

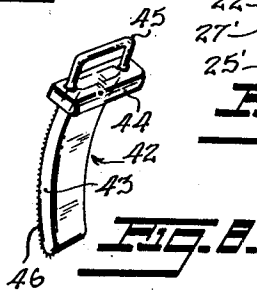
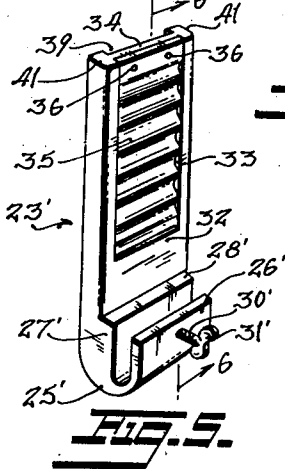
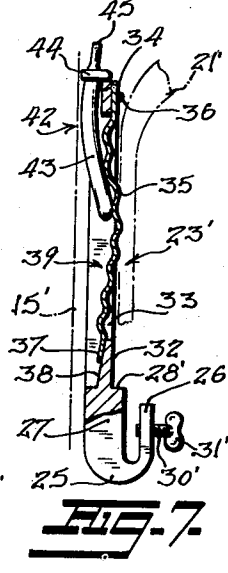
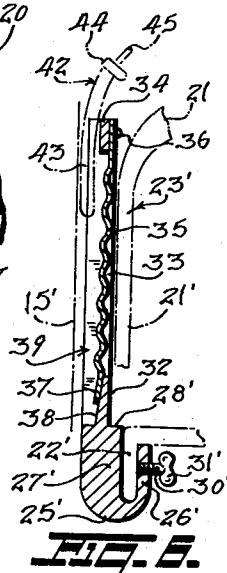
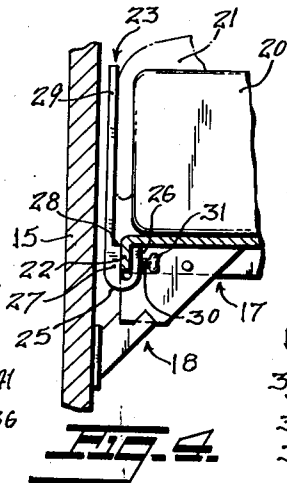
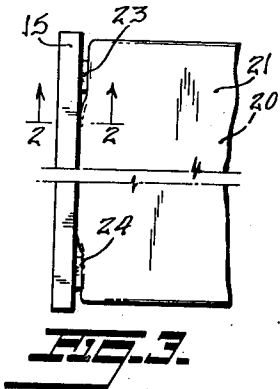
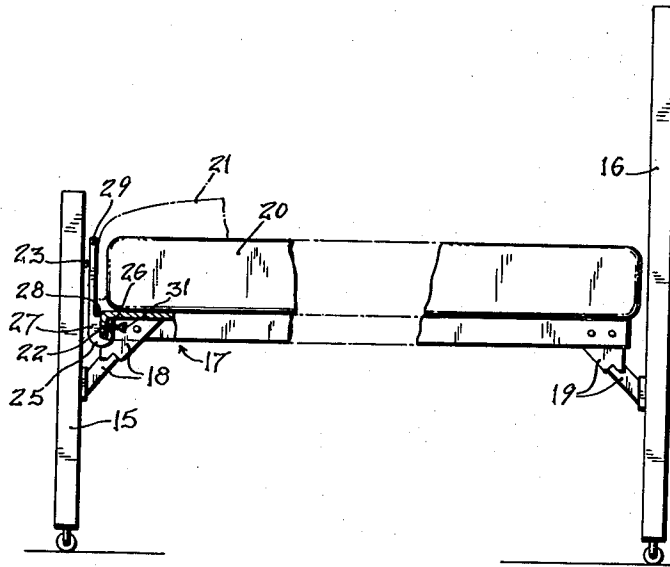
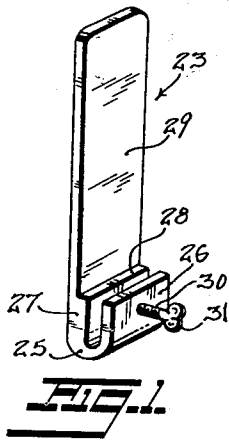
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BEDCLOTHES CLAMP

