(No Model.)

W. G. FOSTER.

PILLOW SHAM HOLDER.

No. 261,218. Patented July 18, 1882.

Fig. 1.

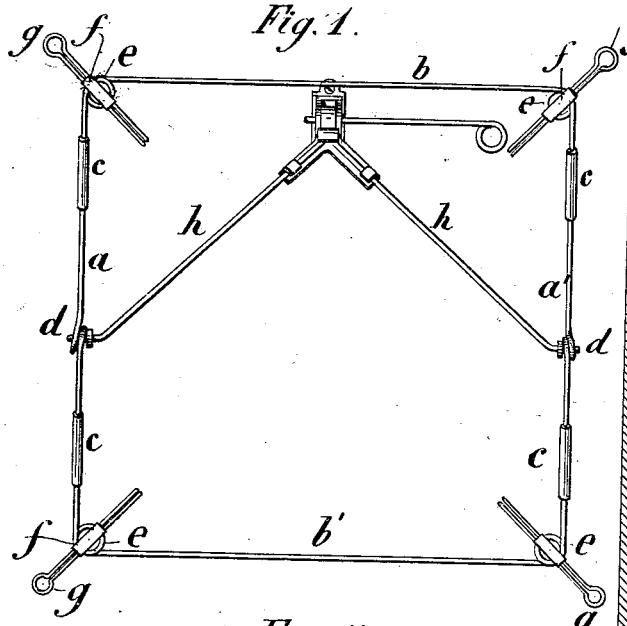


Fig. 2.

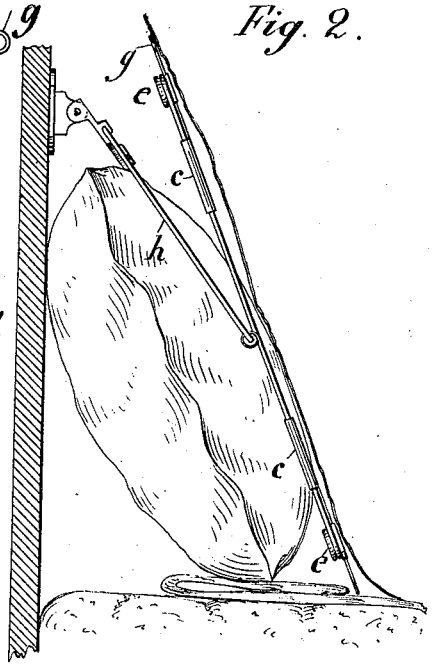


Fig. 3.

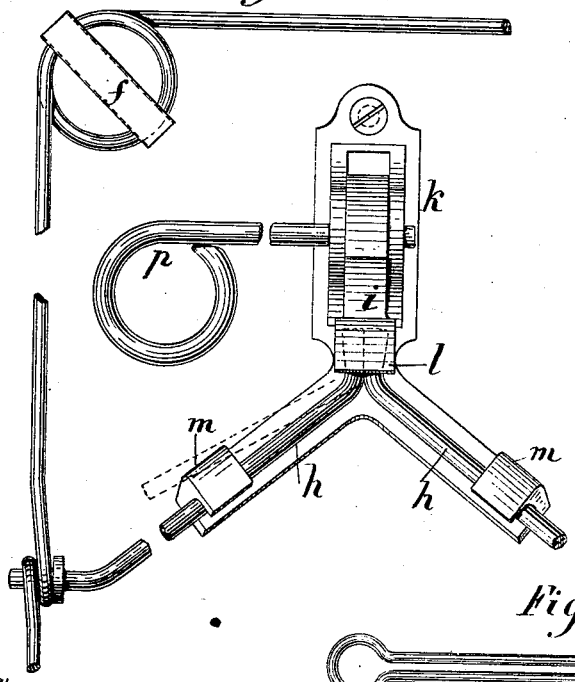


Fig. 4.

