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J. W. WESTLAKE.

DEVICE FOR TIGHTENING BED SPRINGS.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 11, 1903.

NO MODEL.

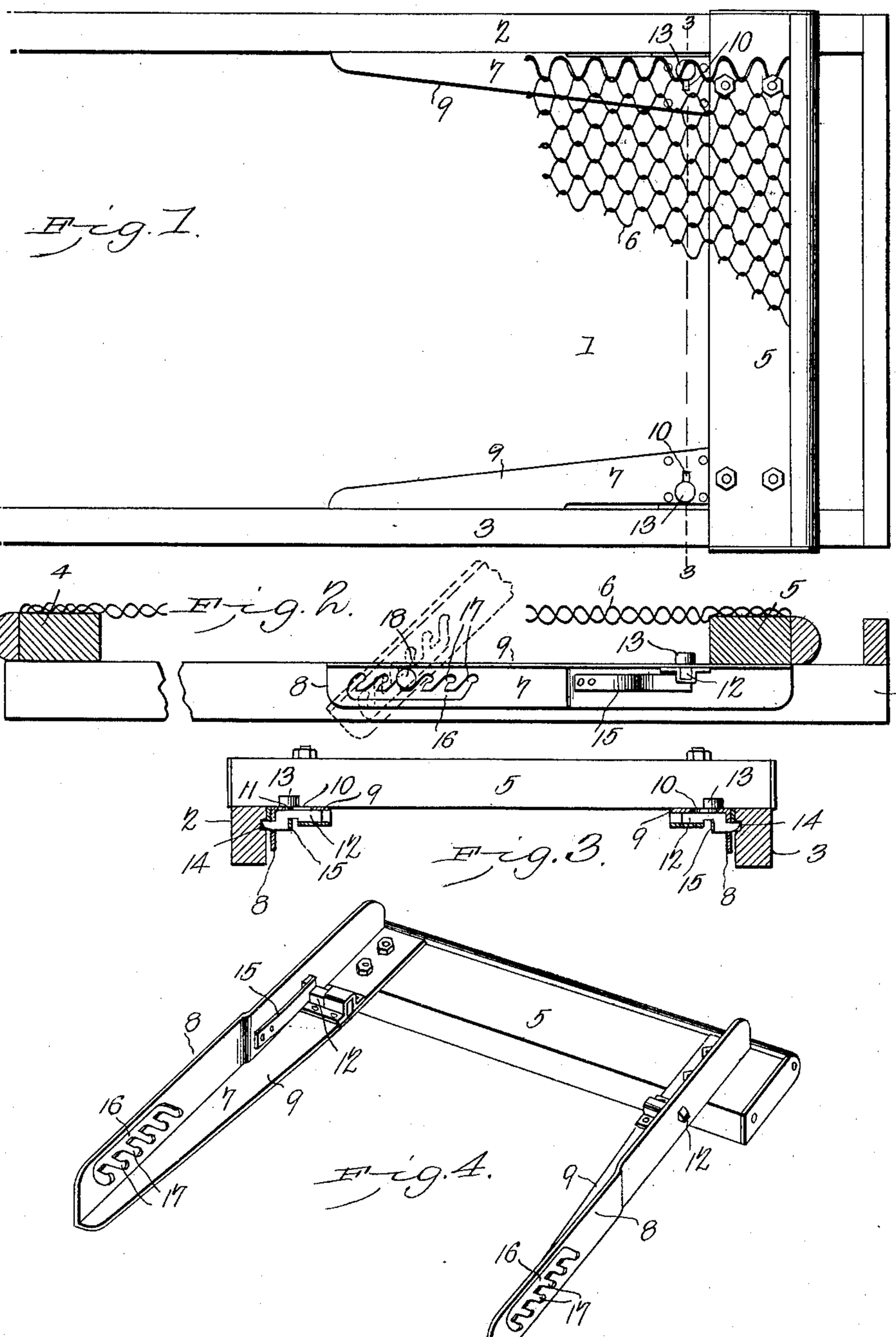

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Witnesses
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No. 737,808. Patented September 1, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. WESTLAKE, OF GREENRIVER, WYOMING.

