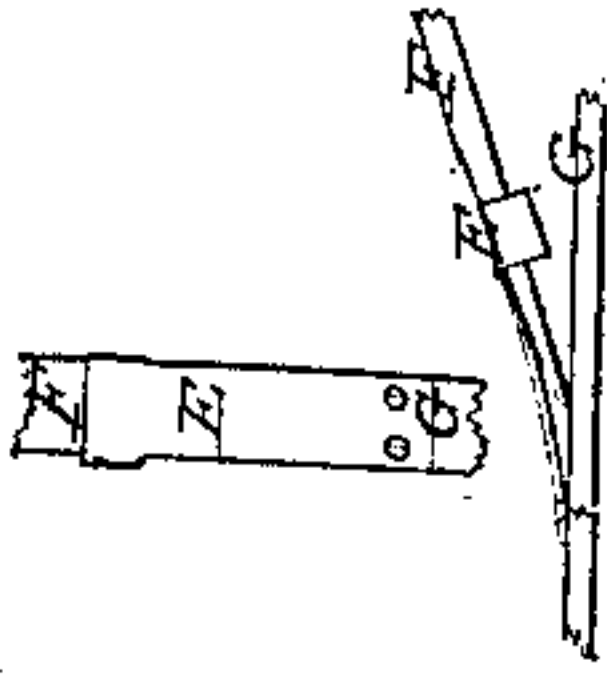


*H. Barber,*  
*Bed Head-Section.*

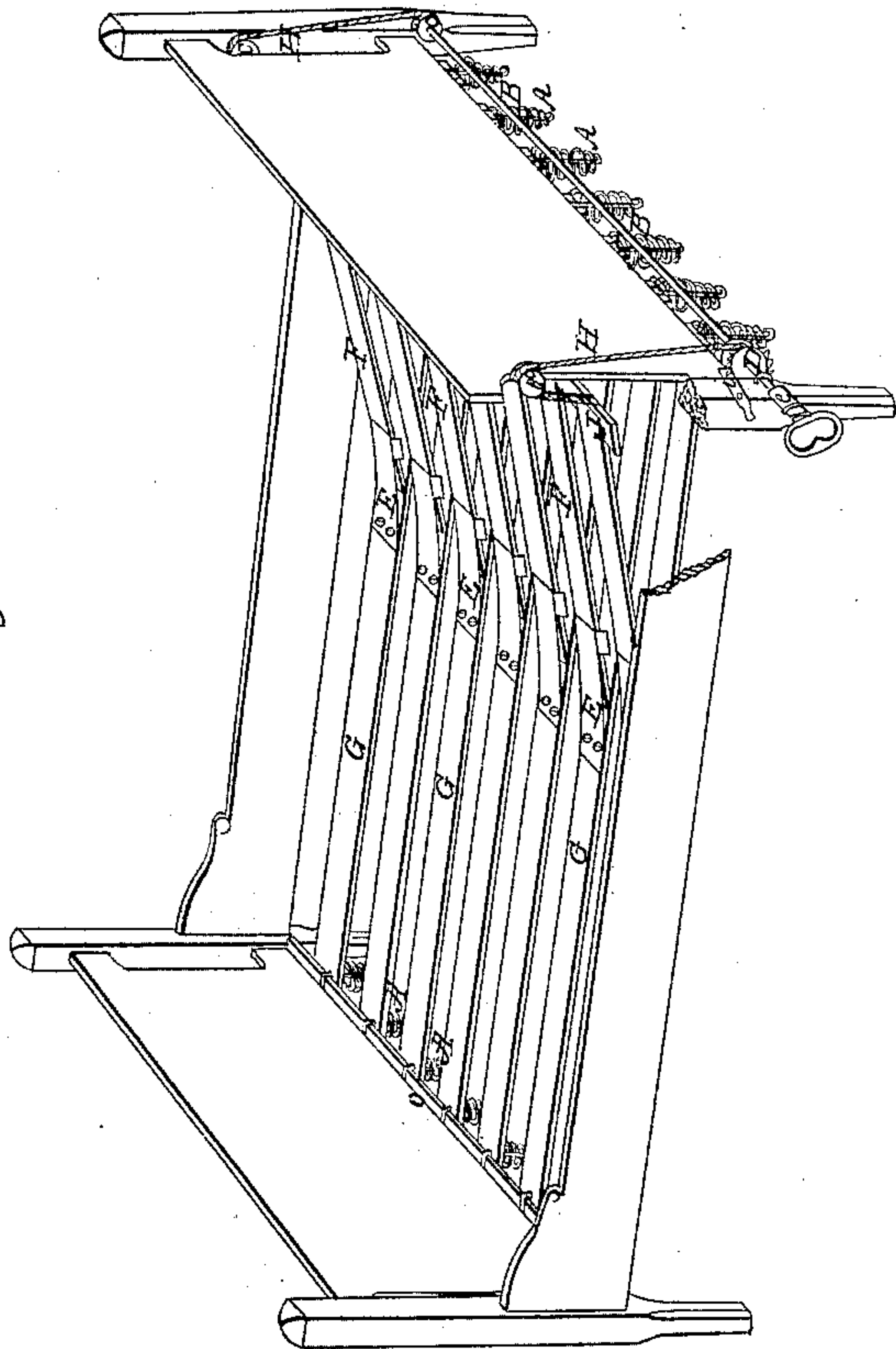
*N<sup>o</sup> 37,210.*

