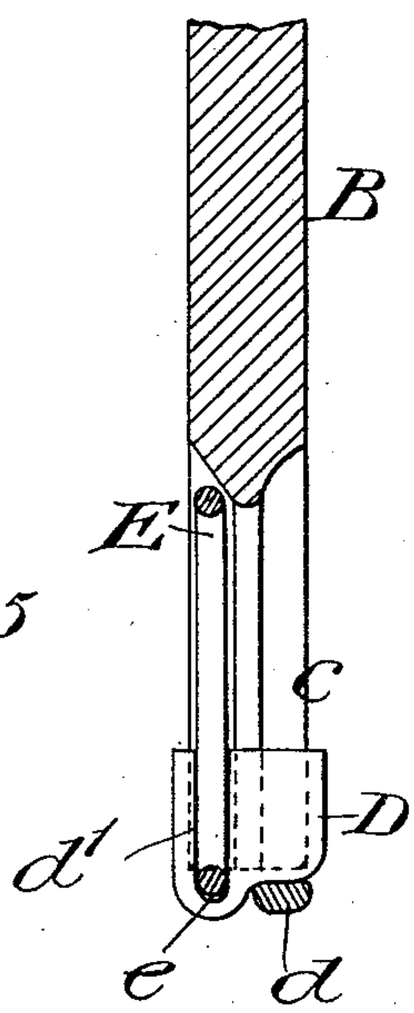


Fig. 4.



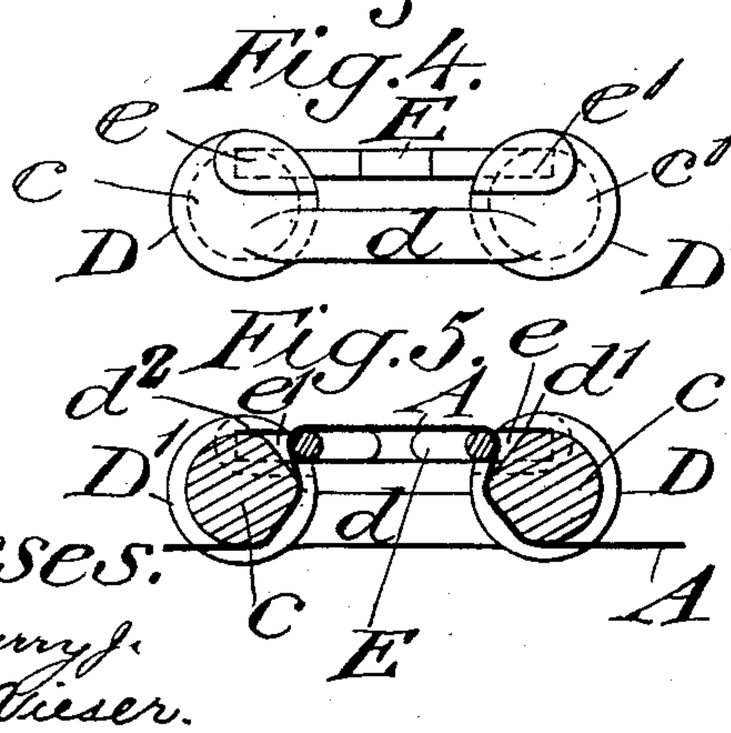


Fig. 5.

Witnesses:
George Barry Jr.
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Inventor:-
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC E. PALMER, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT.

HAMMOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 664,774, dated December 25, 1900.

Application filed January 18, 1898. Serial No. 667,032. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC E. PALMER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hammocks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in hammocks in which provision is made for holding the hammock distended transversely at any desired point throughout its length and in addition to such distention forming a rest for some portion of the body of the occupant to prevent the body from unintentionally slipping in the longitudinal direction of the hammock.

A practical embodiment of my invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a hammock as it appears strung for use, showing one distending slat or rung in position to form a seat-rest for the body of the occupant and a second distending slat or rung in position to form a support for the foot of the occupant of the hammock. Fig. 2 is an enlarged top plan view in detail of the end of one of the distending slats or rungs, showing one way of gripping its end to the edge of the hammock. Fig. 3 is a section in the plane of the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an end view of the combined clamp and socket-piece at the end of the slat or rung, and Fig. 5 is a cross-section in the plane of the line 5 5 of Fig. 2.