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BEDCLOTHES CLAMP

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3 Claims. (Cl. 24—72.5)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in attachments for sleeping beds adapted when properly placed on a bed adjacent to its footboard for functioning as a bed-clothes clamp after the "bed has been made up" by laying, smoothing out and tucking the bed-clothes down in the usual way between the inner side of the footboard and the adjacent end of the mattress; and, more particularly, the aim is to provide an improved such appliance, for the purpose stated, which may be inexpensively made and so offered at a very small selling price for a pair of such appliances to be used in connection with the bed-clothes of a particular bed.

A further object is to provide an improved bed-clothes clamping means as above, which may be easily and quickly attached to a bed-spring frame or the like at the end of the latter at the foot of the bed; which means is adapted to have always a dependable anchoring action on the marginal portions of the bed-clothes at the foot of the bed; and which means, further, is free of objection complexities and bulk and, in the latter connection, so formed and arranged that, when installed on the bed, its presence is not observable after the bed has been made up.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective showing one of two like appliances pursuant to the invention and constituting one new improved embodiment thereof.

Fig. 2 shows, in side elevation, partially broken away and partially in section, a bed of a conventional type and incorporating a headboard, a footboard, a spring and mattress supporting frame; coupling means between the ends of said frame and said headboard and footboard, and one of the appliances of Fig. 1 attached to the usual depending transverse flange of said frame at the end of the latter adjacent to the footboard, with the bed-clothes indicated in dot and dash lines; the portion of said frame adjacent to said appliance in this view being delineated substantially as indicated by the line 2—2 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view, centrally broken away, fragmentarily showing the footboard and the adjacent bed parts, with here the bed-clothes illustrated in full lines.

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Fig. 4, also a section on said line 2—2, is a very much enlarged replica of the parts seen at the left in Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but illustrating a modification.

Fig. 6 is a central vertical section, taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; but with here indicated, further, in dot and dash lines, a portion of the footboard, an adjacent end of the bed-clothes, and an auxiliary member for use as will become clear later.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 6, but showing said auxiliary member fully in place, instead of merely in course of being applied as in Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of said auxiliary member, detached.

Referring now to the drawings more in detail, by reference numerals, and first to Figs. 1—4, a bed and its additional equipment are substantially schematically indicated; with the bed incorporating a footboard 15, a headboard 16, the aforesaid frame 17, a means 18 for rigidly connecting an end of the said frame to the footboard, a means 19 for similarly connecting the opposite end of said frame to the headboard 16, a box spring 20, and in the aggregate a set of bed-clothes 21.

The presence of a mattress atop the structure 20 is not indicated; to simplify the drawings, and also for the reason that sometimes such a mattress forms a part of the element 20.

As is well-known, a frame such as the frame 17 is made of angle irons so that, at opposite ends of said frame one of the flanges of a length of angle iron depends as indicated at 22. It has already been stated that the new appliance incorporates a pair of structures identical with that shown in Fig. 1. These two structures will be noted, respectively, at 23 and 24 in Fig. 3; and the one of them illustrated in Fig. 1 may be taken to be the structure 23. A detailed description of one such structure, as the structure 23; therefore, will suffice.

This structure, it will be noted, is of one-piece integral kind, including a lower portion 25 U-shaped in cross-section so as to present a rather thin frontal bill or face-plate 26 and a rather thicker rear portion 27 upstanding to establish at its top a shelf or ledge 28; said structure being further upwardly extended, above said shelf, as a thinner main panel 29.

It being observed that the top of said bill 26 is below the level of the shelf 28, so that when the structure 23 is secured to the frame 17 as shown in Fig. 2, said shelf 28 will be substantially in the same plane as the top of said frame,

and the space between the portions 27 and 26 may then properly snugly receive the said flange 22. For securing the parts in the relationship shown, the bill or plate 26 is drilled and tapped for taking the thread on the shank of a bolt 30 having a wing-nut-type head 31. The companion structure 24 is similarly dependably anchored to the same end of the frame 17 at the other side thereof; thereby to have the two like structures 23 and 24 arranged, for instance, as shown in Fig. 3.

