

L. B. SHELTON & N. GENTRY.

FOLDING BED.

No. 523,948.

Patented July 31, 1894

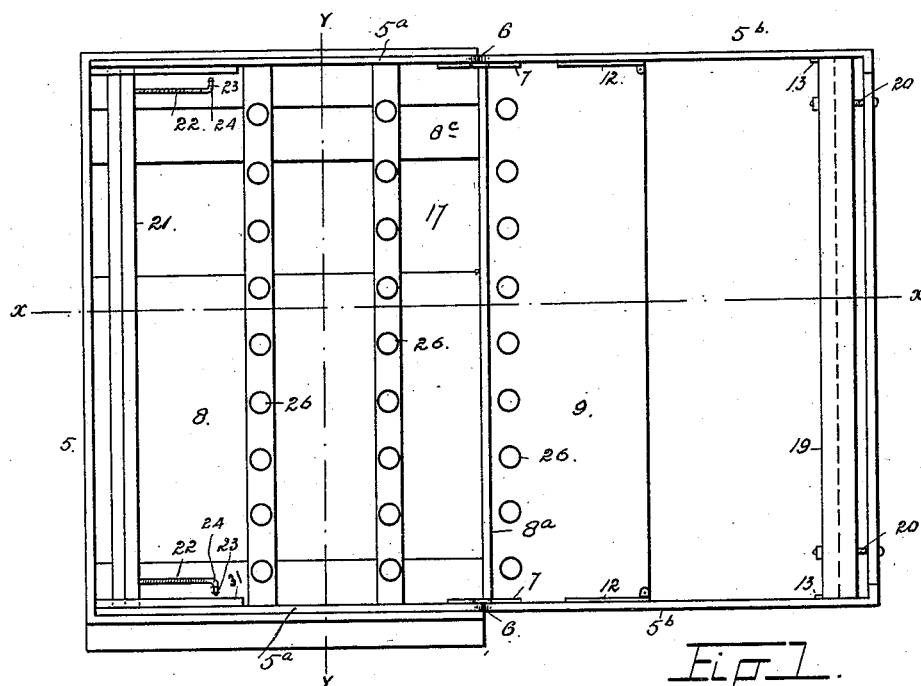


Fig. 1.

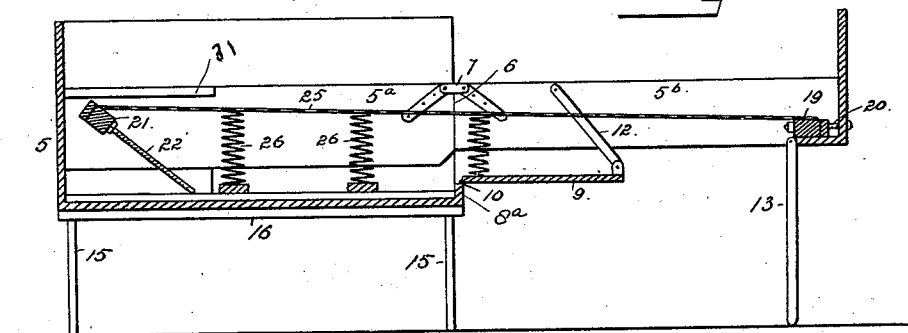


Fig. 2.

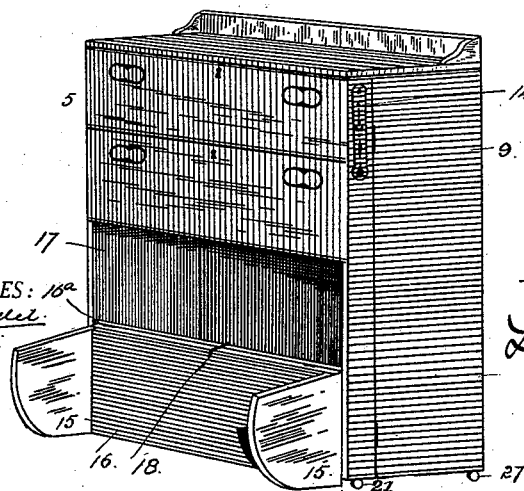


Fig. 3.

