R. V. BLAKE.

BEDCLOTHES CLAMP.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 25, 1915.

1,167,040. Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Fig. 1,

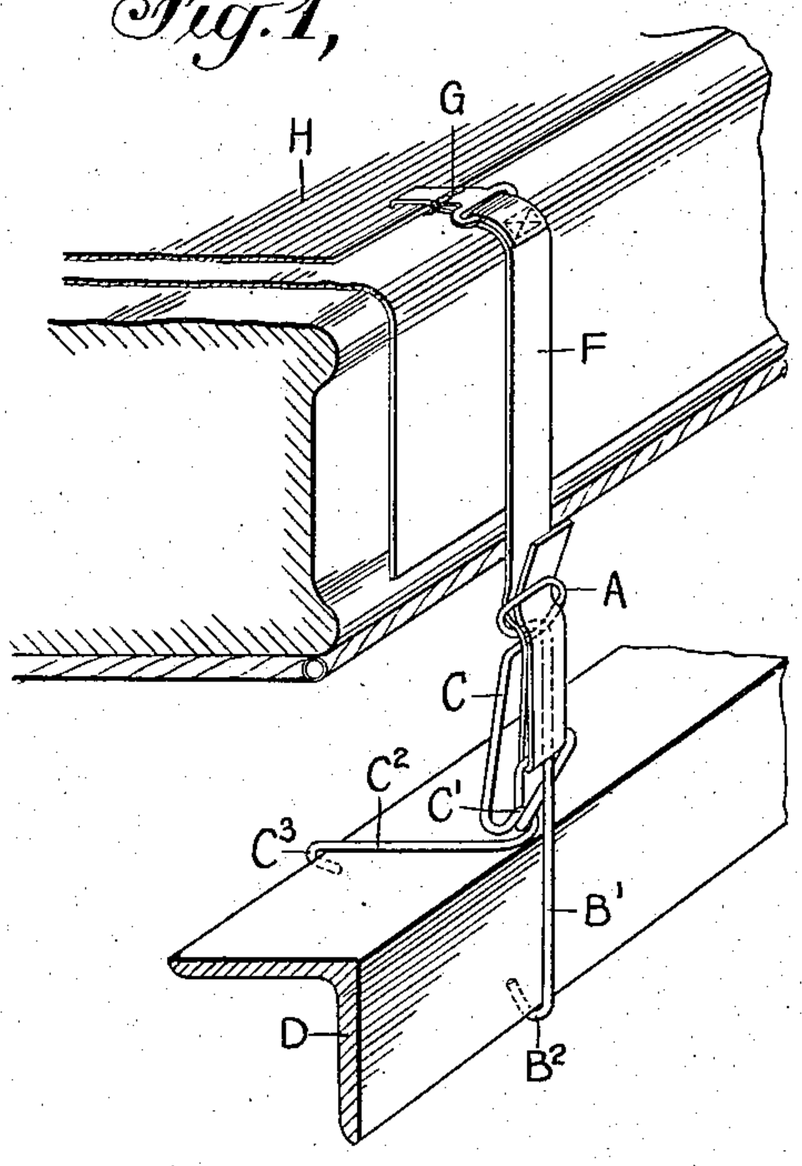


