

J. FOWLER.
BEDSTEAD FASTENING.

No. 2,715.

Patented July 11, 1842.

Fig. 2.

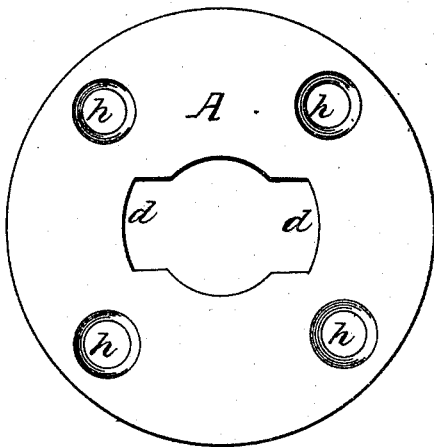


Fig. 3.

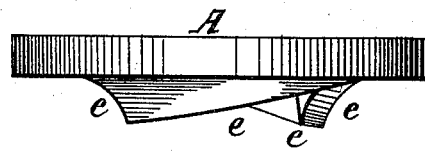


Fig. 1.

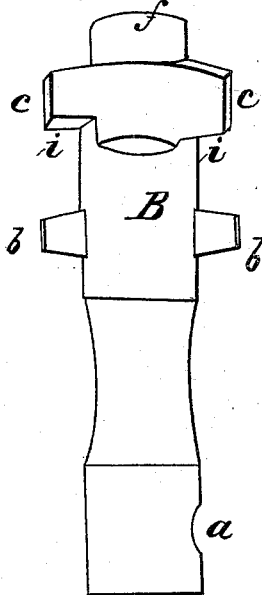
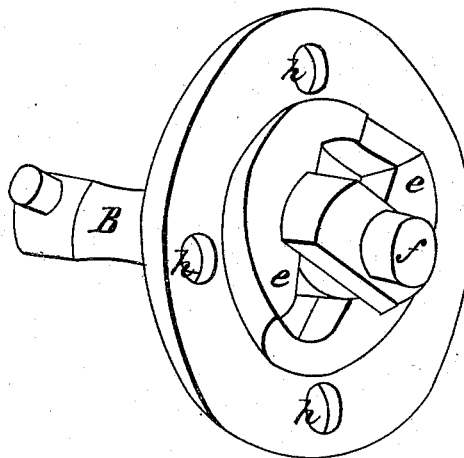


Fig. 4.

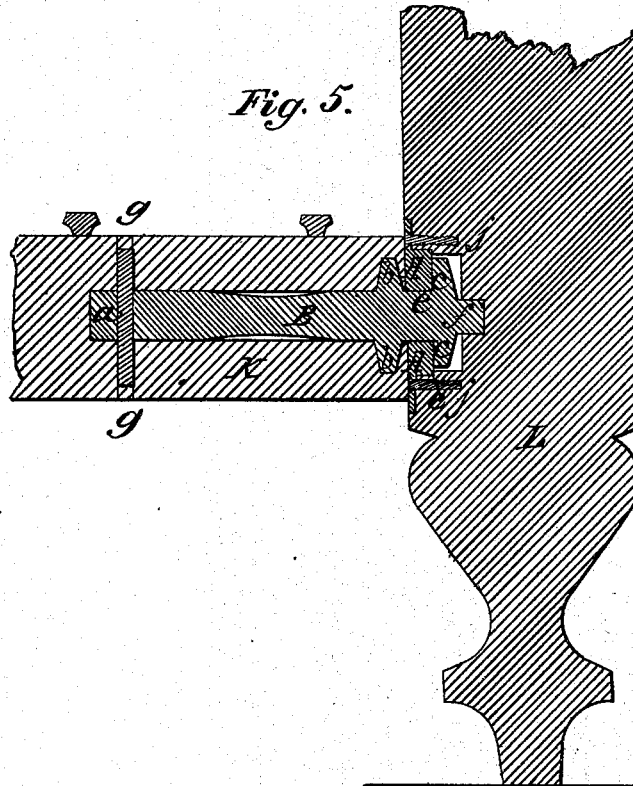


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Fig. 5.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN FOWLER, OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA.

