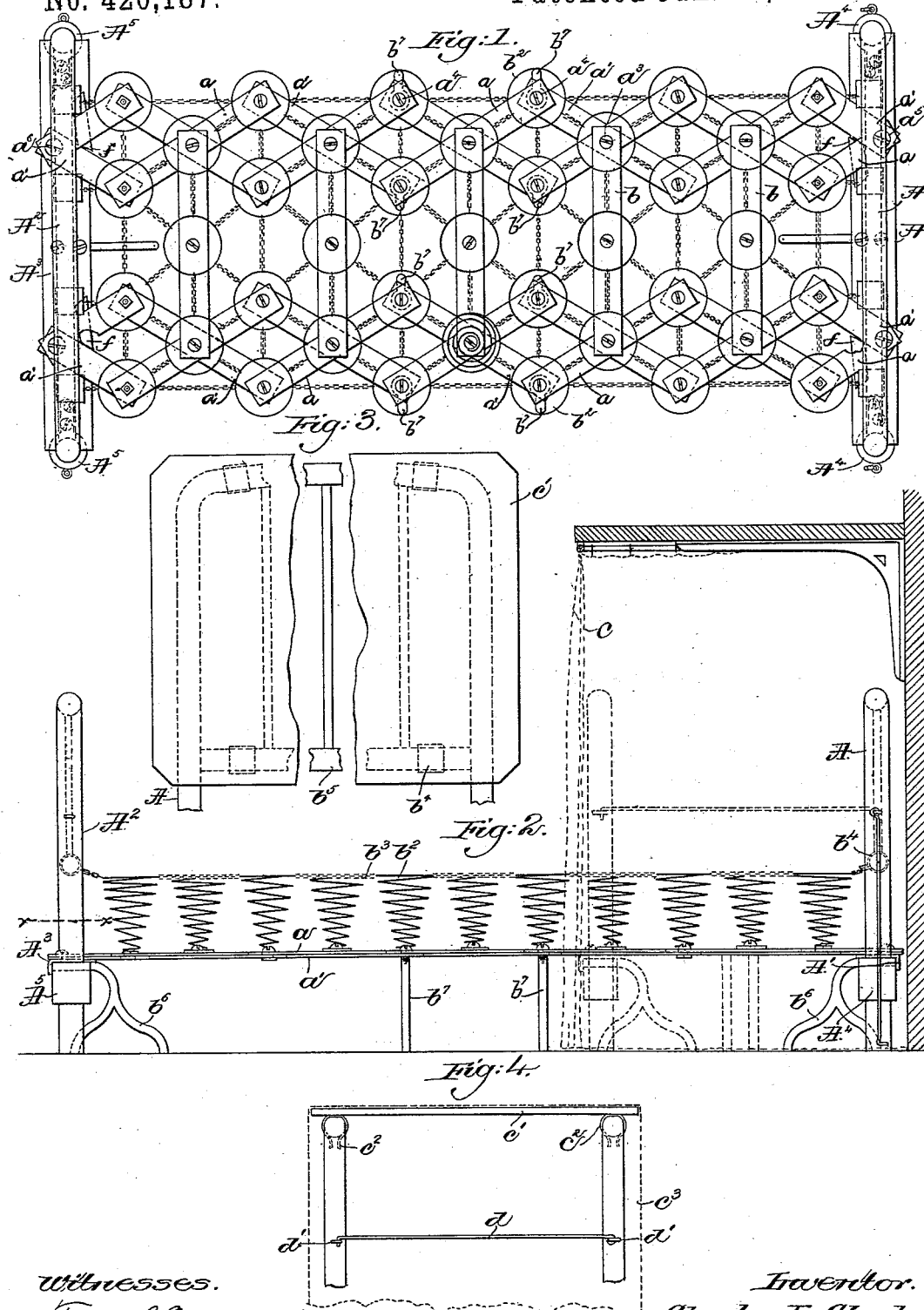


C. E. CLARK.
BEDSTEAD.

No. 420,187.

Patented Jan. 28, 1890.