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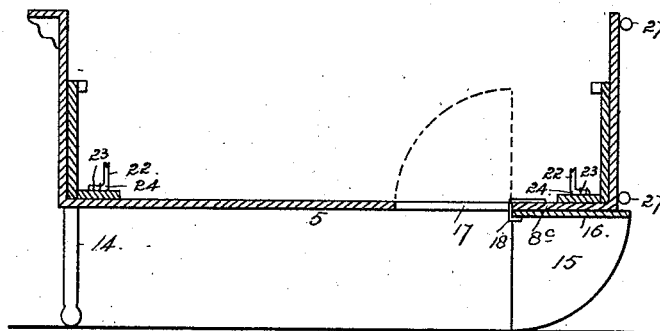
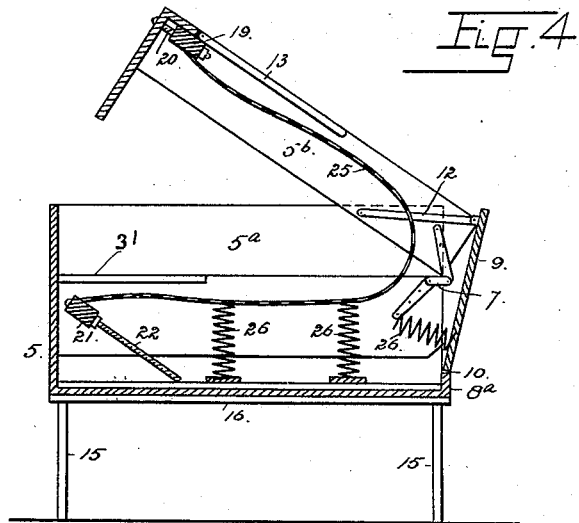


Fig. 5.

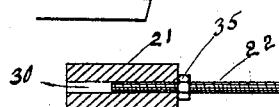


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAWSON B. SHELTON AND NEIL GENTRY, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

FOLDING BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 523,948, dated July 31, 1894.

Application filed September 27, 1893. Serial No. 486,636. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LAWSON B. SHELTON and NEIL GENTRY, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Denver, in the county of Arapahoe and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Beds; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in folding beds, and consists of the features, arrangements and combinations hereinafter described and claimed, all of which will be fully understood by reference to the accompanying drawings in which is illustrated an embodiment thereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top or plan view of the bed, open. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section taken on the line $x-x$, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the bed folded, the movable rocker support being turned outward. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of the bed partly folded. Fig. 5 is a vertical cross-section taken on the line $y-y$, Fig. 1. Fig. 6 is a sectional detail view illustrating the manner of attaching the tightening rods to one of the end bars to which the spring is secured.

Similar reference characters indicating corresponding parts or elements of the mechanism in the several views, let the numeral 5 designate the outer frame of the bed the sides of which are centrally divided as shown at 6 into two parts 5^a and 5^b connected at their upper edges by hinges 7. The bottom of the bed is composed of the part 8 made fast to the parts 5^a of the sides and the part 9 hinged as shown at 10 to a vertical flange 8^a formed on or attached to part 8 and connected with the side parts 5^b by arms 12 having their extremities respectively pivoted to the parts which they connect.

The foot of the bed is supported by legs 13 pivoted to the parts 5^b of the sides and adapted to assume a vertical position when the bed is adjusted for use.

The head of the bed is supported by two pivoted legs 14 on one side, and two rockers 15 on the opposite side. The legs 14 are attached to the flange 8^a and the head end of the bed respectively; the rockers are made fast to a board 16 hinged to part 8^c of the stationary bottom as shown at 16^a. When the bed is folded, the board 16 enters the space 17 between the two stationary parts 8^a and 8^c of the bottom, while the rockers are concealed within the cabinet formed by the folding frame.