Fig. 2,

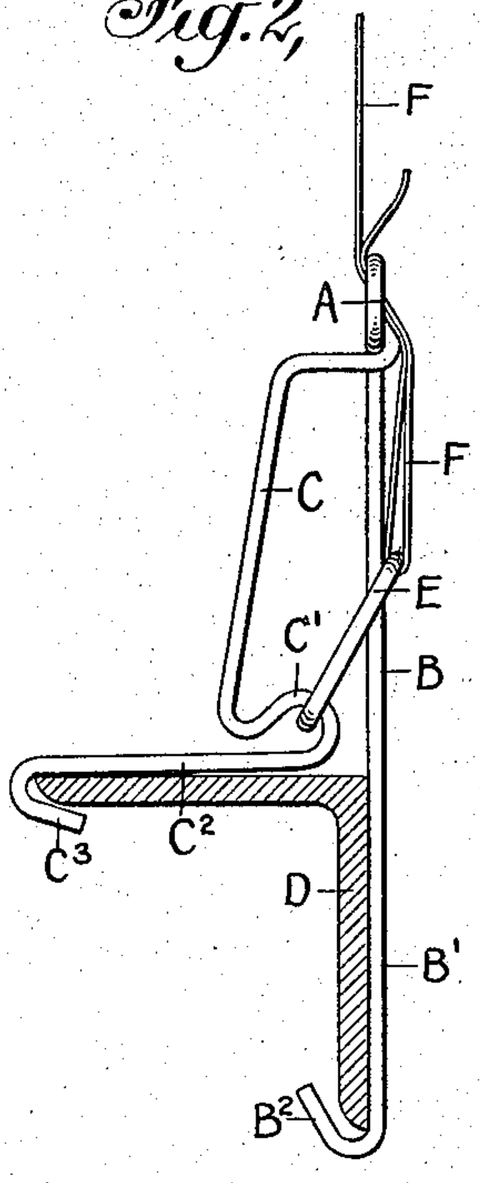


Fig. 3

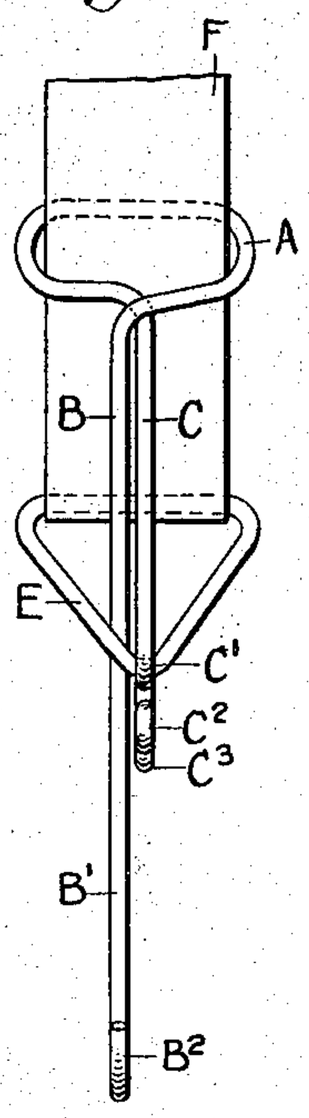


Fig. 4,

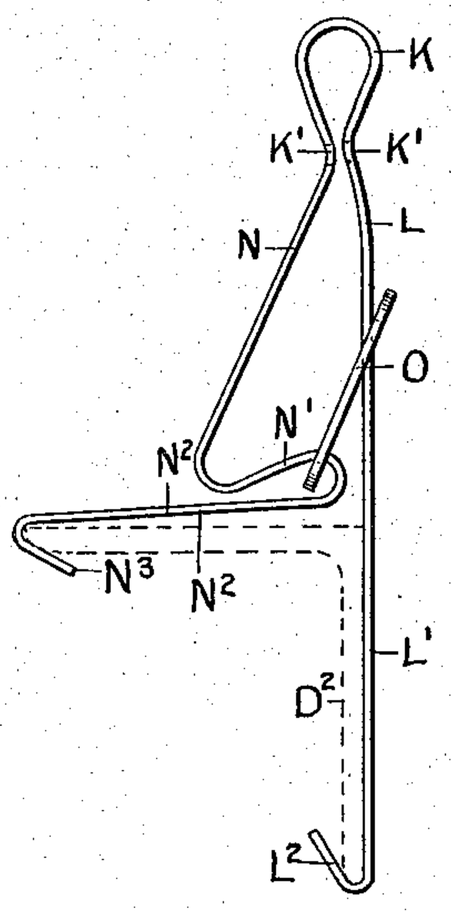
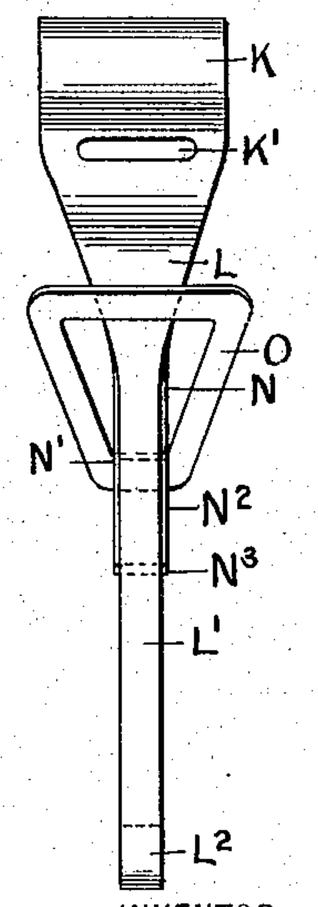


