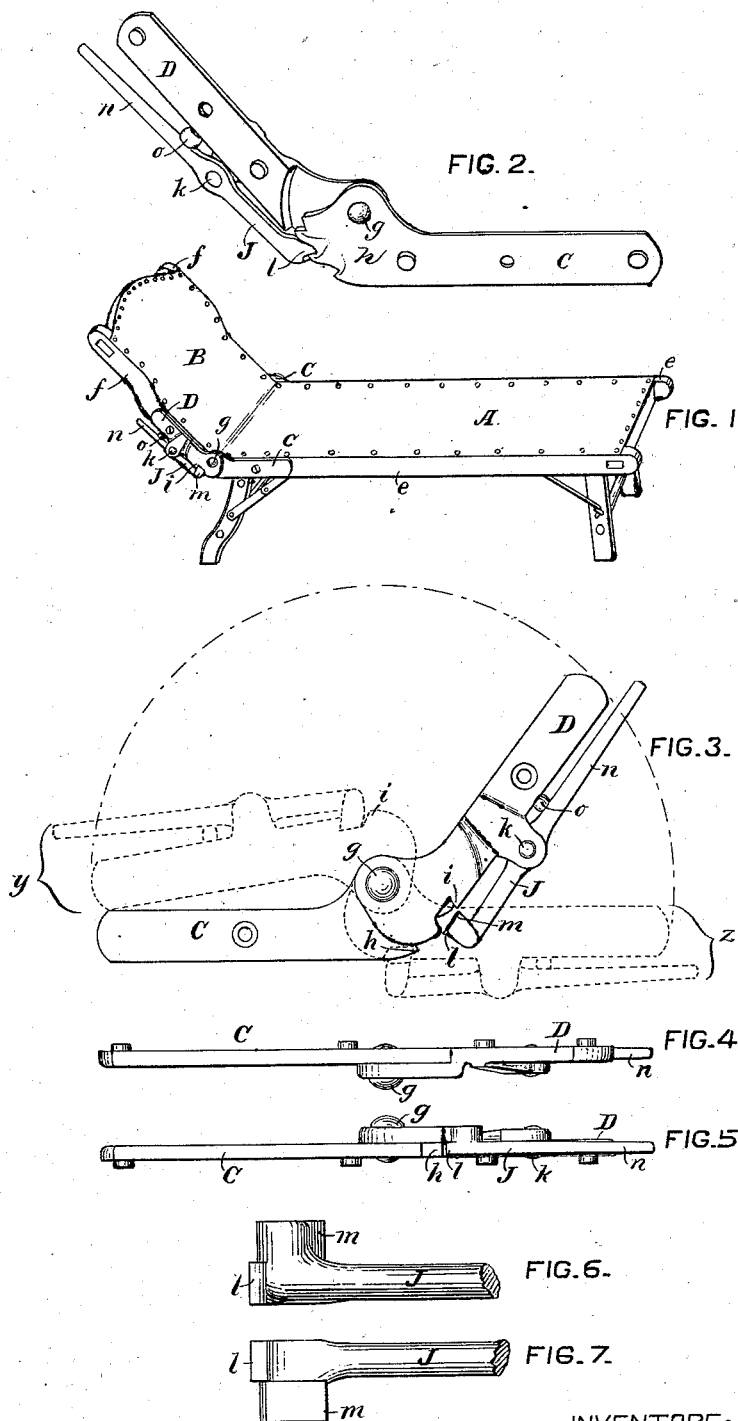


J. B. HOWE & S. PERRY.
Adjustable Cot-Bedstead.

No. 219,264.

Patented Sept. 2, 1879.



WITNESSES:

James T. Goodfellow.
James H. Slade.

INVENTORS:

Joshua B. Howe.
Stephen Perry,
by Austin F. Park,
attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSHUA B. HOWE AND STEPHEN PERRY, OF READSBOROUGH, VERMONT;
SAID PERRY ASSIGNOR TO SAID HOWE.

IMPROVEMENT IN ADJUSTABLE COT-BEDSTEADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,264**, dated September 2, 1879; application filed June 3, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSHUA B. HOWE and STEPHEN PERRY, each of Readsborough, in the county of Bennington and State of Vermont, have jointly invented a new and useful Improvement in Adjustable Cot-Bedsteads, or similar supports for the person, and of which invention the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The primary object of this invention is to produce very strong, compact, cheap, and durable devices, by a pair of which the sections of a cot-bedstead, lounge, or similar support for the person can be securely jointed together, and quickly and securely adjusted and retained in various positions in respect to each other.