When the bed is in use, the hinged rocker board is maintained in engagement with the part 8^c by a detachable clasp 18 which is removed when it is desired to fold the board or conceal the rocker within the closed frame or cabinet. To the foot board of the frame is attached the transverse bar 19 by means of the tightening bolts 20.

At the head of the bed is located another cross-bar 21 which is attached to the movable rods 22 which are connected with the stationary parts of the bed bottom by eyes or staples 23 made fast to the bottom parts and adapted to receive the extremities of the rods which are bent at right angles to their body portion as shown at 24. The bar 21 thus has a movement in the arc of a circle whose radius is the length of the rods.

The extremities of the woven wire spring 25 are respectively attached to the cross-bars 19 and 21. The woven wire spring 25 is further supported between these end bars by the coil or helical springs 26 whose lower extremities are attached to the bottom of the bed. The parts to which the woven wire spring 25 is attached are so regulated that when the bed is opened and the bar 21 moves upward to the position shown in Fig. 2, the woven wire spring is drawn sufficiently taut for use.

In folding the bed, the foot is moved over toward the head as illustrated in Fig. 4, the movement being continued until the side parts 5^b rest upon or engage the side parts 5^a, or folded longitudinally. The folded frame is then raised transversely on the rockers 15 to the position shown in Fig. 3, after which the clasp 18 is removed and the rocker board raised so that the rockers occupy the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 5, when the bed

presents the appearance of a neat cabinet or case, resting upon casters 27.

Besides the tightening bolts 20, the rods 22 form tightening devices whereby the tension of the spring 25 may be regulated at will when the bed is in position for use. These bolts enter apertures 30 formed in the bar 21 and are adjustable, or rather the bar is movable on the bolts, by means of nuts 35 which engage the bar, the bolts being threaded to permit any desired degree of adjustability. The spring is attached to the bar 21 in any suitable manner. The bar 21 is prevented from passing upward too far by means of the stop cleats 31 attached to the sides of the framework of the bed.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

1. In a folding bed, the combination of the frame divided transversely into two parts of substantially equal length, said sections being adapted to fold longitudinally, one section being provided with an opening, rockers hinged to the last named section adjacent the opening therein and forming a partial support for the bed when in use, said rockers being adapted to fold into the adjacent opening when the bed is raised to an upright position, its width becoming the height of the folded frame, substantially as described.

2. In a folding bed, the combination of the frame composed of two sections of substantially equal length, and adapted to fold longitudinally, whereby the length is diminished by one half, one section being provided with an opening, a rocker board hinged to the frame adjacent said opening, and forming a support for the section to which it is attached, the rocker board being adapted to fold into the opening when the frame is raised to an upright position, and suitable means for sup-

porting the other section of the bed, substantially as described.

3. In a folding bed, the combination of the frame divided transversely and adapted to fold longitudinally, the board hinged to one section of the frame and provided with supporting rockers so located that the folded frame may be raised to an upright position thereon by a movement transverse to the folding movement, the bottom of the frame being provided with an opening to receive the hinged rocker board when the folded frame is in the upright position, suitable means for supporting the other section of the frame the bar 9 hinged to the stationary part of the bottom, pivoted arms connecting said board with the sides of the frame, the movable rod carrying the transverse bar, and the spring attached to said bar at one extremity, substantially as described.

4. In a folding bed, the combination of a frame divided transversely, and adapted to fold longitudinally, one section being provided with an opening, a suitable rocker support movably attached to the frame section containing the opening, and adjacent thereto, the rocker support being adapted to fold into said opening when the folded frame is raised to an upright position by a movement transverse to the folding movement of the frame, and suitable supporting means attached to the other section of the bed, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

LAWSON B. SHELTON.
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Witnesses:

G. J. ROLLANDET,
CHAS. E. DAWSON.