The provision of the shoulder or shelf 28 is properly to proportion the thicknesses of the portions 27 and 29, so that, with the frame 17 positioned against accidental shift relative to the headboard and footboard, said shelf, as already stated and as shown in Fig. 4 most clearly, will be at the top level of said frame. At the same time, there is presented a space, yet a properly narrowed space, between the box-spring 20 and the panel 29, into which the adjacent ends of the bed-clothes may be forced, readily, yet so tightly that the clamping action intended to be performed by said panel 29 and by the corresponding panel of the structure 24, to prevent the bed-clothes from being accidentally disengaged from their anchorage at the foot of the bed, is performed in an ideal manner.

Referring to the modification shown in Figs. 5-8, one of the two like appliances here proposed to be used, if desired, in substitution for the structures 23 and 24, is as a whole designated 23'. The parts of the appliance 23' to which are applied reference numerals 25 through 28 and 30 and 31 with primes added correspond, respectively, to the parts to which have been applied the same reference numerals without primes. Also, in connection with the illustrative showing of this modification, there are delineated in dot and dash, and fragmentarily, a bed footboard 15', bed-clothes 16', and a flange 22', corresponding to the flange 22.

Here, however, in lieu of the panel 29, said appliance 23' integrally includes above the shelf 28' an upstanding skeletal leaf 32 having a clear-through substantially rectangular vertically elongate opening 33, said opening topped by a bar-like portion 34.

This portion 34 is incut at its side adjacent to the shelf 28', for receiving therein the upper plane end of a clamping member 35, in such manner that the outer face of said member 35, where it is secured to the leaf 32 at its said portion 34 as by way of a pair of rivets 36, will be flush with the face of the leaf 32 to contact the tucked down bed-clothes.

Said member 35, desirably made of thin spring steel or some similarly resilient suitable sheet material, is transversely convoluted, as shown, along the major portion of its length and down as far as a tailing terminal portion 37 of the said member 35. Normally, this portion 37 slidably rests as shown in Fig. 6 against a ramped surface 38 just below the bottom of the opening 33 and at the rear side of a low transverse wall the top of which marks the bottom of said opening; and normally, also, the crests of the convolutions or corrugations across the member 35, at the front side of the latter, do not project at all forwardly of the front plane of said opening. These corrugations, instead, are then housed in a shallow largely open chamber 39 in back of said opening; which chamber is closed in merely across its bottom, at its front by the wall last-named and the

remainder of the leaf 32 plus the clamping member 35, and at its two exceedingly narrow sides by rib-like vertical extending projections 41, 41 rearwardly extended from the opposite sides of the leaf 32.

With a pair of appliances each like the appliances 23' provided, and with there also provided a pair of auxiliary devices each like the fitment shown and which as a whole is designated 42, a simple and inexpensive combination of parts is afforded, by which the ends of the bed-clothes 16' to be tightly fixed at the foot of the bed following making up the bed may be quickly and easily tucked down into their appointed receptor and without any chance of squeezing the bed-maker's fingers, but by which, nevertheless, a wholly dependable clamping action may be thereupon and readily accomplished, and by which, further, such usually not present parts as may be observable after the bed is finally made will constitute a decorative addition to the general ensemble rather than otherwise.

Each such device or fitment, as shown in the case of the fitment 42, comprises, it will be observed, a suitably wide, long and longitudinally curved blade 43, an enlarged head 44 and an upper extension 45 in the shape of a pull-handle of the inverted U type.

After the bed has been made up, with then the parts substantially as shown in Fig. 6, there is applied, relative to each of the structures 23' and its companion structure near opposite sides of the foot of the bed, one of the fitments 42; first to the extent indicated in dot and dash lines in Fig. 6, and then, by downward thrust on its head 44, to the full extent shown in Fig. 7. Consequent upon these operations, at each of said structures, the inside surface of the footboard 15' coats with the convex side of each of the blades 43 and the corresponding blade of the structure corresponding to the structure 23', to bring about the condition illustrated in Fig. 7. Now the clamping member 35 is abnormally distorted, thereby to cause some of its flutings to exert a powerful but non-injurious grip on the bed-clothes; and the head 44 concealingly overlies the top of the structure 23'.