*Patented Dec. 23, 1862.*

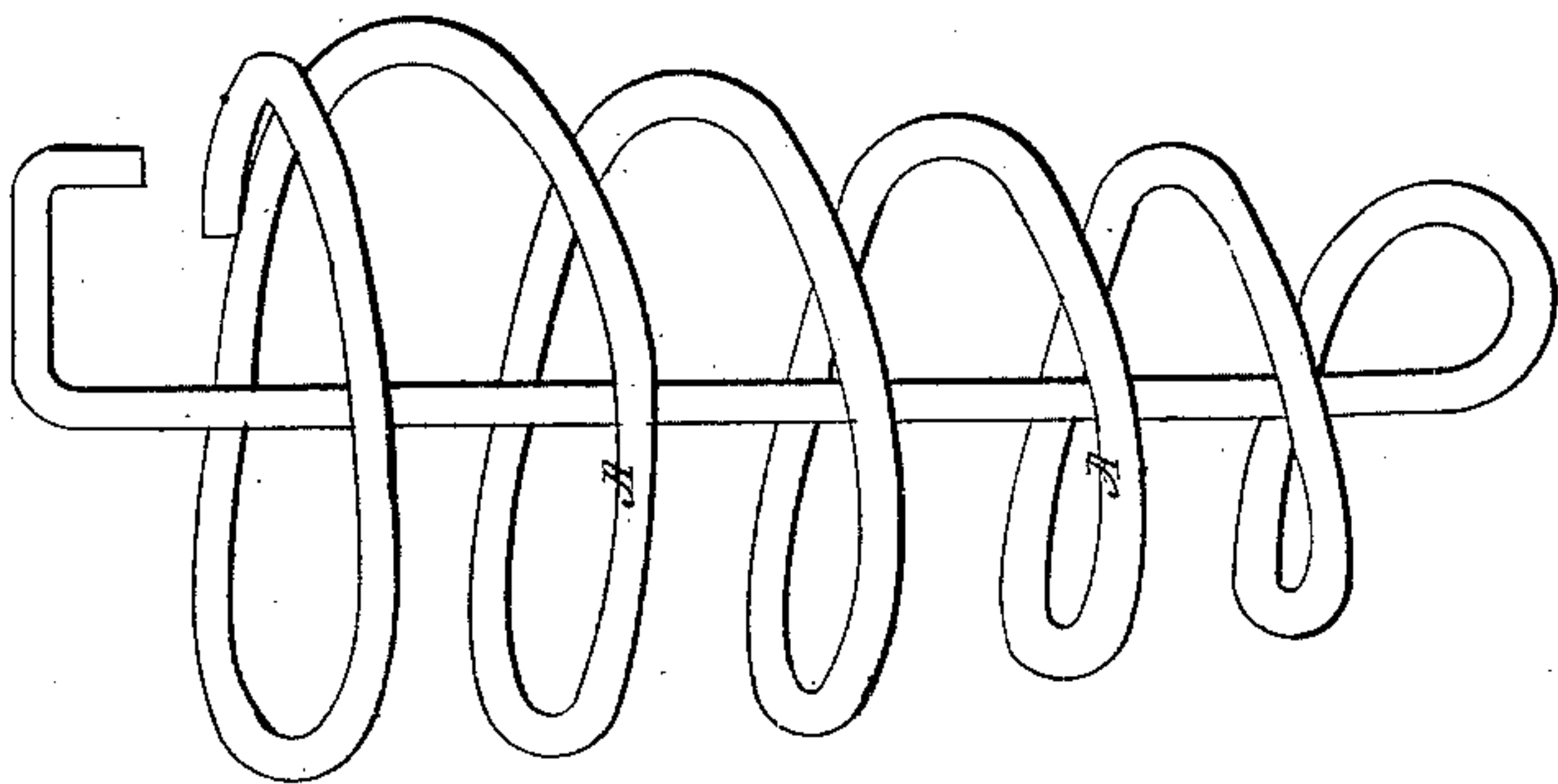
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses;*  
*Eli Haupt*  
*John A. ...*