To that end we make each of said devices with two arms, lapped and pivoted together near one end, and adapted to be firmly fastened to the usual side rails of the head and body sections of an adjustable cot-bedstead or lounge, and form the lapping part of one of said arms with ratchet-teeth, and of the other with a stop near said ratchet-teeth, and combine therewith a pawl having two teeth, one arranged to engage with the said ratchet-teeth and the other with the said stop, both at the same time, and thereby strongly lock or retain the two arms in whatever inclined position they shall be adjusted; and we produce a very neat, strong, and durable adjustable cot-bedstead or lounge by uniting the usual head and body sections thereof by a pair of the said improved adjusting devices.

In the aforesaid drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cot-bedstead or lounge which embodies this invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view, on a larger scale, of one of the pair of devices by which the head and body sections of the bedstead or lounge are adjustably secured together. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the same device, with dotted lines indicating its straightened and folded positions. Fig. 4 is a plan of the upper edge, and Fig. 5 a plan of the lower edge, of the same device. Figs. 6 and 7 are views, on a larger scale, of the double-toothed end part of the pawl in the same device.

Like parts are marked by like letters in the different figures.

A is the main or body section, and B the head section, of a cot-bedstead or lounge. C and D are two plate-like arms that are adapted to be secured to the side rails *e* and *f* of the said body and head sections. The arms C and D lap at one end, and are secured together by a pivot, *g*. The lapping end part of the arm C is formed with a ratchet tooth or teeth, *h*, and the adjacent end part of the arm D is formed with a stop, *i*. The arm D is also furnished with a pawl, *J*, which is secured to that arm by a pivot, *k*, and has at its acting end a tooth, *l*, arranged and adapted to engage with the ratchet tooth or teeth *h* on the part C, and also has, at the same end, another tooth, *m*, arranged in the reverse direction to that of the tooth *l*, and adapted to engage with the stop *i* on the part D at the same time that the tooth *l* engages with either of the teeth *h*.

The pawl *J* is preferably made with a handle, *n*, by which the pawl can be by hand conveniently engaged with and disengaged from the teeth *h* and stop *i*, while a spring, *o*, constantly tends to keep the pawl in engagement with the same stop and teeth.

The parts C and D, with the pawl *J*, all constructed and pivoted together as above described, can be adjusted in respect to each other in inclined directions, as shown in full lines in the drawings, in a straight position, as indicated by dotted lines at *z* in Fig. 3, and in folded condition, as represented at *y* in the same figure; and those parts constitute an improved device which is to be made in right and left pairs, by which the right and left side rails of the body and the head or back sections of a bedstead, lounge, chair, or equivalent support for the person, can be adjustably and firmly secured together. A cot-bedstead or its equivalent having its head and body sections jointed and secured together by a pair of such adjustable devices is an improved article of manufacture.

In the cot-bedstead or lounge shown in Fig. 1 the adjacent ends of the side rails *e* and *f* of the head and body sections will abut against each other when the head-section shall be turned down into the plane of the body-sec-

tion, and will thereby, in connection with the pivoted parts C and D, firmly sustain the head-section in that position, but so that the head-section can be readily folded over upon the body-section, for convenient stowage and transportation.

It is not new to secure the head-section to the body-section in a bedstead or lounge by pivot-joints furnished with concentric ratchet-teeth and pivoted pawls, whereby the head-section can be adjusted in inclined positions, but so that the downward pressure of the head-section in such inclined positions must be borne by the pivots of the pawls, which pivots, with their supports, must therefore, in such cases, be very large and strong to prevent being broken under the great strain of supporting the head-section when the bedstead or lounge is in use.

We obviate that defect by our present invention, wherein the tooth *m* on the pawl J necessarily engages with the stop *i* on the part D at and during the same time that the other tooth, *l*, on the same pawl engages with a ratchet-tooth, *h*, on the part C, whereby the two parts C and D are locked or held together more securely, and the main strain of thereby supporting the inclined head-section of the bedstead or lounge is limited to the short part, *p*, of the pawl between its two teeth, *l* and *m*,

and injurious strain upon the other parts of the pawl, its pivot *k*, and the supports therefor is prevented.

What we claim as our invention is—

1. The device consisting of the combination of the two parts C and D, united by a pivot, *g*, and respectively formed with the ratchet-teeth *h* and stop *i*, and the pawl J, having the two reversely-directed teeth *l* and *m*, adapted and arranged to engage at the same time with the said ratchet-teeth and stop, substantially as described.

2. A cot-bedstead or lounge having its body and head sections A and B adjustably secured together by a pair of devices, each having two parts, C and D, pivoted together and respectively formed with the ratchet-teeth *h* and stop *i*, and furnished with a pawl, J, having two teeth, *l m*, adapted and arranged to simultaneously engage with the said stop and ratchet-teeth, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we hereunto set our hands, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 29th day of May, 1879.

J. B. HOWE.
STEPHEN PERRY.

Witnesses:

J. P. HALLER,
S. E. HALL.