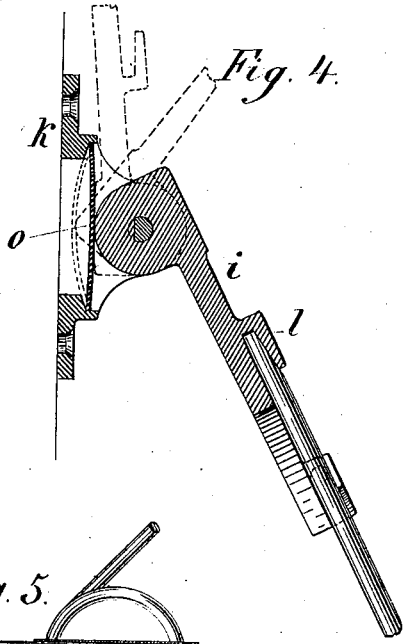
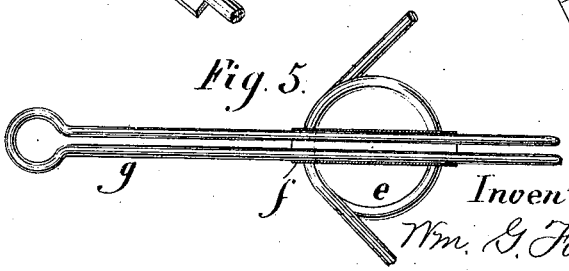


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM G. FOSTER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO LEVERETT E. FITTS, OF SAME PLACE.

PILLOW-SHAM HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 261,218, dated July 18, 1882.

Application filed May 27, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM G. FOSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing in Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pillow-Sham Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in pillow-sham holders consisting of a frame to which the sham is removably attached, which frame is adapted to keep the sham smoothly spread out and to be swung upon a pivot, whereby the sham is lowered to its operative position, or is raised above the same when the bed is in use.

The objects of my invention are to provide a pillow-sham holder which may be attached to any ordinary bedstead, and which, when lowered from its raised to its operative position, may be swung clear of the pillows and have its frame suspend the sham at the desired angle and at the same time maintain the sham in a smooth condition; to provide a pillow-sham holder constructed of light and cheap material and in such a manner that it may be taken apart and packed in a small compass for handling or for sending through the mails; to provide a pillow-sham holder the frame of which may be readily and quickly adjusted to adapt it to shams of varying sizes; and, finally, to provide a pillow-sham holder with a novel form of pivoted bracket adapted to removably hold arms connecting the bracket and frame, and to be automatically locked when raised to suspend the sham above its operative position. I attain these objects by devices illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a pillow-sham embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the same, showing the holder secured to the head of the bedstead or to an upright and the sham frame lowered to its operative position; Fig. 3, an enlarged detail of the sham-frame, showing the holder for the corner extension-pins, and the bracket and its attachment to the sham-frame; Fig. 4, a section through the pivoted bracket; and Fig. 5, an enlarged detail, partly in section, showing one of the extension-pins in its operative position.

The sham-frame of my device is preferably constructed of wire, but may be of any other material suitable for the purpose, and is made in four detachable pieces, *a a' b b'*, connected together by socket-tubes *c c c c*, which may be rigidly secured to the pieces *a a'* for convenience in putting the several parts together and avoiding the loss of the tubes. Pieces *a a'* are provided at their center of length with eyes *d d*, forming the bearings for detachable bracket-arms, hereinafter described, by bending the wire about itself, and similar eyes, *e e e e*, are formed in the same manner in the bends of the wires *b b'*, constituting the corners of the frame, said eyes *e* serving to give a spring-tension to the frame when the several parts are connected together, and to form a suitable base, supporting holders *f f f f*, receiving extension-pins *g g g g* on lines radiating from the center to the corners of the frame.