Witnesses.

Fred. S. Greenleaf
Howard F. Eaton.

Inventor.
Charles E. Clark,
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Attys.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 5.

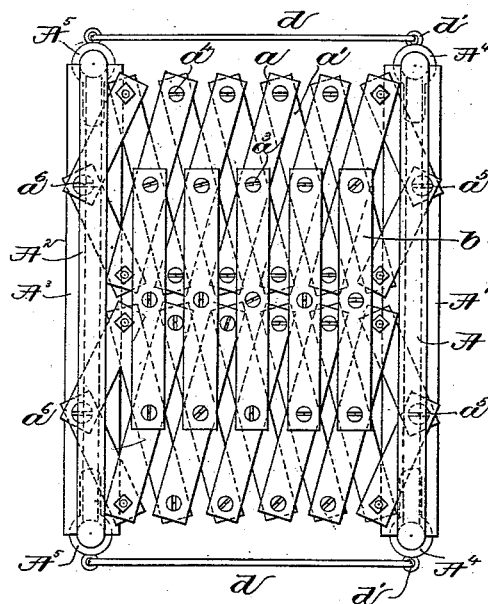
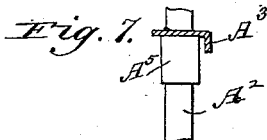
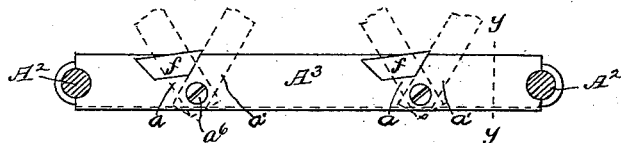


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. CLARK, OF FRANKLIN, MASSACHUSETTS.

BEDSTEAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 420,187, dated January 28, 1890.

Application filed December 21, 1888. Serial No. 294,313. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. CLARK, of Franklin, county of Norfolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Bedsteads, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to a novel bedstead especially adapted to be used in hospitals, asylums, and like places, and has for its object to provide an extensible bedstead, as will be described, whereby the length of the said bedstead may be changed, so that a single bedstead may be used by persons of different heights—as, for instance, the said bedstead, when extended to its full length, is adapted to be used by a full-grown person, and when shut up or contracted adapted to be used by children or as a crib for infants.

My improved bedstead consists, essentially, in the combination, with the head-board and the foot-board, of the extensible bedstead-bottom consisting of two or more rows of lazy-tongs connections, having their opposite ends firmly secured to the said head and foot board, and composed of bars pivoted at their ends and center, as will be described, and cross-bars having their ends connected to the central pivots of the bars, whereby the said bed may be lengthened and shortened, while its width remains the same, and stops secured to the said cross-bars, substantially as will be described.

The extensible bed-bottom referred to in practice will have secured to it, as will be described, spiral springs upon which is laid the mattress of usual construction, the said springs being connected together by any flexible connection, such as chains, or it may be cords.

The particular features in which my invention consists will be pointed out in the claim at the end of this specification.

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of an extensible bedstead embodying my invention, the said bedstead being shown as extended to its normal or full length. Fig. 2 is a view in section and elevation, showing my improved bedstead employed as a mantel or cabinet bedstead, the bedstead being represented by dotted lines as inclosed within the cabinet

and concealed from view by the usual curtain; Fig. 3, a detail in elevation, partially broken out, showing the detachable head-board as secured in place upon the permanent head-board of the bedstead; Fig. 4, a detail representing the detachable head-board as secured to the head and foot board of the bedstead to form the top of a table, it being provided with a suitable cover, (indicated by dotted lines;) Fig. 5, a top or plan view of the extensible bedstead contracted or folded up into its minimum length, the mattress-supporting springs being omitted; Fig. 6, a sectional detail to more clearly show the stop *f*, the section being taken on line *x x*, Fig. 2; and Fig. 7, a sectional detail on line *y y*, Fig. 6, to more clearly show the cross-bar.

