J. A. KIRCHNER.

CRADLE.

No. 186,737. Patented Jan. 30, 1877.

Fig. 1.

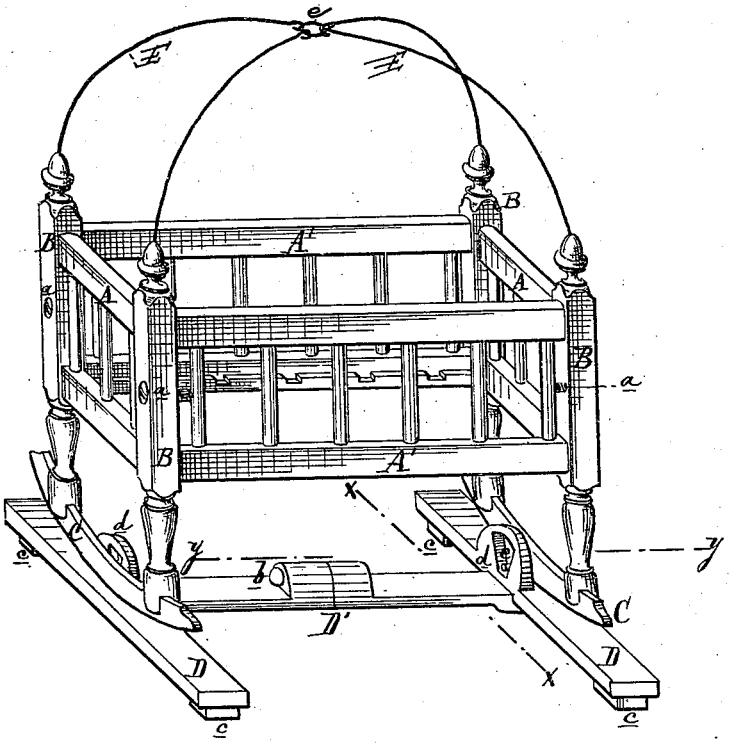


Fig. 2.

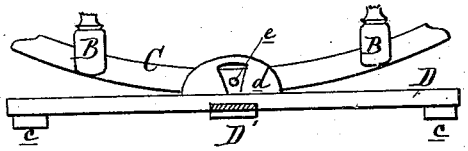
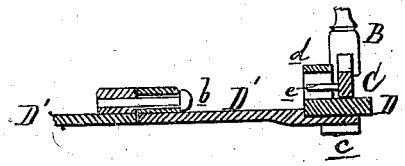


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. KIRCHNER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CRADLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **186,737**, dated January 30, 1877; application filed March 6, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. KIRCHNER, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented an Improvement in Cradles, of which the following is a specification:

The first part of my invention relates to an improvement in the manner of putting together the ends and sides of "spindle-cradles," making a less expensive joint than the mortises and tenons heretofore used, and fully as strong, if not stronger.

The second part of my invention relates to an improvement in a platform to sustain the rockers of the cradle, and on which they vibrate, having for its object to enable the platform to adjust itself to inequalities in the floor, or to a covering thereof, which I accomplish by making the girt which connects the two ends of the platform with a joint.

The third part of my invention relates to the construction of a folding wire frame, for supporting a mosquito-netting, which envelops the cradle, to protect the occupant from insect-bites.

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a cross-section at *x x*. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section at *y y*.

In the drawing, A A represent the ends and A′ A′ the sides of a spindle-frame cradle. The ends and sides are composed of parallel upper and lower bars, connected by vertical spindles, in the ordinary manner of constructing what is known in the trade as "spindle-frames," and the end frames are mortised to the corner-posts B, as is usual; but the ends of the bars of the sides are doweled into the posts, and secured thereto by a screw, *a*, passing through each post and into the nearest spindle, as seen in Fig. 1, making a cheap but very strong joint. C C are the rockers. D D are two light strips of wood, connected at the middle by a girt, D′, on whose center a raised boss is worked, which is first severed and then bored through both parts, to receive a longitudinal pin, *b*, so as to permit the feet *c* under the ends of the strips D to accommodate themselves to inequalities in the floor or its covering, and thereby afford a firm platform for the rockers of the cradle to oscillate upon.

To form a canopy-support, four wires are bent to a segment of a circle or other curve, and an end of each is inserted in a hole bored in the top of each post. The upper ends of these wires E are hooked into a ring, *e*, over the center of the bed or cradle, and the support, when detached, can be folded on the said ring into a small compass.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A spindle-frame cradle, substantially as described, having its sides doweled to the corner-posts, and secured by a single wood-screw passing through each post into the nearest spindle, substantially as shown and set forth.

2. The side strips D D, connected by the jointed girt D′, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

3. The canopy-frame for cradles described, consisting of the four curved wires E, having their upper ends hooked into a central ring, *e*, when the said wires are adapted to be readily detached from the cradle and folded up together, substantially as described and shown.

JOHN A. KIRCHNER.

Witnesses:

WM. H. LOTZ,

GEO. FROMMANN.