

J H Latourandais,

Invalid Bedstead,

N^o 5,100.

Patented May 1, 1847.

Fig. 1.

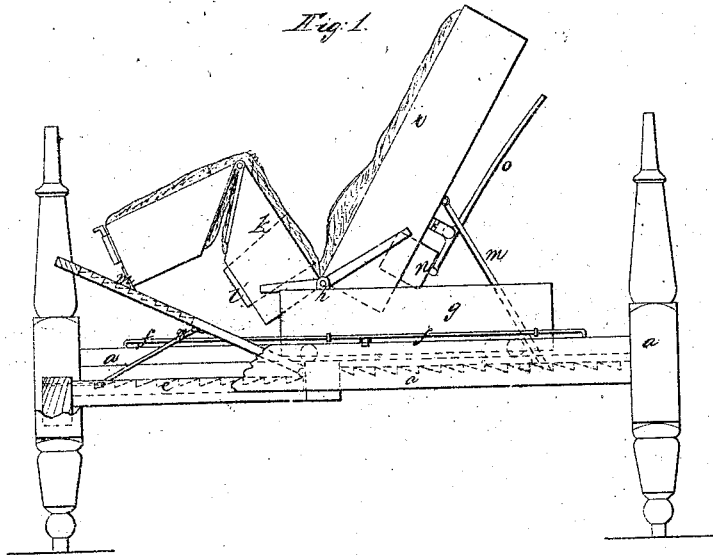


Fig. 2.

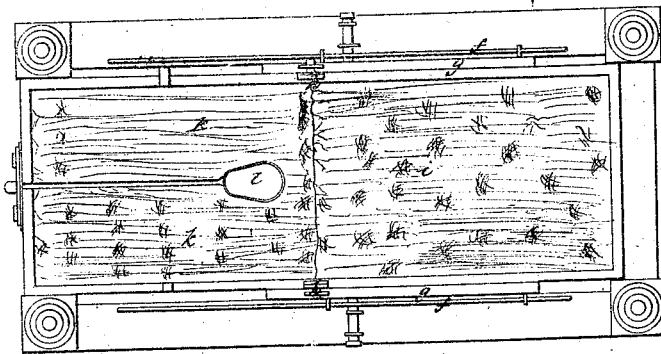
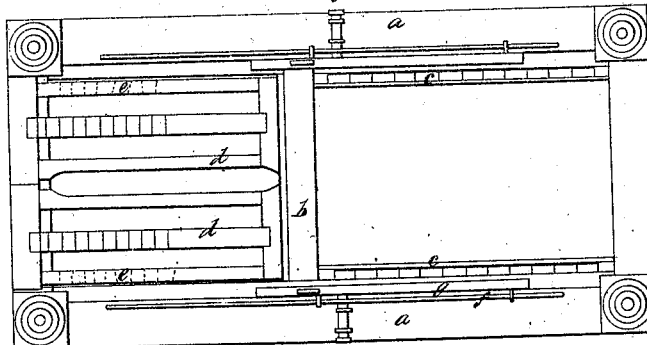


Fig. 3.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. H. LATOURANDAIS, OF FLINT HILL, VIRGINIA.

BEDSTEAD FOR INVALIDS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 5,100, dated May 1, 1847.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. H. LATOURANDAIS, of Flint Hill, in the county of Rappahannock and State of Virginia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bedsteads, for the Sick, and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the principle or character which distinguishes it from all other things before known and of the manner of making, constructing, and using the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the bedstead, a part being shown in section; Fig. 2, a plan; and Fig. 3, a plan of the framing.

The same letters indicate like parts in all the figures.

The nature of my improvements consists in the division and jointing of the mattress, its combination with the bedstead, and the apparatus for elevating a portion thereof, as hereafter described.

The bedstead (*a*) is of common construction with a cross bar (*b*) (see Fig. 3) extending from one side to the other; from this bar to the head there is a rack (*c*) on each side rail and two frames (*d*) are also hinged beside each other to the bar and occupy the space between it and the foot of the bedstead. Each of these frames has a rack upon it, and there is also a stationary rack (*e*) below each, (as shown in dotted lines), for the purpose of elevating said frames. An elevating rod (*f*) is attached to each side rail of the bedstead on which slides a carriage (*g*) to which the mattress is jointed at its center (*h*) the said mattress is boxed and at the point (*h*) is jointed being there divided in the box. The upper or head part (*i*) is whole and the lower or foot part is divided longitudinally into two parts (*k, k*), an oblong recess (*l*) being left near the point (*h*) between them for the insertion of a bed pan (*l'*). Each of the two lower parts (*k*) of the mattress are jointed in the center of their length as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The upper and

lower parts of this mattress are furnished with braces or pawls (*m*) which take into the racks above named to elevate the different parts to any degree.

A bedstead and mattress thus constructed is capable of putting the patient in any position required for surgical or other operations. It is one of the most perfect aids in the operations of mid-wifery; the mattress can be drawn down toward the foot so as to have the lower part hang over, and the patient can then be placed in a sitting posture when the upper part is elevated; in the bottom of this part there is a presser or square block (*n*) which is connected with a lever (*o*) that serves to press up the mattress at the back of the patient which is found beneficial during accouchement.

When the bed is drawn back, which can be done without disturbing the patient, it can be laid flat, and in diseases of the limbs or for other purposes either leg can be lifted or both at pleasure.

Fig. 1 shows the bed in a very easy position for a change to a person who is bed ridden.

Having thus described my improved bedstead for the sick, I wish it to be understood that I do not claim making a jointed mattress either part of which can be elevated as that has before been done; but

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

1. So combining the mattress with the bedstead as to be slid forward toward the foot substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

2. I also claim dividing the lower part of the mattress longitudinally as described so that either part can be elevated, and in combination therewith the frames (*d*) below these parts.

3. Lastly, I claim the presser (*n*) for elevating the mattress to the back as above set forth.

J. H. LATOURANDAIS.

Witnesses:

GEORGE DENTHERAGE,
MARK REED.