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PATENTED MAR. 3, 1903.

G. D. McELWEE.  
SELF ACTING FAN FOR HAMMOCKS OR COTS.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 8, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

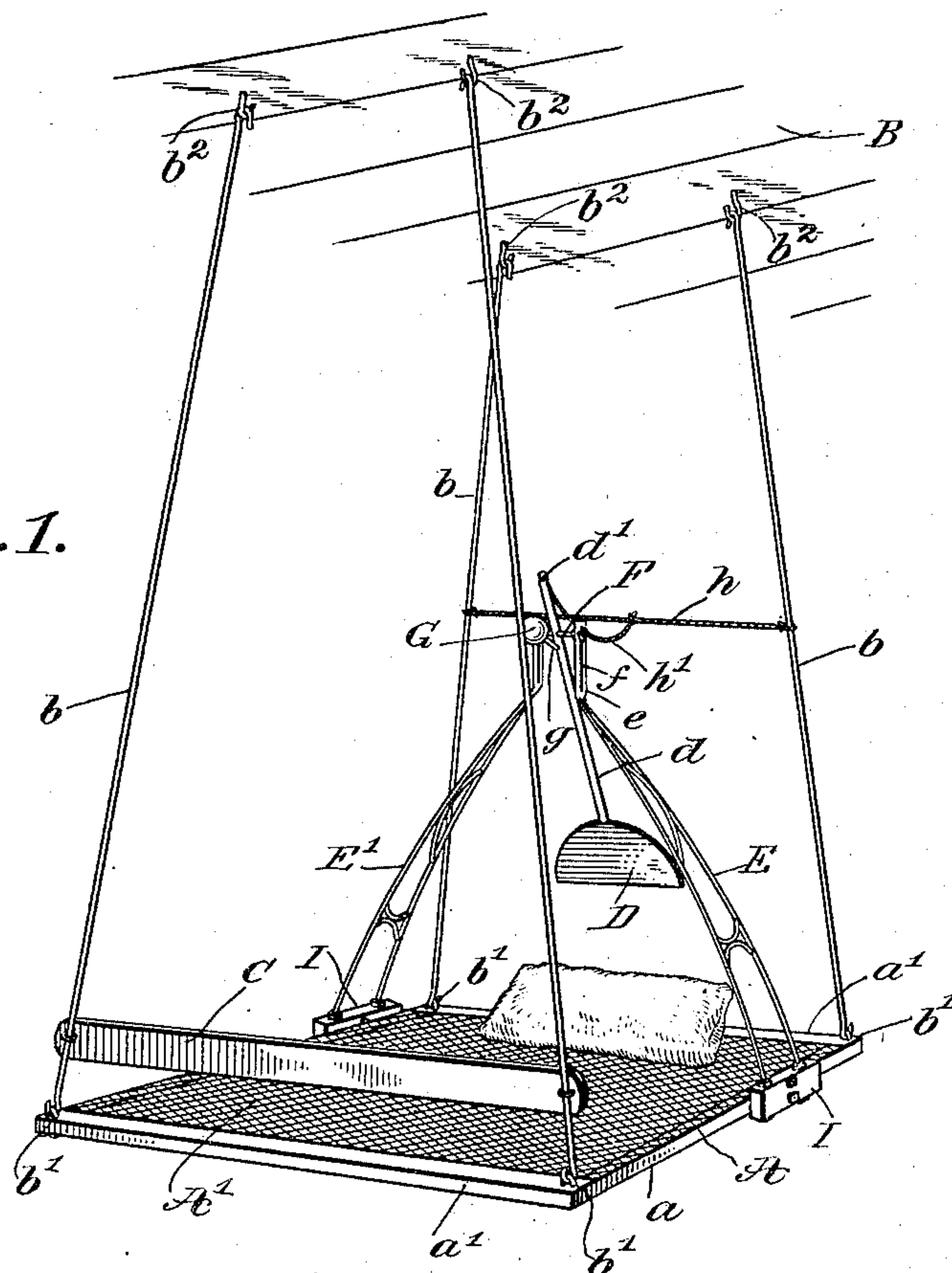


Fig. 2.

