H. H. WIGGERS & J. F. WESSELER.

Locking Devices for Cradles.

No. 205,776. Patented July 9, 1878.

FIG. 1.

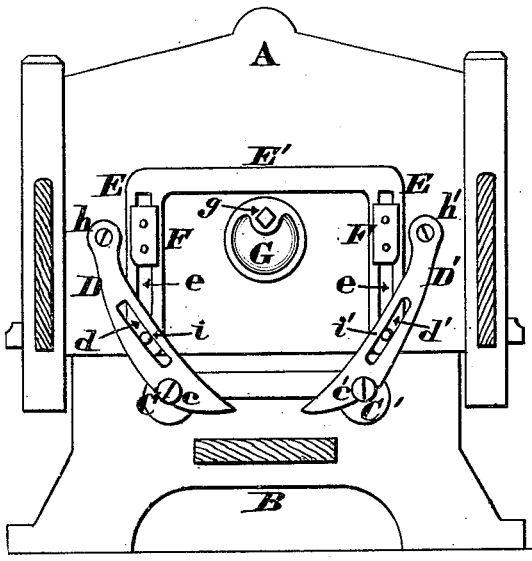


FIG. 2.

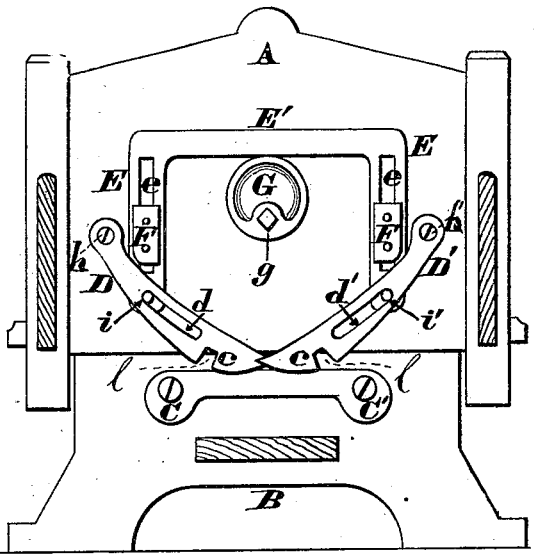


FIG. 3.

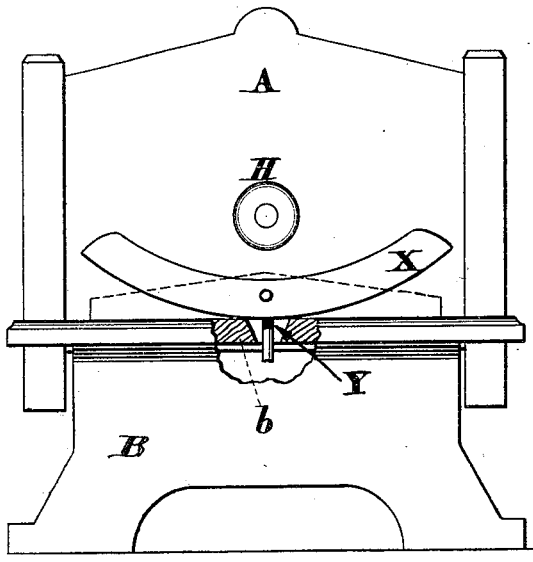
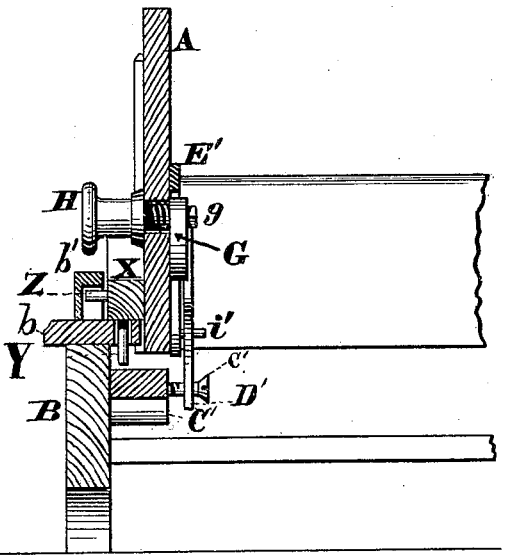