The upstanding handles 45, the presence of which at the foot of the made up bed is not in any way detrimental to the appearance thereof or to the comfort of a sleeper in the bed, are always presented for being grasped to facilitate bodily removal of the fitment 42 and its companion fitment, at any time when the bed-clothes are to be changed.

Such fitment may be made of metal, as plastic or any other suitable material; and to avoid any chance of it ever marring any part of the inside face of the headboard, each fitment may be covered, as indicated at 46 in Fig. 8, with a localized sheathing of cushiony material, such as a piece of heavy plush suitably anchored in place as by cementing.

The importance of using the bedclothes clamp is stressed particularly in cases where there is no footboard or where the mattress is too great a distance away from the footboard.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

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Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desired to secure by United States Patent is:

1. An attachment for the purpose stated and for securement to a dependent flange from a frame horizontally extended between the headboard and the footboard of a bed, said flange at the end of said frame adjacent to said footboard; said attachment incorporating at its bottom a bracket-portion U-shaped in cross-section to provide a space for snugly downwardly receiving said flange, said attachment having an upstanding frontal bill and in rear of the latter an upstanding main portion of greater thickness than said bill, said attachment further incorporating an upstanding panel in prolongation of said main portion and of less thickness than said main portion, the bottom of said panel having its point of merger with said main portion defined by an upwardly facing shoulder adjacent to said bill, said attachment also carrying means manually actuatable to clamp said bracket-portion to said flange, said panel comprising a skeletal leaf having a clear-through opening, a deformable resilient clamping member attached at one end to said leaf, and an auxiliary fitment having a curved blade for downward insertion between the footboard and said panel with its convex side facing said clamping member and engaging said clamping member at its bottom end to deform said clamping member toward the bedclothes to grip the portion of the bedclothes to be secured against accidental displacement.

2. An attachment for the purpose stated and for securement to a dependent flange from a frame horizontally extended between the headboard and the footboard of a bed, said flange at the end of said frame adjacent to said footboard; said attachment incorporating at its bottom a bracket-portion U-shaped in cross-section to provide a space for snugly downwardly receiving said flange, said attachment having an upstanding frontal bill and in rear of the latter an upstanding main portion of greater thickness than said bill, said attachment further incorporating an upstanding panel in prolongation of said main portion and of less thickness than said main portion, the bottom of said panel having its point of merger with said main portion defined by an upwardly facing shoulder adjacent to said bill, said attachment also carrying means manually actuatable to clamp said bracket-portion to said flange, said panel comprising a skeletal leaf having a clear-through opening, a deformable resilient clamping member attached at one end to said

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leaf, and an auxiliary fitment having a curved blade for downward insertion between the footboard and said panel with its convex side facing said clamping member and engaging said clamping member at its bottom end to deform said clamping member toward the bedclothes to grip the portion of the bed-clothes to be secured against accidental displacement, said clamping member being transversely fluted.

3. An attachment for the purpose stated and for securement to a dependent flange from a frame horizontally extended between the headboard and the footboard of a bed, said flange at the end of said frame adjacent to said footboard; said attachment incorporating at its bottom a bracket-portion U-shaped in cross-section to provide a space for snugly downwardly receiving said flange, said attachment having an upstanding frontal bill and in rear of the latter an upstanding main portion of greater thickness than said bill, said attachment further incorporating an upstanding panel in prolongation of said main portion and of less thickness than said main portion, the bottom of said panel having its point of merger with said main portion defined by an upwardly facing shoulder adjacent to said bill, said attachment also carrying means manually actuatable to clamp said bracket-portion to said flange, said panel being in the form of a skeletal leaf presenting a clear-through opening, and there being a deformable resilient clamping member attached at one end to said leaf, in combination with an auxiliary fitment shaped for downward insertion in rear of said clamping member and further shaped whereby on full downward insertion of said fitment said clamping member is thereby deformed to grip the portion of the bed-clothes to be secured against accidental displacement, said clamping member being transversely fluted, said fitment including a blade, a head carrying the blade and on said head a pull handle, said blade being curved in the direction of its extension away from said head.

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