BEDSTEAD-FASTENING.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 2,715, dated July 11, 1842.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN FOWLER, of Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fastening the Joints of Bedsteads, which is described as follows, reference being had to the annexed drawings of the same, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a plan of the key. Fig. 2 is a plan of the key hole plate. Fig. 3 is an edge view of ditto. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the key and plate connected. Fig. 5 is a vertical section of the key and plate and of part of the rail and post to which they are fastened.

Similar letters refer to corresponding parts.

The nature of my invention and improvement consists in fastening each joint of the bedstead by a metallic key and plate of a peculiar construction, so that it can be put up or taken down in a few moments with a very slight exertion and when put together making the joints very close and firm.

The key lettered B in Figs. 1, 4, and 5 is a cylindrical bar of cast iron or other metal let into the end of the rail K and secured therein by a pin *g* passed through the rail and key at *a* and by means of wings *b b* let into corresponding cavities in the rail, which hold it firmly, said key having two beveled cogs *c c* cast on it near the outer extremity thereof which engage or gear with two segment inclined planes *e e* cast on the inner face of the plate fastened to the post and also having the outer end of said key extended beyond the said cogs forming a cylindrical end *f* which enters a corresponding cylindrical cavity in the post for increasing the security and stiffness of the fastening. The inner sides of the cogs *c* are beveled at *i* to correspond with the inclined planes *e* of the segments—that is the sides *i* Fig. 1 next the inclined planes *e* of the plate A are sloped in reverse order and at the same angle of inclination as the inclined planes *e e*. The aperture in the end of the rail to receive the key may be bored with a common auger.

The inclined planes *e e* are formed on a circular hub projecting from the face of the plate A, in the following manner. Draw a line through the center or across the diameter of this hub which will divide it into two semi circular segments. Slope or bevel

one of these segments from the face of the plate to the outer end of the hub, forming an inclined plane of about 10 degrees with the said plate. Slope the other segment in a similar manner, but in an opposite or reversed direction. The plate A is made circular so that the aperture in the post L to receive it may be bored—being a more convenient form than square which would require mortising. In the center is an aperture *d* corresponding with the shape of the end of the key and cogs. The segment inclined planes *e* are cast on the face of the plate next the cavity in the post in which the cogs turn in reversed order in the manner above described. The plate A is secured in the post by screws *j* passed through the apertures *h*. The hole in the post to receive the cylindrical end *f* of the key *f* is also bored. The end of the key fits this hole exactly.

To fasten the end of the rail to the post insert the key into the hole *d* in the center of the hub and circular plate A, the outer extremity *f* being in the hole in the post corresponding therewith. Then turn the rail slightly—this movement brings the inclined planes *i* of the cogs *c c* in contact with the reversed segments or inclined planes *e e* and these planes acting upon the cogs *c c* on the principle of the screw or wedge draw the end of the rail firmly against the post. Each end of the rail is provided with a key constructed as above described; and each side of each post corresponding therewith is provided with a circular plate constructed as before described.

The ends of the pin *g* are concealed from view by plugs of wood inserted into the aperture in the rail.

I do not claim to be the original inventor of the method of fastening the ends of rails to the posts of bedsteads by having sections of screws on the ends of the rails and corresponding cavities in the posts and turning the rails in order to draw the parts together, but

What I do claim as my invention and which I desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. The construction of the key B with a cylindrical end *f* beyond the cogs *c c* for entering a circular cavity in the bottom of the mortise in the post for strengthening the joint as before described.

2. Constructing the circular cast plate A

with reversed segment inclined planes *e e* against which the cogs *c c* of the key act in drawing the rail and post together as described.

- 5 3. Securing the rails and posts of bedsteads by means of separate castings of a circular and cylindrical form constructed

and arranged in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN FOWLER.

Witnesses:

WM. P. ELLIOTT,
EDMOND MAHER.