It will be observed that the extension-pins are of substantially the same form as ordinary hair-pins, so as to be sprung into their holders and be adjusted toward or from the center of the sham-frame, so as to decrease or increase the capacity of the frame, of which they form a part, and adapt the same for shams of varying sizes. The scope of this adjustment may be increased by means of the sleeves connecting the frame together, and thus the size of the frame be varied to a very great extent, and sufficiently under ordinary circumstances without the aid of the adjusting-pin. This pillow-sham frame is connected by rods or arms *h h*, having bent ends passing through the eyes *d d*, with a bracket consisting of a pivoted part, *i*, and rigid part *k*, the pivoted part *i* having a Y form, and provided with a pocket, *l*, at the intersection of its arms, and grooved lugs *m m* at the extremity of its arms, its stem being pivoted in the rigid bracket, and having a cam-face, *n*, operating against a curved spring, *o*, the operation of which will hereinafter be described. The arms *h h* are bent at their intersecting ends, where they pass into the pocket *l*, the curvature of these bends being such as to necessitate the springing of the arms into the pocket and their respective groove-lugs, as indicated in Fig. 3. To adjust these arms to place in the bracket one of them

is first placed in its operative position. The other one is then held in a line outside of its grooved lug, then set in the pocket and swung around to its operative position in the lug. The effect of thus swinging the arm is to bring the convexed ends of the bends in opposition to each other, which has the effect of pressing the body of the arm into the lug, or, in other words, spreading the arms apart, and thus locking them in the bracket. Bracket *k* is provided with the usual lugs, and the bracket *i* is pivoted in these lugs by a rod or crank, *p*, the bearing of which in the bracket *i* is flattened, so that while it forms a pivot it also forms a crank for swinging the pivoted bracket to raise and lower the pillow-sham frame, the flattening of this crank in the bracket *i* being clearly shown in Fig. 4. The cam *n* upon the pivoted bracket has a circular face and an angular face, the circular face bearing against the spring *o* when the bracket is dropped to its operative position; but in swinging the bracket upwardly the point of the cam presses the spring downwardly, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 4, so that when the bracket is swung to an upward vertical position the upper or flat face of the cam will lie against the spring, which has then resumed its normal position, and the result is that the bracket is automatically locked and the sham held in a vertical position adjacent the head-board and out of the way of persons occupying the bed.

It is of course understood that the more convenient way of swinging the bracket and frame is by the use of the crank *p*, and that while I have shown a short crank adapted only for a single pillow-sham holder it is obvious that a longer crank might be used and operate two holders simultaneously.

The rigid bracket may be screwed or otherwise secured direct to the head-board; but I may use a cleat or bar secured to the end rail of the bedstead, to which the bracket may be attached, and thus avoid disfiguring the head-board, as would be the case were the bracket afterward removed.

The cleat mentioned may be pivoted to the end board of the bedstead and be held in an upright position by a removable pin passing through it above its pivot into the end board, so that when it is desirable to temporarily dispense with the use of pillow-shams the cleat may be turned down out of sight, after having first removed the pivoted bracket or the arms *h h* and frame.

By providing the frame with two pivotal movements—namely, that upon its own axis upon the arms *h h* and that of the swinging bracket—it will be observed that the frame may be elevated without reversing it, and consequently wrinkling the sham, as would be the case if it were pivoted at its upper edge to raise and lower, like a leaf. Furthermore, this construction enables the setting of the frame at any desired angle, and also to adapt it to operate over large pillows, as shown in Fig. 2, as well as the ordinary size, the frame, with its pillow-sham, serving at all times to hide the bracket in its rear, for the reason that both sham and frame project above it.

With the exception of the bracket, little or no skill is required in the construction of the holder, and the detachability of the several parts enables it to be packed in a very small compass for shipping by mail or otherwise, and to be readily and quickly put together for use, in which condition it has all the desired rigidity and lightness for the purpose intended.

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

1. A pillow-sham holder the sham-frame of which is in sections detachably connected together by socket-pieces or tubes sleeved upon and extending beyond their respective sections, whereby the extremities of said sections are aligned with each other, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the frame of a pillow-sham holder, of the adjustable supplementary extensions arranged at the corners of the frame, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the pivoted bracket and with the sham-frame, of the removable arms connecting said frame and bracket, substantially as described.

4. A pillow-sham holder the sham-frame of which has two pivotal movements, one upon its own axis and the other upon the axis of a pivoted supporting-bracket, substantially as described.

5. The combination, with a pivoted supporting-bracket provided with a circular and angular cam-face, of a rigid bracket and a spring adapted to lock said pivoted bracket in an elevated position, substantially as described.

WILLIAM G. FOSTER.

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