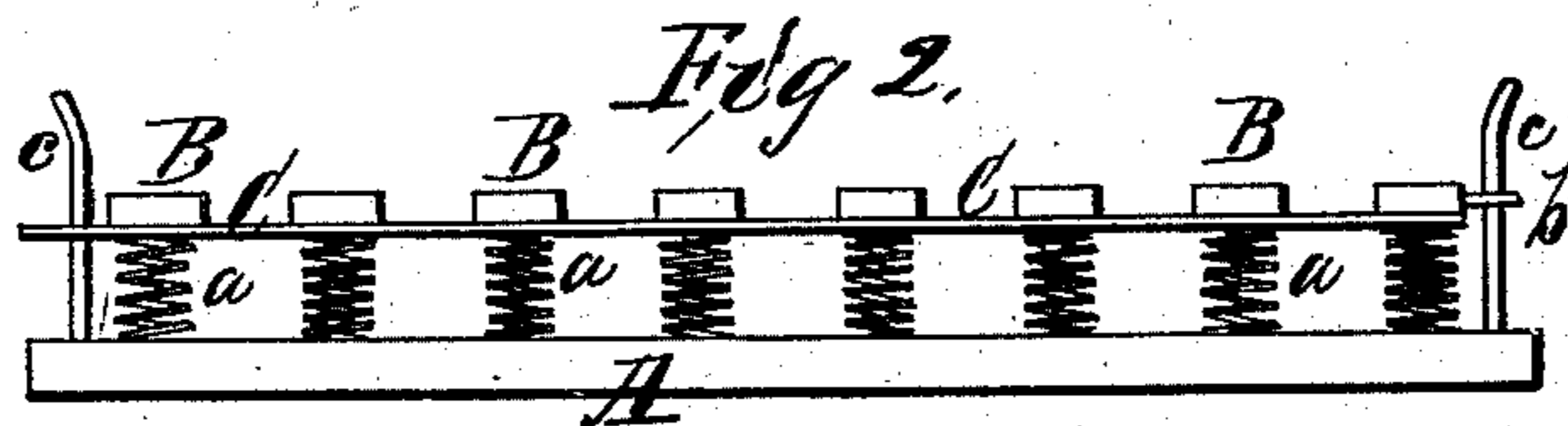
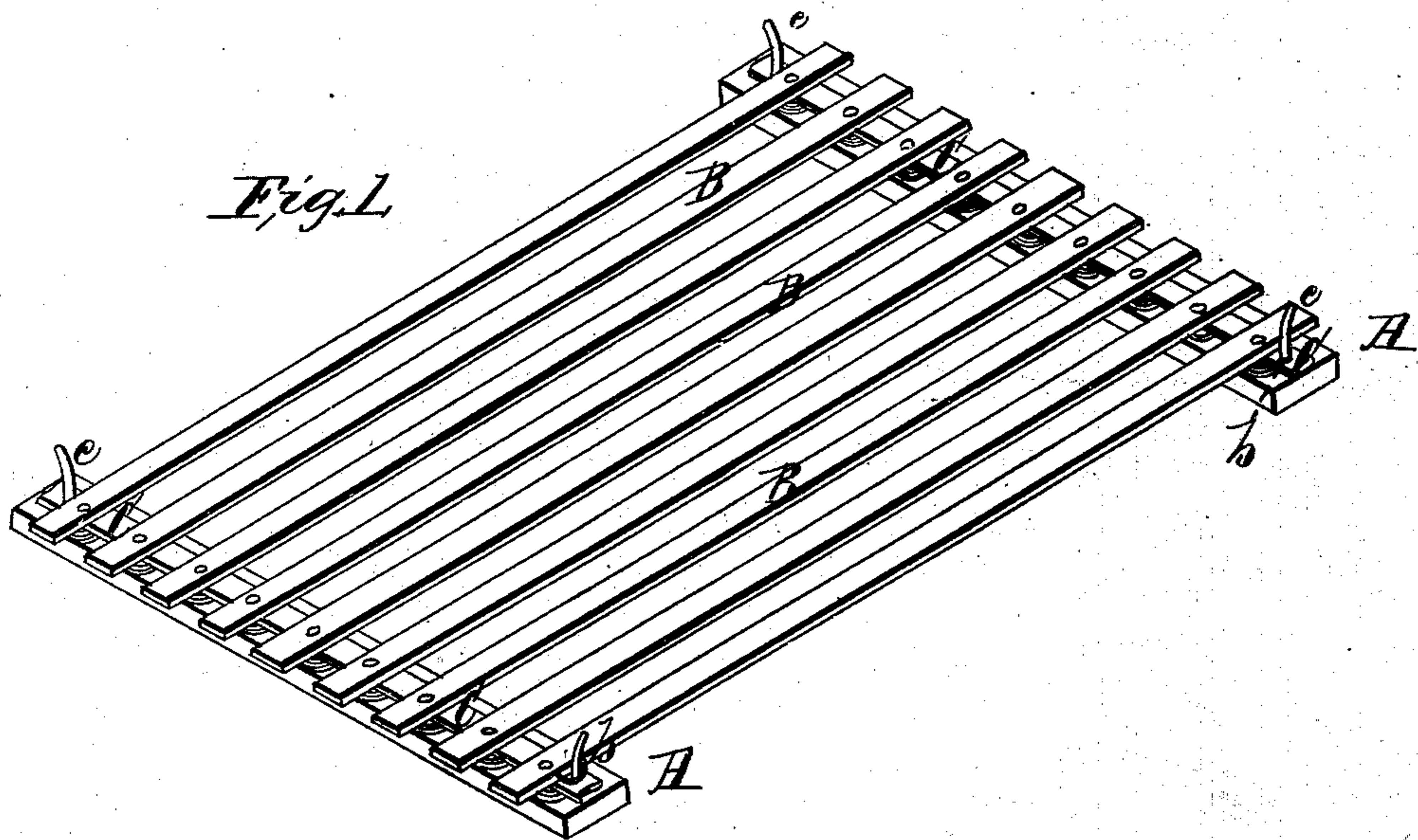