*Inventor;*  
*Hiram Barber*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HIRAM BARBER, OF JUNEAU, WISCONSIN.

## IMPROVED BED-BOTTOM.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 37,210, dated December 23, 1862.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HIRAM BARBER, of Juneau, in the county of Dodge and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and Improved Spring Bed-Bottom, with a Hospital Attachment; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing bedstead with part of post and side rail broken out so as to show the manner of raising and fastening head-slats. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a spring; and Fig. 3 is a view of a section of the main slat, also of the head-slat and the metallic sheath covering the head-slat and their connection.

The letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

Letter A represents the spring. B represents shaft for raising the head; C, the pulleys; D, the ratchet; *i*, the dog or pawl; *e*, the key or crank for working the shaft; F, the head-slats; G, the main slat; H, the cord for raising the head; J, the cross-bar to which the head-slats are attached; E, the metallic case attached to the main slat and covering the end of the head-slat; *o*, the cross-bar to which the springs are suspended.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

The bottom consists of slats running lengthwise of the bed, resting upon a spiral spring at each end of the bed, which is suspended to a cross-bar fastened at the head and foot, the slats passing under the cross-bar and resting on the base of the spring which is upward. The spring is a conical spiral, which is not truncated, but inverted, and passing up through the center of the spring, with a hook turned on its end, by which it is hung to the cross-bar and becomes self-suspending. A slot in the end of the slat G admits the central wire to pass through the center of the slat resting upon the base of the spring. The cross-bar *o*, to which the spring is suspended, is notched in front, so as to admit the wire of suspension, thereby preventing any lateral motion of the slat or spring. I

also attach to the bed-bottom, thus completed and fitted for common use, an arrangement for raising and lowering the head of the bed. This consists in placing upon the main bottom another, which I term a "false bottom," consisting of an equal number of slats fastened to a cross-slat lying upon the cross-bar, to which the main bottom is suspended. These slats F, resting on the main slats G, extend about one-third the length of the bed from the head to the foot, their lower ends being secured in their places over the main slats by a metallic sheath, E, which is fastened to the main slat G below the end of the head-slat F, extending up on to it, with a flange on each side passing down far enough to secure the head-slat from any lateral motion or displacement, serving also when raising and lowering the head of the bed to prevent the end of these slats from coming in contact with the bed or mattress. At each side of the head of the bed within the posts are grooves fitted for the cross-bar, to which the head-slats are fastened to slide up and down in. To each end of this cross-bar J is fastened a cord, H, which passes over a pulley, *c*, and is fastened to another pulley on the shaft B, which is fastened to the bedstead, at one end of which is a ratchet-wheel, D, and dog *i*, and operated by a crank attached at *e*, as shown in the drawings in the form of a key. This crank is so constructed that when not in use it is taken off from the shaft. By operating the shaft and the ratchet and dog the head of the bed can be raised or lowered without any material derangement of the bedding or disturbance to the occupant, and retained in any position that may be required. This attachment being intended mainly for the benefit of the infirm and the sick, I term it a "hospital attachment."

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

The combination and arrangement of the springs A, cross-bars O, slats G and F, and sheath E, with or without the devices for raising and lowering the slats F, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

HIRAM BARBER.

Witnesses:

ELI HAWKS,  
D. W. HALL.