A represents the body of a hammock, which is represented as suspended from the points not shown.

The distending slat or rung is denoted by B. It may be flat, round, or any other desired shape in cross-section, the flat form being preferred as a seat-rest, while the circular form in cross-section may be preferred for the foot-rest. The body of the slat or rung may be made of wood or any other suitable material and is provided at its ends with clamps C for holding it securely engaged with the opposite edges of the hammock in removable adjustment. The particular form of clamp which I find eminently practicable for this purpose consists of a pair of sockets D D′, connected by a web or yoke *d*, the socket-pieces and the yoke or web being readily cast in one piece. The socket-pieces D D′ are adapted to receive projections *c c′* on the end of the slat, the body of the slat being recessed intermediate of these projections and for a considerable distance inwardly from the projections for the purpose of receiving a retaining loop or tongue E.

The tongue E is here shown as of skeleton form and provided with laterally-projecting pintles *e e′*, which may be inserted in position at the bases of the socket-pieces D D′ by means of slits *d′ d²* in the adjacent edges of the socket-pieces, which permit the pintles to be slid into position simultaneously with or before the introduction of the projections *c c′* on the end of the slat, and the ends of these projections *c c′* on the end of the slat will serve to hold the pintles in position.

The fabric of the body of the hammock at the edge of the body may be passed over the end of the tongue E within the recess in the end of the slat and underneath the projections *c c′* when the slat is to be fastened on the upper side of the body, and when for any reason it is to be fastened on the lower side it may be reversed and attached in the same manner.

When stress is applied to the body of the hammock, the slats will be prevented from slipping by the sharp turn which the fabric takes in passing over the tongue E and under the projections of the slat. When, however, it is desired to change the adjustment of the slat along the body of the hammock, the edge of the hammock may be readily slipped off the end of the tongue and the slat or rung applied in its new position, or when there is no strain on the body of the hammock the fabric may be pulled over the tongue and the slat moved along into different adjustments without disengaging the fabric from the tongue. When applied as a seat-rest, it prevents the body of the occupant from slipping toward the foot of the hammock, and when applied as a foot-rest the heel of the foot will naturally depress the fabric adjacent to the foot-rest and the ball of the foot will be left in position to push against the slat or rung to hold the body of the occupant in position or to serve the purpose of imparting a longi-

tudinal swinging movement to the hammock and the occupant thereof by simply pressing at intervals against the foot-rest.

The tongue E, constructed as herein described, yields more or less under the strain of the fabric of the hammock, and so prevents the wearing and undue straining of the hammock as the person gets into the hammock or exerts a sudden pressure on it, and the slat or rung in both of its positions as a seat-rest and foot-rest serves as an effective spreader in connection with its other functions.

It is obvious that changes might be resorted to in the several parts referred to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. Hence I do not wish to limit myself strictly to the structure herein shown and described; but

What I claim is—

1. The combination with a hammock, of a slat or rung provided with end projections, a holding-tongue and means for retaining the holding-tongue in position intermediate of the said end projections to form a clamp for engaging the edge of the body of the hammock to hold the slat or rung in removable adjustment, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with a hammock, of a transverse slat or rung provided with recessed ends and clamps engaged with the slat or rung at its recessed ends, the said clamps comprising socket-pieces and a tongue intermediate of the socket-pieces, for engaging the edges of the hammock to hold the slat or rung in position, substantially as set forth.

3. A transverse slat or rung adapted to engage the opposite edges of the body of the hammock, the said slat or rung being provided at its end with a clamping device comprising a pair of socket-pieces connected together and connected to the end of the slat and a tongue hinged in the said socket-pieces and held in position by the portions of the slat which engage the socket-pieces, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 14th day of January, 1898.

ISAAC E. PALMER.

Witnesses:
E. B. WETMORE,
H. C. EDGERTON.