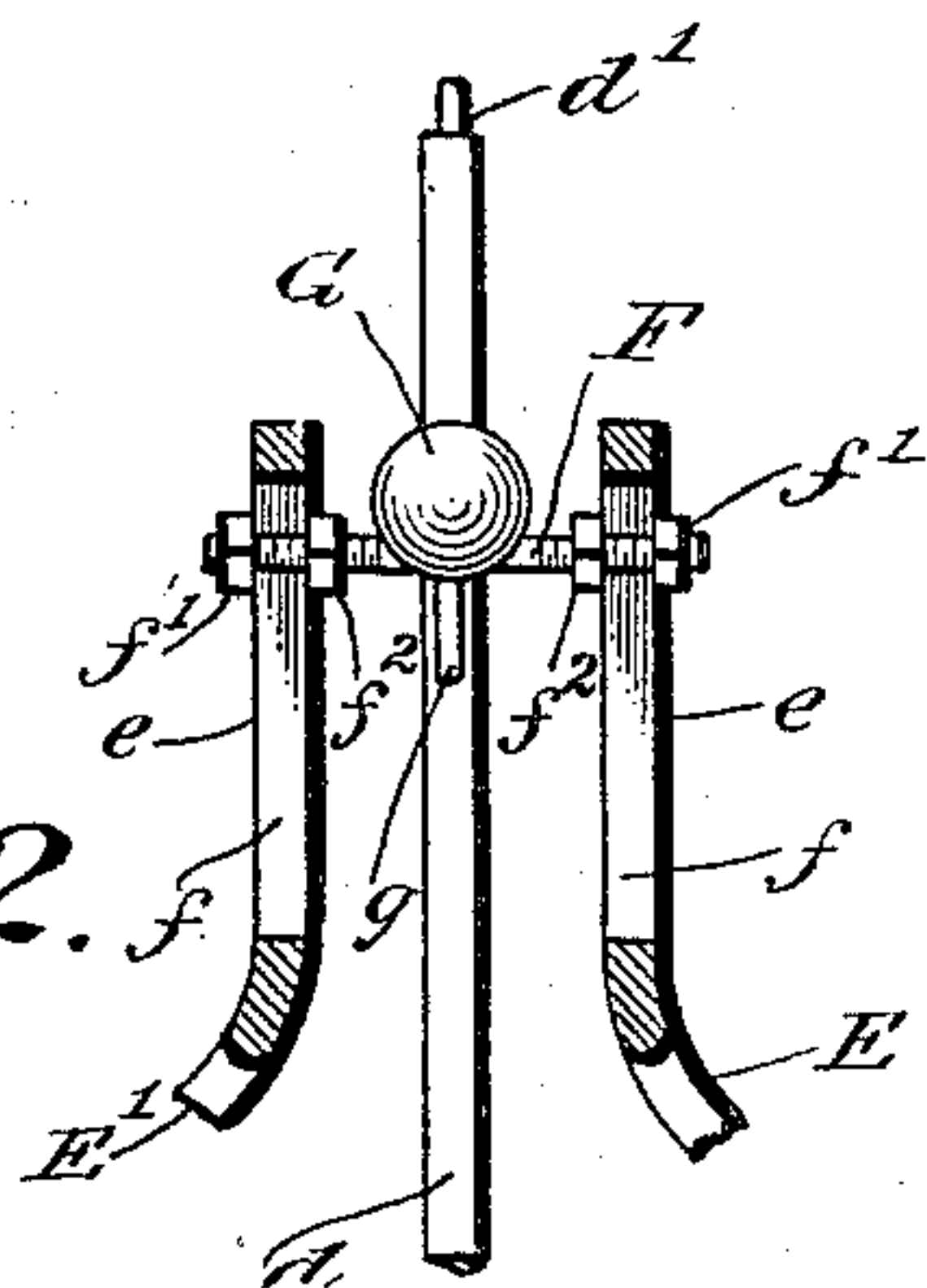
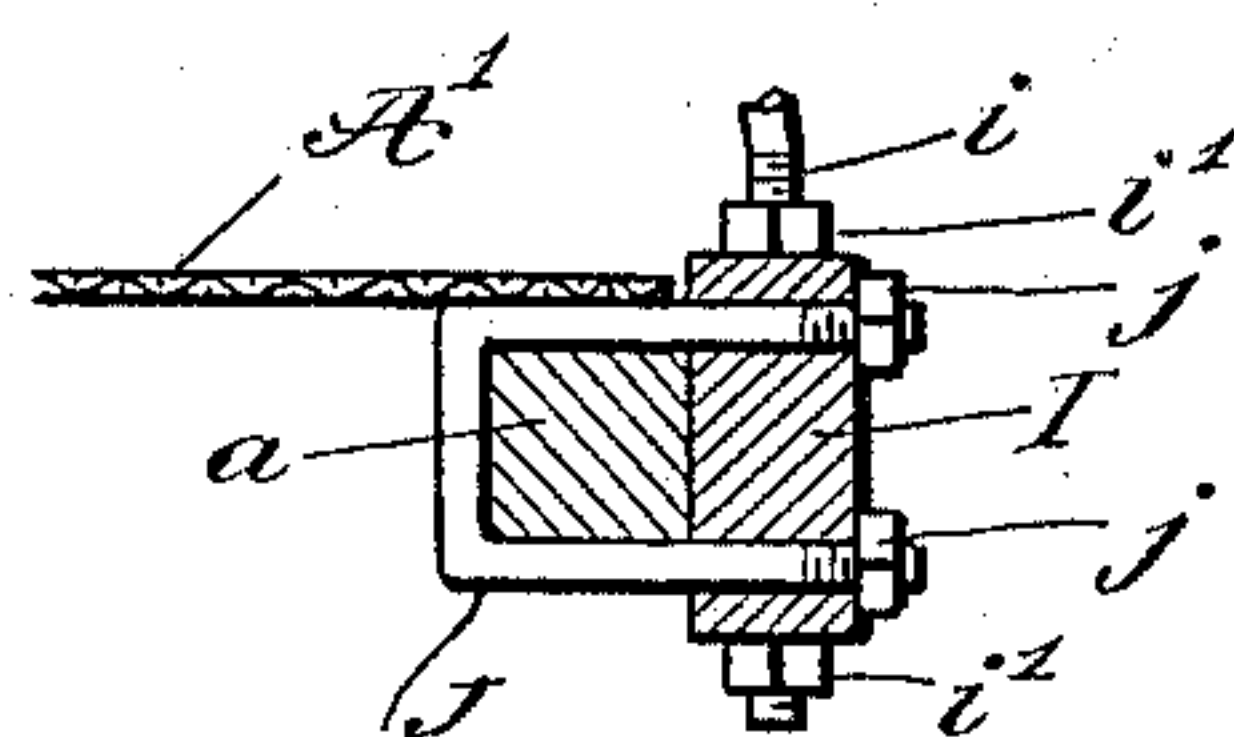


