

A. WOODS.
HAMMOCK.

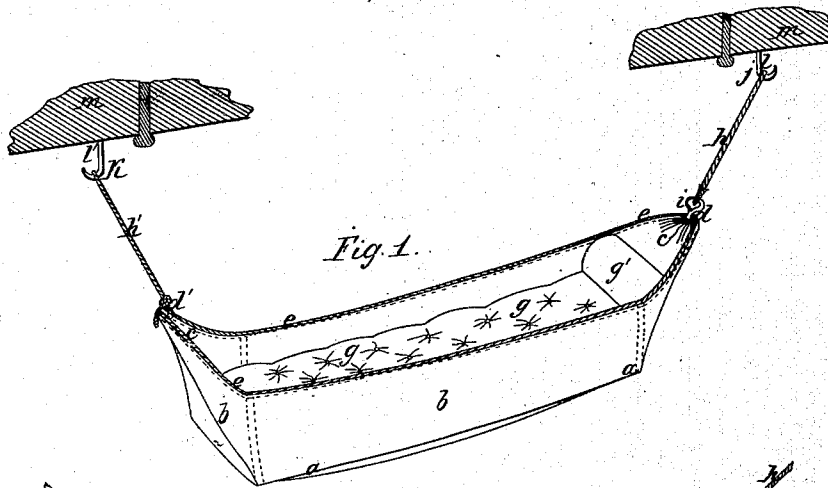


Fig. 1.

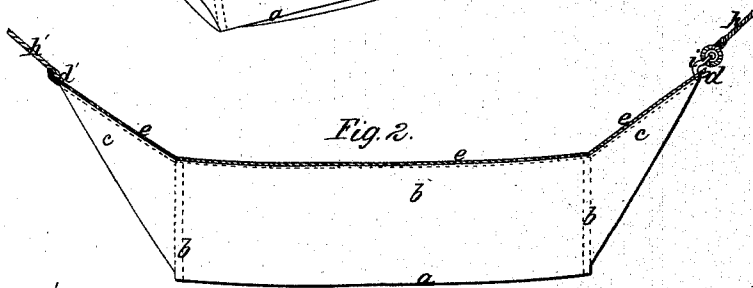


Fig. 2.

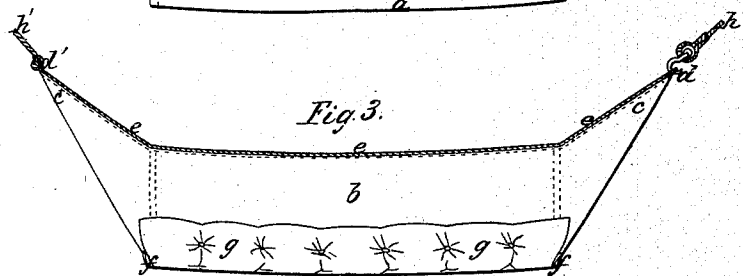


Fig. 3.

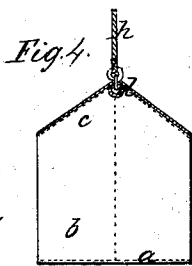


Fig. 4.

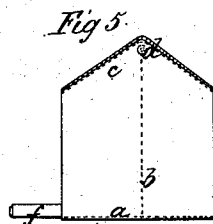


Fig. 5.

Witnesses;
Frederick King
and J. H. Adams

Inventor;
Arthur Woods

United States Patent Office.

ARTHUR WOODS, OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Letters Patent No. 68,927, dated September 17, 1867

IMPROVED HAMMOCK.

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, ARTHUR WOODS, of Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, in the Kingdom of England, gentleman, have invented a certain Improved Hammock-Cot and means for suspending the same; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying sheet of drawings, and to the figures and letters of reference thereon; that is to say—

The system of fixed and enclosed berths at present in use in emigrant, troop, and other ships carrying large numbers of persons at low charges, besides entailing considerable cost to ship-owners for removal and re-fitting, and being objectionable on sanitary grounds, is attended with many inconveniences well known to ship-masters and others. In respect to a free circulation of air, cleanliness, comfort, tendency to prevent sea-sickness, deck accommodation, and other advantages, hammocks are greatly superior. From the difficulty, however, of slinging ordinary hammocks, so as to make them comfortable for the person, and of their management generally, it has been next to impossible to introduce them for the use of landsmen.

The object of my invention is to provide a suspended berth or place for rest, denominated by me the reversible hammock-cot, which shall be comfortable, easily managed, and convenient for washing and stowing away. This I effect by constructing of canvas, or other flexible woven fabric or material, a berth of an oblong form, with vertical or nearly vertical sides and jib ends, the latter being fitted with thimbles. The said berth is made with pockets or loops at both ends, within which stretchers of wood or other rigid material are placed transversely to keep when in use the bottom or lower part distended. These stretchers are easily removed, when it is necessary to wash or clean the flexible material. To support the weight of a person in my said hammock-cot ropes are attached along the whole of the upper edge or part. A mattress or bed can be used in the said berth, when desired, so also could a rigid frame to fit inside in addition to or without the stretchers. The whole of the parts are suspended by two ropes or lanyards connected directly to the berth, and overhead to the deck, but I greatly prefer the novel arrangement of suspenders hereafter described. The suspenders are made of rope or strong line. One of these—one only for each end is used—is provided or fitted with a hook at one end, and a thimble at the other; the hook is passed into the thimble of one jib end, and the thimble on to a hook secured to the deck. The other suspender is provided or fitted with a thimble at one end, the other end being free. The thimble is passed on to a hook secured to the deck, and the free end rove through the other jib end and tied, so as to leave that end of the hammock-cot at any selected distance from the deck. The free ends of the hooks are secured to the deck point in opposite directions.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved hammock-cot suspended in position, part of the deck of a ship being shown.

Figure 2, a longitudinal elevation, and

Figure 3 a longitudinal section, both showing part of the suspenders.

Figures 4 and 5, end elevations, the former with part of one suspender, and the latter with one of the stretchers partly withdrawn.

In all these views like letters denote the same parts.

a is the bottom, *b* the sides, *c* the jib ends, with thimbles *d d'* therein, *e* the supporting-ropes, *f* stretchers. *g* represents a mattress, and *g'* a pillow. Of the suspenders *h h'* are the ropes, *h* being fitted with hook *i* and thimble *j*; *h'* being fitted with thimble *k*, and its free end rove through *d'*. The hooks *l l'* are secured to the deck marked *m*.

Sail-makers and others will be enabled to manufacture my said hammock-cot and suspenders from the description above given, as all the parts are constructed and act in a well-known manner. The flexible material may be either in one or in many pieces. In both cases stitching is employed to give it the required shape. The ropes *e* must be securely attached to *b*; this may be effected by open stitching or by binding within *b*. The pockets for the stretchers can be made in one continuous recess, or several loops can be formed for one side. In all cases it is desirable that the ends of the stretchers should be within the flexible material *b*, so as to keep the part *a* distended, but it will be seen the cot can be reversed at any time and be equally serviceable, whichever is the outside.

Having now set forth the nature of my said invention, and shown how the same can be performed, I would

have it understood that I do not confine myself to the exact details shown, as many modifications may be made without departing from the leading features. What I claim in hammock-cots suspended from the ends, and in the means for suspending the same, is—

The hammock herein described, having the body *a b* of a rectangular section sustained transversely by the cross-pieces *f* or their equivalents, and supported by the jib ends *c*, so as to receive the several strains and hold in shape the contents of the hammock, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR WOODS.

Witnesses:

JOHN P. KING, *Patent Agent, Liverpool.*

JOHN ENNIS.