DEVICE FOR TIGHTENING BED-SPRINGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 737,808, dated September 1, 1903.

Application filed March 11, 1903. Serial No. 147,282. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. WESTLAKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenriver, in the county of Sweetwater and State of Wyoming, have invented a new and useful Device for Tightening Bed-Springs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a device for tightening bed-springs, and has for its object to produce a device of this character which will be readily adjustable to vary the tension of the spring, as circumstances may require, and this in a simple and efficient manner, without materially increasing the cost of manufacture of the spring.

To these ends the invention comprises the details of construction and combination of parts more fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of a portion of a bed-spring embodying my improvement. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional elevation, on an enlarged scale, on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the movable end bar and connecting members as viewed from beneath.

Referring to the drawings, 1 indicates a bed-spring comprising parallel side bars 2 and 3, end bars 4 and 5, and a woven spring-wire fabric 6, attached at its ends to the end bars in any suitable manner.

The above parts may all be of the usual or any desired construction and material, inasmuch as they constitute no part of the present invention.

In accordance with my invention the end bar 4 is bolted or otherwise secured to the side bars, and the end bar 5 is removably and adjustably attached to the same by means of suitable adjusting members 7, preferably in the form of angle-plates of sheet-steel bent longitudinally into L form in cross-section and bolted to the under side of the bar 5. These members extend parallel with the side bars 2 and 3, with one of their flanges 8 occupying a vertical position and their other flange 9 occupying a horizontal position. Each of the members has its horizontal flange 9 slotted transversely, as at 10, to receive the shank 11 of a horizontal latch 12, operated by a head 13, movable over the upper face of the flange. The end of the latch 12 projects through a perforation in the vertical flange 8 for engagement with a longitudinal slot 14, formed in the inner face of the side bar and extending longitudinally of the same a suitable distance for the purpose presently described. The latch, where it projects through the vertical flange, is angularly bent to form a vertical shoulder, which is engaged by the end of a leaf-spring 15, which presses the latch outward and maintains it in secure engagement with the slot in the side bar until positively disengaged therefrom by manipulating the head 13 to force the latch inward against the action of the leaf-spring. The vertical flange 8 of each of the members is provided with a longitudinal slot 16, which communicates with a series of angularly-disposed slots 17, adapted to receive the shank of a lag-bolt 18, projecting horizontally from the inner wall of the side bar.

Supposing the parts to be in the position illustrated by full lines in Fig. 2 and that it is desired to adjust the end bar 5 to increase the tension of the wire fabric, the latches 12 are manipulated in the manner above described to release them from engagement with the side bars and the end bar is swung upward to the position illustrated by dotted lines in said figure. The members 7 are then moved to engage the lag-bolts 18 with the proper slots 17, and the bar 5 is then forced downward until the latches 12 again engage the slots in the side bars. From this construction it will be seen that the tension may be readily increased or relaxed to any desired extent by moving the members to bring the lag-bolts into engagement with different slots of the series, it being understood, of course, that the tension will be decreased when the bolts are engaged with the inner slots and increased when engaged with the outer slots and that the slots 14 in the side bars are made of a length sufficient to insure the proper engagement of the catches therewith, irrespective of the longitudinal adjustment of the members.

It is to be understood, of course, that in practice it is my intention not only to manufacture springs having my adjusting means

applied thereto, but to also manufacture the device as a separate attachment to be applied to springs now in use.

It is to be understood that I do not limit or confine myself to the details of construction herein shown and described, inasmuch as various minor changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit or scope of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

In a bed-spring, the combination with a pair of side bars provided with longitudinal slots, of a fixed and a movable end bar, a spring fabric attached to the end bars, adjusting members carried by the movable end bar and provided with a series of slots, bolts carried by the side bars and adapted to engage any one of the series of slots, and latches carried by the members and engaging the slots in the side bars to lock the end bar in its normal position.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES W. WESTLAKE.

Witnesses:
P. E. DUSAULT,
WILLIAM ROGERS.