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE D. McELWEE, OF GLOSTER, MISSISSIPPI.

## SELF-ACTING FAN FOR HAMMOCKS OR COTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 722,034, dated March 3, 1903.

Application filed May 8, 1902. Serial No. 106,395. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE D. McELWEE, a citizen of the United States, residing in Gloster, in the county of Amite and State of Mississippi, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Self-Acting Fans for Hammocks or Cots, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in self-acting fans for swinging cots or hammocks; and the object that I have in view is to provide a simple and efficient fan mechanism which will be actuated by the swinging motion of the hammock.

Further objects of the invention are to provide means which normally hold the fan out of the way of the person when entering the cot and which also assist in the actuation of the fan, to provide for the vertical adjustment of the fan, and to enable the entire fan mechanism to be easily applied to or removed from the cot or hammock and also to be adjusted lengthwise of the cot to any desired position with relation thereto.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the novel combination, construction, and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hammock or swinging cot embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view with certain parts in section and illustrating the means for vertically adjusting the stem of the fan, and Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail sectional elevation showing one means for adjustably fastening a part of the fan-supporting frame to a side rail of the cot.

The cot or hammock A may be of any preferred construction, and it is adapted to be suspended from a ceiling, (indicated at B,) although said cot may be suspended from a suitable framework. The cot shown in Fig. 1 consists of a frame formed by the side rails *a* and the end rails *a'*, and to this frame is attached a bottom *A'*, herein shown in the form of a woven-wire fabric; but it will be understood that the type of the cot may be varied within wide limits—as, for example, the cot may be made in the form of a hammock with suitable side rails. This cot or

hammock may be suspended by the hanger wires or cables *b*, the lower ends of which are attached to the eyebolts *b'*, fastened to the corners of the cot-frame, the upper ends of said hanger wires or cables being fastened to eye or hook bolts *b<sup>2</sup>*, which are secured to the ceiling B. If desired, the end rails *a'* at the head of the cot or hammock may be raised above the plane of the bottom *A'*, and at the foot of the cot or hammock is a foot-pressure bar or rail C, the same being fastened in an elevated horizontal position to two of the hanger wires or cables *b* by any suitable means. Said pressure-bar is disposed in a convenient position for the application of pressure by the feet of the occupant, and the desired swaying movement may be given to the hammock or cot simply by pressing against this foot-bar.

The novelty in the present invention relates to the means for adjustably supporting a fan and for imparting the desired rocking or swaying movement thereto by the swinging movement of the hammock or cot. The fan is indicated at D, and it may be made of any suitable material, dimensions, and form; but the fan is necessarily provided with a shank or bar *d*, the same extending in an upward direction and adapted to be supported by a suitable frame. The frame is shown as consisting of the inwardly curved or inclined side members *E E'*, which may be made of wire, metal, or any other suitable material and of any desired fanciful pattern, the particular form of the frame being immaterial. The members *E E'* converge upwardly, as shown by Fig. 1, and they are provided with the parallel arms *e* at their upper portions, said arms being disposed in a central position over the bottom *A'* of the cot or hammock. These parallel arms are provided with vertical slots *f*, which are disposed in coincident relation and are adapted to receive the end portions of a pivotal bolt or arbor F, the same being threaded, as shown more clearly by Fig. 2, and provided with the clamping-nuts *f' f<sup>2</sup>*. The threaded end portions of this pivotal arbor F are fitted in the slots *f* so as to be adjustable in a vertical direction therein, and the nuts *f' f<sup>2</sup>* of said arbor are adapted to bear against the inner and outer edges of the slotted arms *e* at the upper ends of the frame members *E E'*, whereby the pivotal arbor is clamped firmly in the upper part of the frame.