Fig. 5,



WITNESSES

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BEDCLOTHES-CLAMP.

1,167,040. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Application filed March 25, 1915. Serial No. 16,891.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RALPH V. BLAKE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Yonkers, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Bedclothes-Clamp, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of this invention is to provide a new and improved bedclothes clamp arranged to afford a secure, easily adjustable and unobstructive anchorage for a cover fastener for the purpose of preventing the accidental displacement of blanket or cover.

In order to accomplish this result, use is made of a clamp made of resilient material such as wire or sheet metal to form at its upper portion a spring loop to receive the lower end of a strap, said strap being provided at its other end with attaching means to engage bedclothes. Continuous with the above-mentioned loop and forming the lower portion of the clamp is a pair of shanks terminating in clamping arms extending at approximately right angles to one another, which clamping arms are adapted to extend over the bed rail and having angular terminals, to engage the edges of said rail. Associated with the aforesaid clamp is a triangular ring through which a strap passes and so positioned and adjusted about the clamp at a position where the two clamping arms diverge from one another as to pinch together these arms when tension is exerted on the strap.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the bedclothes clamp as applied, the bedstead rail and mattress being shown in section; Fig. 2 is an enlarged side elevation of the bedclothes clamp in position on the bedstead rail, which latter is shown in cross section; Fig. 3 is a rear face view of the bedclothes clamp; Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a modified form of the bedclothes clamp; and Fig. 5 is a face view of the same.

The bedclothes clamp shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, is preferably made of spring wire while the clamp shown in Figs. 4 and 5 is preferably made of resilient sheet metal, or other suitable resilient material may be used for either of the forms shown. The bedclothes clamp illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 is made of a single piece of wire bent to provide a loop A, the ends of which terminate in downwardly extending shanks B and C, of which the shank B has its lower portion forming a clamping arm B′ overlying the outer face of the bedstead rail D, preferably made of angle iron, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The lower end of the clamping arm B′ terminates in a hook B^2 adapted to hook onto the lower edge of the vertical member of the bedstead rail D. The shank C is inclined to the shank B and is provided at its lower end with a return bent member C′ which terminates in a clamping arm C^2 adapted to overlie the top of the bedstead rail D. The end of the clamping member C^2 terminates in a hook C^3 engaging the edge of the top member of the bedstead rail D. The return bent member C′ of the shank C is engaged by a ring E, preferably of triangular shape, and through which extends the shank B, and on the said ring E is held one end of a strap F extending upward and passing through the loop A to then extend up over the mattress and the bedclothes, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The upper end of the strap F is provided with a suitable attaching means G in the form of a clasp or the like adapted to engage the uppermost member H of the bedclothes.