Workman & Swain,

Bed Bottom,

No 49, 189,

Patented Aug. 1, 1865.



Witnesses,

R. H. Ogrod.
J. A. Davis

Inventors,

Wm. Workman
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By J. Fraser & Co
Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WORKMAN AND C. F. SWAIN, OF RIPON, WISCONSIN.

BED-BOTTOM.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **49,189**, dated August 1, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM WORKMAN and C. F. SWAIN, of Ripon, in the county of Fond du Lac and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spring Bed-Bottoms; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved bed-bottom; Fig. 2, an end elevation thereof.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

Our invention consists in holding the slats composing the bed-bottom in an extended or expanded condition under all circumstances, when in use, by a means hereinafter described, so that the bottom will properly sustain the whole area of the mattress and act uniformly, thereby preventing sagging or inclination of the bed, and in connection therewith the employment of springs, as hereinafter described.

As represented in the drawings, A A are head and foot cross-pieces, forming supports for the ordinary slats, B B, running usually lengthwise of the bedstead. In our arrangement these slats rest at suitable distances apart on flexible straps C C, of cloth, leather, or other suitable material, to which they are secured in any desirable manner. Under the slats, both at the head and foot, are situated coiled springs *a a*, for giving elasticity to the bed.

We prefer to make holes *b b* in the straps C at each end, so as to hook the same over upright rods or projections *c c*, secured at the ends of the cross-pieces A A, as clearly represented. But instead of this simple eyes may be secured in the sides of the slats, hooking in the same manner over the rods, or any equivalent arrangement may be employed. The advantage of this arrangement is obvious. The most important effect produced is that the slats are always kept extended when in use, so as to form a sup-

port for the mattress the whole width of the bed. The difficulty with ordinary bed-bottoms is that the slats contract when in use, or, rather, are drawn inward toward each other, thus covering only a portion of the area over which the mattress rests, and the consequence is that the bed is very uncomfortable, one side or the other sagging or inclining. It will be seen that we remedy this difficulty, for the slats are held apart and made to cover the whole area of the bedstead by the holes or eyes *b*, connecting with the rods or projections *c*. When thus extended the slats cannot become disarranged, nor can the mattress sag or incline.

At the same time that the above effect is accomplished the elasticity of the bed-bottom is not in the least impaired. The springs *a a* insure a perfect elasticity under each slat, and the slats being connected by the straps C, they act in unison from one side to the other of the bottom.

In transportation or storage the bed-bottom can be put in very compact form.

The straps are unhooked from the rods or projections and the slats are rolled up, while the cross-pieces can be placed side by side and bound together in small space.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

Connecting the straps C, having the slats B attached thereto (or the slats themselves) to the rods or projections *c* in such a manner as to keep said slats extended, and employing, in combination therewith, the springs *a a* and cross-pieces A A, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

In witness whereof we have hereunto signed our names in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WM. WORKMAN.
C. F. SWAIN.

Witnesses:

E. L. RUNNUL,
I. B. STEVENS.