It is evident that the arbor will be held against rocking by the firm engagement of its binding-nuts with the arms of the frame; but these nuts may be loosened and the arbor may be raised or lowered in the slotted arms, after which the nuts should be tightened again in order to hold said arbor in place, as will be understood.

The stem or shank *d* of the fan is disposed in a central position between the parallel arms *e* of the frame members, and the upper portion of this stem or shank is loosely fitted on the pivotal arbor *F*, whereby the fan is pivotally supported in the supporting-frame and is free to swing on the horizontal axis afforded by said pivotal arbor. If desired, any suitable means may be employed to limit the side-wise displacement of the fan-stem on the pivotal arbor *F*.

*G* designates a weight which is attached to the outer end of an arm *g*, said arm being fastened to the stem *d* of the fan at a point below the pivotal arbor *F*. The inertia of this weight normally throws the fan-stem to an inclined position and maintains the fan *D* in a position beyond or out of line with the supporting-frame *E E'*, thus disposing the fan out of the way of the person when entering the hammock.

The rockable fan is connected operatively with a part of the swaying hammock by means which serve to automatically swing the fan when the hammock is in motion, and in Fig. 1 the means for attaining this end consists of a transverse cable *h* and an operating-cable *h'*. The transverse cable *h* has its end portions fastened to a pair of the suspending wires or cables *b* at a suitable point above the hammock, and this transverse cable affords a convenient means for the attachment of the operating-cable *h'*, the other end of said cable *h'* being fastened to the upper extremity *d'* of the fan-stem *d*. (See Fig. 1.) A permanent allowance of slack is provided in the operating-cable *h'* when the fan-stem lies in one position; but this cable and the weight *G* cooperate to impart the swinging movement to the fan when the hammock is in motion.

A person reclining in the hammock presses with the feet against the foot-board *C*, and thereby gives motion to the hammock, and the weight *G* throws the fan-stem to an inclined position, so as to take up the slack in the operating-cable *h'*. The motion of the hammock pulls on this cable when it moves in one direction, and the fan-stem is thus swung on the pivot *F*, whereby the desired swaying movement is given to the fan.

In Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings I have represented means whereby the frame may be adjustably fastened to the side rails *a* of the cot or hammock. A pair of supporting-blocks *I* are applied laterally against the outside faces of the rails *a*, forming a part of the cot or hammock frame, and these blocks are fastened to the lower ends of the members *E E'*, forming the fan-supporting frame, said

members having their lower ends threaded, as at *i*, and receiving the nuts *i'*, which serve to clamp the members and the blocks firmly together. These blocks are attached to the frame-rails *a* by means of the yoke-shaped straps *J*, the latter embracing the frame-rails *a* and having threaded ends which are passed through the blocks *I*, so as to receive the nuts *j*. (See Fig. 3.) It is evident that the nuts may be slackened on the ends of the yokes, so as to release the blocks *I*, thus permitting the blocks and the yokes to be moved along the rails *a* to any desired point of adjustment. Of course the members *E E'* of the frame and the fan mechanism will partake of this adjustment of the blocks *I*, and the fan mechanism may thus be shifted to any desired position over the cot or hammock.

The detailed construction of the side members of the frame and the blocks *I* may be modified within the province of the skilled constructor; but it is perfectly plain that the blocks *I* may be made as integral parts of the frame members if it is desired to cast said frame members in one piece with the blocks.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination with a suitably-suspended hammock or cot, of a supporting-frame having upwardly-converging side members, supporting-blocks fitted to the hammock or cot and attached to the members of said frame, clamps connecting the blocks to the hammock or cot and permitting the parts to be adjusted lengthwise of said cot, and a fan mechanism mounted in said supporting-frame.

2. The combination with a suspended hammock or cot, of a supporting-frame attached thereto, a fan-stem pivoted in said frame, a flexible connection between said fan-stem and a part of said hammock to move said stem in one direction, and a drop-weight carried by the stem to impel it in an opposite direction.

3. The combination of a suitable frame having side members provided with slotted arms, a pivotal arbor fitted in said slotted arms and provided with means for clamping said arbor adjustably to said arms, a fan-carrying stem supported by the arbor, and means for actuating said stem.

4. The combination with a suspended hammock or cot, of a supporting-frame attached thereto, a fan-carrying stem pivoted to said supporting-frame and provided with a drop-weight, and an operating-cable attached to said stem and to a part of the hammock-suspending means.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEO. D. McELWEE.

Witnesses:

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J. A. NAUL.