In practice, two, three or more bedclothes clamps as described are connected with the uppermost member H of the bedclothes to securely hold the same in place at the lower end thereof. It will be noticed that a pull exerted in an upward direction on the strap F causes the ring E to exert a pull on the return bent member C′ of the shank C to draw the latter toward the other shank B and in doing so cause the hook C^3 to more firmly engage the bedstead rail D. It is understood that the resiliency of the shank C tends to move the latter away from the shank B to open up the clamping members B′ and C^2 sufficiently to allow of conveniently engaging the clamping members B′ and C^2 with the bedstead rail D when placing the clamp in position. Thus by the arrangement described the bedclothes clamp can be readily placed in position on the rail D along any point thereof, and after the clamp is in position and the strap F is connected with the bedclothes then the latter are held securely in place and any pull exerted against the strap tends to draw the

clamping arms B′ and C² in firm contact with the edge of the bedstead rail D.

In the modified form shown in Figs. 4 and 5, sheet metal is bent to form a loop K terminating at its ends in the shanks L and N, of which the shank L has its lower portion forming a clamping arm L′ terminating in a hook L² engaging the lower edge of the bedstead rail D². The other shank N has a return bend N′ from which extends the clamping arm N² terminating in a hook N³ engaging the other edge of the rail D². A ring O engages the return bend N′ and through which extends the shank L, and to this ring is attached a strap F, the same as above described in reference to Figs. 1, 2 and 3. This strap is passed through registering apertures K′ of the loop K to then extend up to the bedclothes, as previously described and shown in Fig. 1.

It will be noticed that by providing the clamp with the shanks and hooks as described the clamp is securely held in position on the bedstead rail and the strap F can be readily connected with the bedclothes to hold the latter in position against accidental displacement by the occupant of the bed. It is also important to notice that in the forms shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, the movable ring element through which the strap F passes not only operates when strain is applied to the strap F to draw the clamping member securely into the bed rail engaging position, but the said ring also acts to frictionally bind the strap F between it and the adjacent wall of the upright clamping bar or arm, so that said strap will not slip. Thus, said ring performs a double function.

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

1. A bedclothes clamp, comprising a pair of shanks, a loop connecting the shanks with each other at their upper ends, and clamping arms at the lower ends of the shanks and extending approximately at a right angle to each other, the clamping arms having angular terminals and being adapted to clampingly engage a bedstead rail, a ring adapted to draw said clamping arms into clamping position and engaging the said shanks, and a strap attached at one end to the said ring and extending through the said loop.

2. A bedclothes clamp made of a single piece of resilient material bent to form a loop, shanks extending integrally from the ends of the said loop, one of the said shanks being straight and the other being inclined relatively to the straight shank and being provided with a return bent member, clamping arms extending integrally, one forming the lower portion of the said straight shank and the other extending from the said return bent member, the said arms being disposed approximately at a right angle one relative to the other, a ring engaging the said straight shank and the said return bent member, and a strap attached to the said ring and extending through the said loop.

3. A bedclothes clamp comprising a pair of flexibly connected shanks arranged in an angle to each other to engage a bed rail, a ring engaging both of said shanks and arranged when tilted at one angle relatively thereto to draw said shanks into the bed rail clamping position, a strap arranged to pass through said ring and between it and one of said shanks whereby a strain on said strap will draw said ring into the aforesaid angular position for the aforesaid purpose, said ring also frictionally engaging said strap to hold the same adjustably in position against slippage between it and said shank.

4. A bedclothes clamp comprising a pair of shanks with means for connecting the shanks with each other at their upper ends whereby said shanks may be moved to and fro relatively to each other, bed rail clamping arms at the lower ends of said shanks, said arms extending at an angle to each other and arranged to engage a bed rail, a ring surrounding said shanks and adapted when tilted at an angle thereto to draw said clamping arms into clamping position, said ring also providing a strap passage between it and one of the adjacent shanks, whereby said ring may also operate as a frictional retaining means for a strap.

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

RALPH V. BLAKE.

Witnesses:
THEO. G. HOSTER,
GEORGE H. EMSLIE.