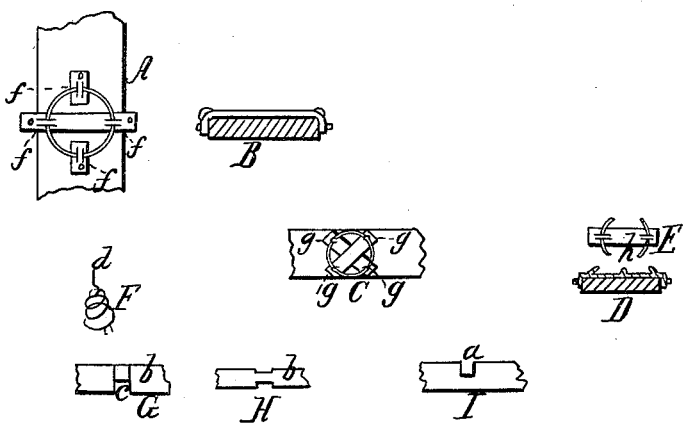
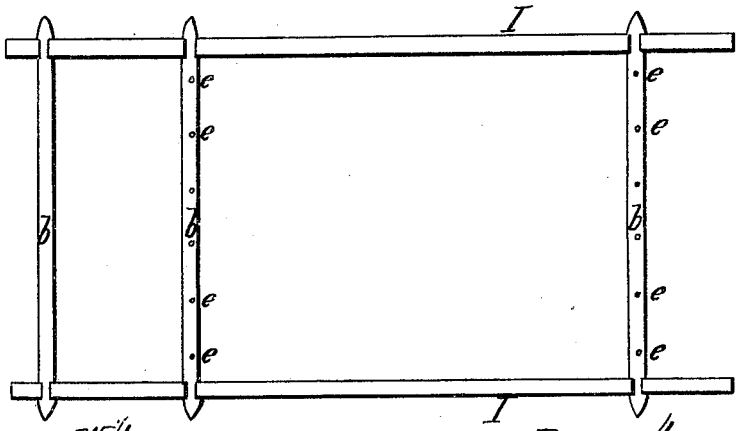
Smith & Potter.

Bed Bottom.

No. 112,085. Patented Feb. 21, 1871.





Witnesses;

Henry C Houston

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per att'y W. H. Chipman

United States Patent Office.

HOWARD SMITH, OF GROVETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND JAMES POTTER OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

Letters Patent No. 112,085, dated February 21, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPRING BED-BOTTOMS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HOWARD SMITH, of Groveton, in the county of Coos and State of New Hampshire, and JAMES POTTER, of Portland in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful improved Spring-Bed; and we hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use our invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, in which is shown a top view of the frame of the bed-bottom and details of other parts, as follows:

A is a view of the manner of attaching the spring to the under side of the slat.

B is an edge view of the same.

C is a view of a modification of A.

D is an edge view of another method.

E is a view of the means employed to prevent noise and rattling of the springs as they are expanded and contracted.

F shows the spring with its point to enter the cross-bar of the frame.

G H I are views of the mortise in the slats and the sides of the frame.

Our invention relates to certain improvements in attaching the cross-bars to the bed-frame, in attaching the springs to the slats, and in preventing the springs from rattling in spring-beds.

I are the sides of the bed-bottom, having the mortise *a* to receive the cross-bars *b*. These cross-bars *b* are cut in two ways, first, as seen at H, so as to allow the bar to fit into *a;* and second, as shown at *c*, so as to pass over the sides I after being pressed into *a*. This will hold the cross-bars without pins or bolts, and will admit of the parts being easily put together and as easily taken to pieces and packed for transportation.

The points *d* of the springs F enter the holes *e* of the cross-bars, and can be easily withdrawn when the bed is to be taken apart.

We have two methods of connecting the springs with the slats.

First, as shown at A, where strips of leather are secured to the under side of the slat, and cut so as to form small loops *f*, under which the upper coil of the spring F passes, thus securing the said spring and in a measure preventing noise and rattling.

Second, by confining the upper coil by metal staples *g*, as seen at C, with cloth or other soft materials between the spring and the slat, for the same purpose as in A.

To prevent rattling we apply, still further, looped or cut strips of leather *h* to the coils of the springs, as seen at E.

Thus a method of holding together a bed-bottom is employed, by which no bolts or pins are used, and which admits of ready taking apart and compact packing.

Also, the springs are easily applied and removed, and are prevented from making noise when the bed-bottom is pressed down by the weight of the person occupying the same. D shows a method where a ring of metal, having four hooks, is attached to the under side of the slat. These hooks clamp the largest ring of the spiral and thus hold it to the slat.

We do not claim independent hooks with flaring mouths, in combination with coiled springs, nor fastening the spring by having one end of it pierce a bed-slat; these are embraced in the patent of D. P. Webster and H. W. Ladd, September 10, 1867. Neither do we claim the combination of two plates, a stud, and a shoulder to hold a spring, nor the same in combination with an additional shoulder. These are covered by the patent of N. B. White, October 23, 1866. Ours differs from the first-named of these patents in not employing the hooks to secure the coils of the springs; and second, in not having the springs so formed as to pierce the slats at all. Our method of fastening the springs to the slats is wholly different from White's patent, because we attach strips of leather to the under side of the slat and make small slits therein, (see *f*,) which make a sort of loop, and in under the loops the end of the coil is passed, as shown in fig. A, or as in fig. C; the same means employed to fasten the leather to the slat fasten also the largest coil of the wire-spring. The point *d* of the spring F does not enter or pierce the slat at all, but enters the hole *e* on the cross-bar.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by letters patent, is—

A spring bed-bottom, as herein described, that is, combining the two parts I I *b*, the two cross-bars put together without bolts, and the coiled springs attached to the slats by means of the looped and slitted leather pieces *f* fastened to the slat, as herein set forth.

HOWARD SMITH.
JAMES POTTER.

Witnesses:
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