I. COOPER.
BEDSTEAD.

No. 3,778. Patented Oct. 7, 1844.

Fig. 1.

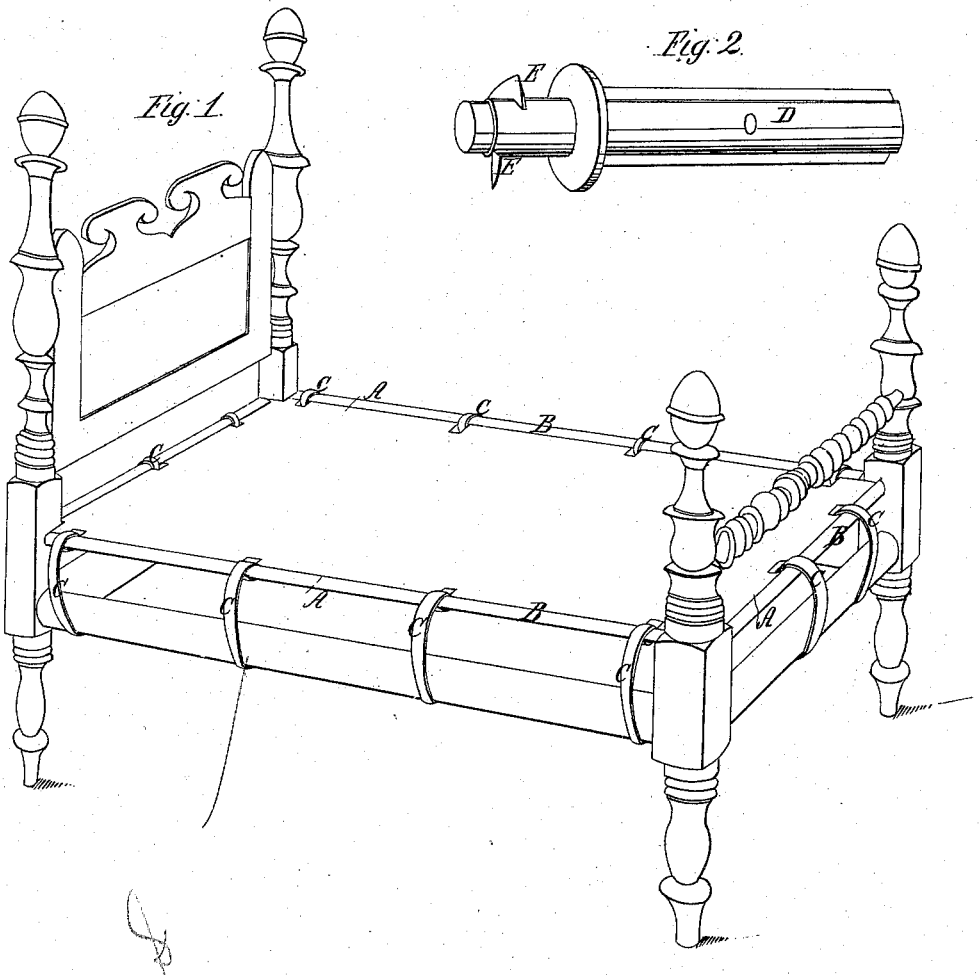

Fig. 2.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC COOPER, OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

SACKING-BOTTOM FOR BEDSTEADS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 3,778, dated October 7, 1844.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC COOPER, of Johnstown, in the county of Cambria and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Construction 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 perspective view of the bedstead. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the rail-irons with its two oblique wing cutters.

My improvement consists in the manner of making and sustaining the sacking bottom above the rails of the bedstead and in the method of fastening the rails to the posts.

I make my sacking bottom with a lap or hem A on the edges thereof so large as to admit a rod B of suitable size, say one inch diameter, being run through the openings formed by said lap. I also make openings in the lap or hem to permit the springs C to embrace the rods, and at such points in the sacking bottom as to correspond with the space or distance the springs are apart on the rail. I make my rods of either wood or metal, though commonly of wood, just as long as the sacking bottom and about one inch diameter. There are four rods to each sacking bottom, one run into each lap or hem, and all for the purpose of stretching or tightening the bottom in connection with the springs.

The springs for sustaining and stretching the sacking bottom I usually make in the form of the letter **C** and about one inch and one fourth wide, and half an inch thick at the base or lower end and tapering up to about one eighth of an inch at the upper end. The length of the springs is a matter of fancy. I commonly make them about eight inches from point to point. The lower part of the springs is adapted to suit the form of the under side of the rail of the bedstead to which it is attached by screws passing through it into the rail. The upper part or end of the spring is made with a hook or open lap so large as to receive the rod in the hem of the sacking bottom.

The fastening together of the ends of the rails and sides of the posts is effected by means of a bar of iron D fastened longitudinally into the end of the rail, having the portion that projects beyond the end of the rail made cylindrical and furnished with two oblique cutters E and holders made quite sharp for cutting its thread in the post as the rail is turned for that purpose and sufficiently strong to hold the post and rail together after having entered into the post as far as it is required in order to draw the shoulders or ends of the rails firmly and closely against the face of the posts, the posts being previously bored with a common auger to the diameter of the cylindrical portion of the bar of iron but of less diameter than the cutters which cut their way into the solid parts of the posts and serve to hold the posts and rails together.

There must be two of said bars and cutters for each rail whose cutters are inclined so as to form right and left cutters by which two posts are drawn up firmly to the ends of the rail by turning the rail toward the center of the bedstead.

The rails and posts being attached together I run the rods through the entire length of the lap or hem of the sacking bottom. I then commence on one side of the bedstead to put in the sacking bottom by slipping the rod into the hooks or open loops at the top or upper part of the **C** springs. I then pass to the other side of the bedstead and pull at the sacking bottom and draw it toward the springs, at the same time I force the springs inward till the rod can be slipped into the hooks or loops of the springs. The same course is pursued with ends of the bedstead. The springs in resuming their original positions, or approximating toward them, draw the sacking to a horizontal position. These springs are contracted or bent inward by the addition of weight to the sacking and are expanded or bent outward when the weight is removed.

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

The combination and arrangement of the springs and rods with the sacking bottom and rails as before described.

ISAAC COOPER.

Witnesses:

HAZARD KNOWLES,

ALBERT E. JOHNSON.