BED HARNESS FOR CHILDREN

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4 Claims. (Cl. 128—134)

My invention relates to improvements in means for securing infants and young children duly covered and protected in bed, and the same has for its object more particularly to provide a device which is simple in construction, efficient in use, and inexpensive to manufacture.

Further, said invention has for its object to provide a harness by means of which a child may be conveniently secured in bed without interfering to any material degree with its free movement.

Further, said invention has for its object to provide a harness which may be disposed substantially entirely under the bed coverings, and whereby the child may be secured firmly to the bed without danger of injury or inconvenience to the child.

Further, said invention has for its object to provide a harness which is adapted for securing to the legs of the child and to a rigid part of the bed in such manner that it will permit the free movement of the legs and other parts of the child's body.

Further, said invention has for its object to provide a harness of the character specified which, while allowing the child practically free and unencumbered movement from side to side, will prevent its movement towards the head of the bed to such extent as would enable the child to work its way out from under the upper edge of the coverings.

Other objects will in part be obvious and in part be pointed out hereinafter.

To the attainment of the aforesaid objects and ends my invention consists in the novel features of construction, and in the combination, connection and arrangement of parts heretofore more fully described and then pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing—

Fig. 1 is a plan view, partly broken away, showing a bed or crib with a child therein provided with one form of harness or securing device constructed according to, and embodying my said invention;

Fig. 2 is a face view of the harness showing the same extended or spread out, and

Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail perspective view of one of the leg-embracing members, with one form of adjustable securing means whereby the size of the leg-embracing members may be varied.

In said drawings 10 designates a bed or crib which is shown as comprising a head and foot pieces 11 and 12, respectively, and side members 13. The head and foot pieces 11 and 12 each include tubular or cylindrical corner posts 14.

The bed includes the usual mattress 17, and covering 18 which latter is preferably secured at its two upper corners by tie-bands 19 to the side members 13, and at its lower corners by tie bands 19 to the corner posts 14 of the foot piece 12.

The harness is preferably made of suitable soft, pliable material, such as, for example, a woven wool fabric, and comprises a pair of flat, leg-embracing straps 20, and a flexible link 21 of cylindrical or roll-form in cross-section having flattened end portions 21a to each of which is secured the end of one of said leg-embracing straps 20. The flattened end portion 21a is provided with a slit or button hole 21b. Each leg-embracing strap 20 is provided at its free end with a tie band or tape 22, and at its other end, where it is attached to the flattened end portion 21a of the connecting link 21, with a similar tie-band or tape 23 for securing the leg-embracing member to the ankle of the child. The free end of the leg-embracing member 20 and its tie band 22 are passed through the slit 21b of the end 21a so as to permit of the varying of the size of the leg-embracing member.

24 denotes a connecting member in the form of a relatively-narrow band, doubled at its middle and embracing the connecting member or link 21 midway of its ends and fixedly secured thereto by sewing or other suitable means. The two free ends are each substantially one and one-half times the length of said connecting link 21, and extend therefrom in the form of two separate anchoring members or portions 25, 25a. To the ends of the connecting members 25, 25a are secured the ends of relatively long tie-bands 26, 26a, respectively, each of which is substantially three times the length of the connecting members 25, 25a. The connecting members are preferably made of soft fabric, similar to that of the leg-embracing members 20 and the connecting link 21, and the tie-bands 26, 26a are made of thinner, stronger and less yielding fabric such as inelastic webbing.

The operation of the device is as follows:

The size of the leg-embracing members 20 of the harness are first severally adjusted and applied to the ankles of the child and secured in position thereon by the tie-bands 22, 23, and the ends of the long tie-bands 26, 26a of the anchoring members 25, 25a of the connecting member 24 then separately secured to the corner posts 14 of the foot piece of the bed, or the ends of said tie-bands 26, 26, may, after being passed around said posts 14, be secured together, as indicated by broken lines at Fig. 1, in order to accord a slid-
ing engagement of said tie-bands 26, 26a with the posts 14 and limit the range of movement of the link member 21 and the leg-embracing members 23 relative to the foot piece of the bed.

The covers 18 of the bed may thereupon be fastened to the bed by the tie-bands 19 or otherwise to hold the same in place. It will thus be apparent from the foregoing that the child is free to move bodily in the bed, and that while it is free to move its legs it will, nevertheless, be unable to get out from under the covers 18, as it would otherwise be free to do if not restrained by the harness.

While I have shown the leg-embracing members 20 provided at their free ends with loops 32 to be engaged with the tie-bands 23 in order to vary the size of said leg-embracing members to suit the individual requirements of the child, it will, of course, be understood that any convenient means for varying the size of the leg-embracing members may be employed.

Further, it is to be noted that my harness in no way interferes with the usual making of the bed, and that the same, when applied, except for the ends of the tie-bands 26, 26a is wholly disposed below and concealed by the bed coverings 18.

Having thus described my said invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A harness of the character described comprising a pair of leg-embracing members, a semi-rigid connecting link secured at its opposite ends to one end of each of said leg-embracing members and serving to maintain said leg-embracing members in spaced relation to each other, said link being provided at its opposite ends with openings, said leg-embracing members each including a fastening member secured to the free end of each leg-embracing member, a second fastening member secured to each leg-embracing member adjacent the point of securement of said leg-embracing members to said connecting link and adapted to be passed through the opening therein and be engaged with the free end of said first-named fastening member, anchoring means fixedly secured to said connecting link intermediate the ends thereof, and securing members secured to said anchoring means for slidingly engaging with a rigidity support.

2. A harness of the character described comprising a pair of leg-embracing members, a connecting link secured at its opposite ends to one end of each of said leg-embracing members and provided at its said ends with openings, said leg-embracing members each including a fastening member secured at one end to the free end of each leg-embracing member, a second fastening member secured to each leg-embracing member adjacent the point of securement of said leg-embracing member to said connecting link and adapted to be passed through the opening therein and be engaged with the free end of said first-named fastening member, anchoring means fixedly secured to said connecting link intermediate the ends thereof, and securing members secured to said anchoring means for slidingly engaging with a rigidity support.

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