The head-board *A*, provided with the cross-bar *A'*, and the foot-board *A²*, provided with a cross-bar *A³*, are preferably composed of metallic rods or tubes; but they may be made of wood or other material, as now commonly constructed, the cross-bars *A' A³* being preferably made as angle-irons, which are herein shown as supported by hubs or collars *A⁴ A⁵*, secured to the posts of the said head and foot boards.

The cross-bars *A' A³* support my improved extensible bedstead-bottom composed, as herein shown, of two parallel sets or lines of bars, each set or line of bars comprising a number of bars *a a'*, pivoted together at their ends, as at *a⁴*, and at their centers, as at *a³*, to form a lazy-tongs connection between the cross-bars *A' A³*, the endmost bars *a a'* of each line or set of bars being pivoted to the said cross-bars, as at *a⁵ a⁶*. (See Fig. 5.) The sets or lines of bars are connected by cross-bars *b*, having their ends secured to the central pivots *a³*, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 5.

The extensible bottom preferably supports spiral springs *b²*, secured to the pivots *a³ a⁴* of the lazy-tongs, and joined together at their upper end by a flexible connection—such as a short chain *b³*—the springs *b²* at the ends of the bedstead-bottom being also connected, as herein shown, by suitable chains to collars *b⁴* on a cross-rod *b⁵* (see Fig. 3) of the head-board.

The cross-bars *A' A³* have secured to them near their centers supporting-feet *b⁶*, and the

extensible bedstead-bottom is supported at its longitudinal center by feet b' , herein shown as rods, having their upper ends bent and secured to the pivots a^3 , as clearly shown in Fig. 2. I prefer to employ eight feet b' , two on opposite sides of the bed and four in the center.

As shown in Fig. 1, my improved bedstead is extended to its full or normal length, and is adapted to be used by grown persons.

If it is desired to use the bedstead for children or small persons or as a crib for infants, the head and foot boards may be forced toward each other, thus folding or contracting the extensible bedstead-bottom, as shown in Fig. 5, it being represented in said figure as especially adapted for a crib, the said bedstead-bottom being at such time of minimum length.

The bedstead may be made of any desired length between the extremes represented by Figs. 1 and 3, respectively, as the occasion may require.

To prevent the bedstead from being extended too far, I have provided suitable stops (herein shown as bars f) secured to the cross-bars $A' A^3$, so that when the bed is extended the desired length the end bars a' will be brought into engagement with the said bar f , and the latter, being firmly fastened to the cross-bars $A' A^3$, the bars $a a'$ will be prevented from being further turned on their pivots, and the bed-bottom will thus be prevented from being further extended.

My improved bedstead may be used in the ordinary manner, or it may be used as a cabinet or mantel bedstead, it being contracted or folded up into the position represented by dotted lines, Fig. 2, and concealed from view within the cabinet by the curtain c , in usual manner; or the said bedstead may be

folded up into its minimum length and employed as a table, the top of the table in such instance being formed by an auxiliary head-board c' , (see Figs. 3 and 4,) the said auxiliary head-board being provided with spring-arms c^2 , adapted to be clamped to the rods constituting the head-board of the bedstead, when the bedstead is to be used for sleeping purposes, and adapted to be clamped over the head and foot boards, as shown in Fig. 4, to form the top of the table, the bedstead being concealed from view by a suitable covering c^3 .

For purpose of shipment the head and foot boards will preferably be connected by rods d , secured to suitable eyes d' on the said head and foot boards.

My improved bedstead may be made of any desired width.

I claim—

In a bedstead, the combination, with a head-board and a foot-board and cross-bars $A' A^3$, of the extensible bedstead-bottom consisting of two or more rows of lazy-tongs connections having their opposite ends pivotally secured and firmly supported by the said cross-bars and composed of bars $a a'$, pivoted at their ends and center, as described, and cross-bars b , having their ends connected to the central pivots of the bars $a a'$, and a stop, as f , secured to the said cross-bars to be struck by the lazy-tongs and thereby limit the length of the bed, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES E. CLARK.

Witnesses:

JAS. H. CHURCHILL,
M. RAY.