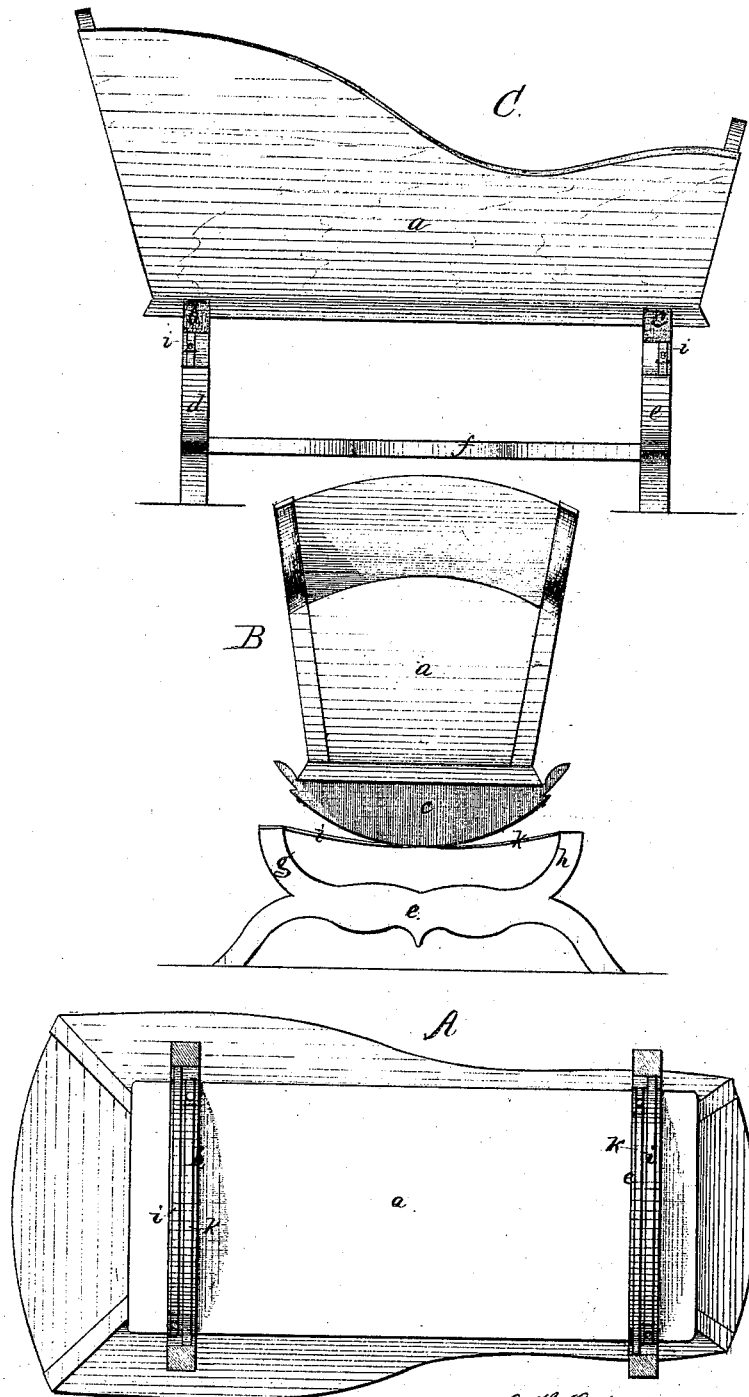


A. H. Ordway,

Cradle.

No. 110,931.

Patented Jan. 10. 1871.



Witnessed { *J. B. Hilder.*
Wm. W. Frothingham.

A. H. Ordway
By his Atty's
Crosby, Hildes & Gould

United States Patent Office.

ALBERT H. ORDWAY, OF HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 110,931, dated January 10, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN CRADLES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT H. ORDWAY, of Haverhill, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Cradle; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

My invention relates to an improved construction of a cradle with reference to the support of the body and to the provision for its rocking movement.

In my improved cradle I employ a stationary stool or base frame, to which the cradle is connected, and with reference to which it rocks, and from the ends of two opposite and upwardly-projecting arms at each end of the stool extend two flat springs, one end of each of which is fastened to the top of one of the arms, and its opposite end to the opposite end of the rocker, and in such manner that each end of the cradle is not only directly supported by and only by the two springs, but also rocks upon and only upon said springs, so that the cradle-body rests and rocks upon a yielding support.

It is in this construction that my invention consists, that is to say, in a cradle the rockers of which are supported upon and rock upon pairs of springs fastened to the ends of the rockers and to arms projecting from a stool or base frame.

The drawing represents a cradle embodying the improvements.

A shows the cradle in plan.

B is an end elevation of it.

C, a side elevation.

a denotes the body of the cradle, and

b c, the rockers, formed not unlike the body and rockers of common cradles, except that the rockers may be shorter.

Under the cradle-body is a stationary frame or

as tool, composed of two end-stands, *d e*, united by tie or strut, *f*.

From the opposite ends of each stand project arms *g h*, as seen at B.

To the top of the arm *g*, at each end of the cradle, one end of a flat spring or flat metal wire, *i i*, is attached, and from the arm the wire extends under the rocker and is fastened at its opposite end to the end of the rocker over the other arm *h*, and from this arm *h* another and similar spring, *k*, passes in the opposite direction under the rocker, being similarly fastened at its opposite ends to the arm *h* and to the rocker, the two springs being in different planes or side by side.

Each end of the cradle rests upon the two springs beneath the rocker, the weight slightly deflecting the springs, and, as the cradle-body is tipped in either direction, the rockers roll upon the springs, which conform to the motion of the rockers, each spring running off of the rocker periphery as the other spring rolls or winds upon it.

The cradle thus mounted rocks very easily and is entirely noiseless, and the elasticity and flexibility of the supports cause the cradle to keep up its oscillations for a considerable time unaided by an attendant. Moreover, the least motion of the child in the cradle sets the cradle to rocking, and with so silent and smooth a motion as to be a conducive to the quiet of the child.

The construction is also valuable in effecting a saving in the wear of carpets.

Instead of the metal springs *i k*, leather or other straps may be employed, but I prefer the metal springs.

I claim—

A cradle, supported by and rocking upon the springs, substantially as shown and described.

Witnesses:

ALBERT H. ORDWAY.

EDWARD T. SMITH,

ALFRED A. ORDWAY,

HENRY PIKE.