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY H. WIGGERS AND JOHN F. WESSELER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNORS TO KEARNEY & WIGGERS, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN LOCKING DEVICES FOR CRADLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **205,776**, dated July 9, 1878; application filed April 1, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HENRY H. WIGGERS and JOHN F. WESSELER, both of the city of Cincinnati, county of Hamilton, State of Ohio, have jointly invented an Eccentric-Lock for Cradles, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view of our improved lock attached to a cradle, and showing the cradle locked to the standard. Fig. 2 is a front view, showing the parts unlocked. Fig. 3 is an end view of the cradle, showing the connection of the upper and lower parts. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the same.

Our improvement relates to that class of cradles which are intended to rock upon a base. The cradle and the base may be connected by any of the forms of slotted plate and pin heretofore shown, though we prefer the methods described in the patents granted H. H. Wiggers, August 13, 1872, for cradles, No. 130,554, and July 28, 1874, for cribs and cradles, No. 153,647.

Our present invention relates more especially to a method of locking and unlocking the cradle and base, so as to have the cradle fixed rigidly to the base when desired, or readily unloosed, so as to allow it to rock; and consists, especially, first, in making the catches slotted, so as to receive pins that are raised or lowered on vertical slides; and, second, in raising or lowering the vertical slides by means of an eccentric operated from the outside of the cradle; and, third, in a combination of these parts, and also in several minor details of construction.

Describing the device more minutely, A represents the end of an ordinary cradle, to which is attached, generally on the outside, the rocker X at each end, working upon the base B, the cradle being held in place by the vertical pintle Y in plate *b*, secured on top and extending over the base B, and the horizontal pintle Z in bracket *b'*, secured on top plate *b*. At one end of the cradle catches D D' are provided, which are pivoted at their upper ends by screws *h h'*. These catches are, by means of the notches *l l'* on their under side near their lower ends, engaged with pins or screws *c c'* in the bracket C C' on the base B, and thus, when desired, prevent the cradle from rocking.

In order to readily engage and disenage these catches from the pins in the base, we have made our present invention. We make in each of the catches an oblong curved slot, *d d'*, in which work the pins *i i*, that are rigidly secured to the slides E E, fitted to slide up and down in proper guides upon the inside of the board that forms the end of the cradle.

We have shown a peculiar yoked slide to carry the pins. It is formed on a rectangular yoke, the sides E E of the yoke being slotted, and working on the guides F F, secured to the board that forces the end of the cradle, these slotted sides E E being attached by the top E'. Ordinarily we would make this yoke E E E' of one piece, forming it from a piece of metal. The parts should be so adjusted that when the yoke is lifted by raising the pins *i i*, they, working in the slots of the catches, will lift the catches and disengage them from the screws *c c'* in the base. To lift this yoke we adjust underneath it the eccentric G, of proper size and form to give the required elevation to the catches. The eccentric works upon the pin *g*, that is operated from the outside of the cradle by the handle H. This pin *g*, connecting the handle and the eccentric, we prefer to make in the form of a screw by cutting the flat of it, and having it operate in the nut made in the end of the cradle, as thereby it is not so readily disengaged, but remains fixed in place.

Having thus described the invention, what we regard as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a locking cradle, the combination of the slotted catches pivoted to the cradle and the pins secured to the vertically-operating slides and adapted to move in the slots in said catches, whereby the latter are operated.

2. As a locking device for cradles, the combination of the slotted catches D D', the yoked slide E E E', and the eccentric G, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

3. The yoked slide E E E′, working on the guides F F, for the purpose of operating the catches D D′ of a locking cradle.

4. As a device for operating the locking parts D D′ of a cradle, the combination of the eccentric G and slide E E E′, substantially as and for the purposes described.

5. The eccentric lock for cradles, formed by combining the eccentric G, the slide E E E′, pins *i i*, the slotted catches D D′, and the screws *c c′*, substantially as and for the purposes described.

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Witnesses:
ARTHUR STEIN,
JEREMIAH F. TWOHIG.