

W. Heath, Invalid Bedstead,

N^o. 59,600.

Patented Nov. 13, 1866.

Fig. 1.

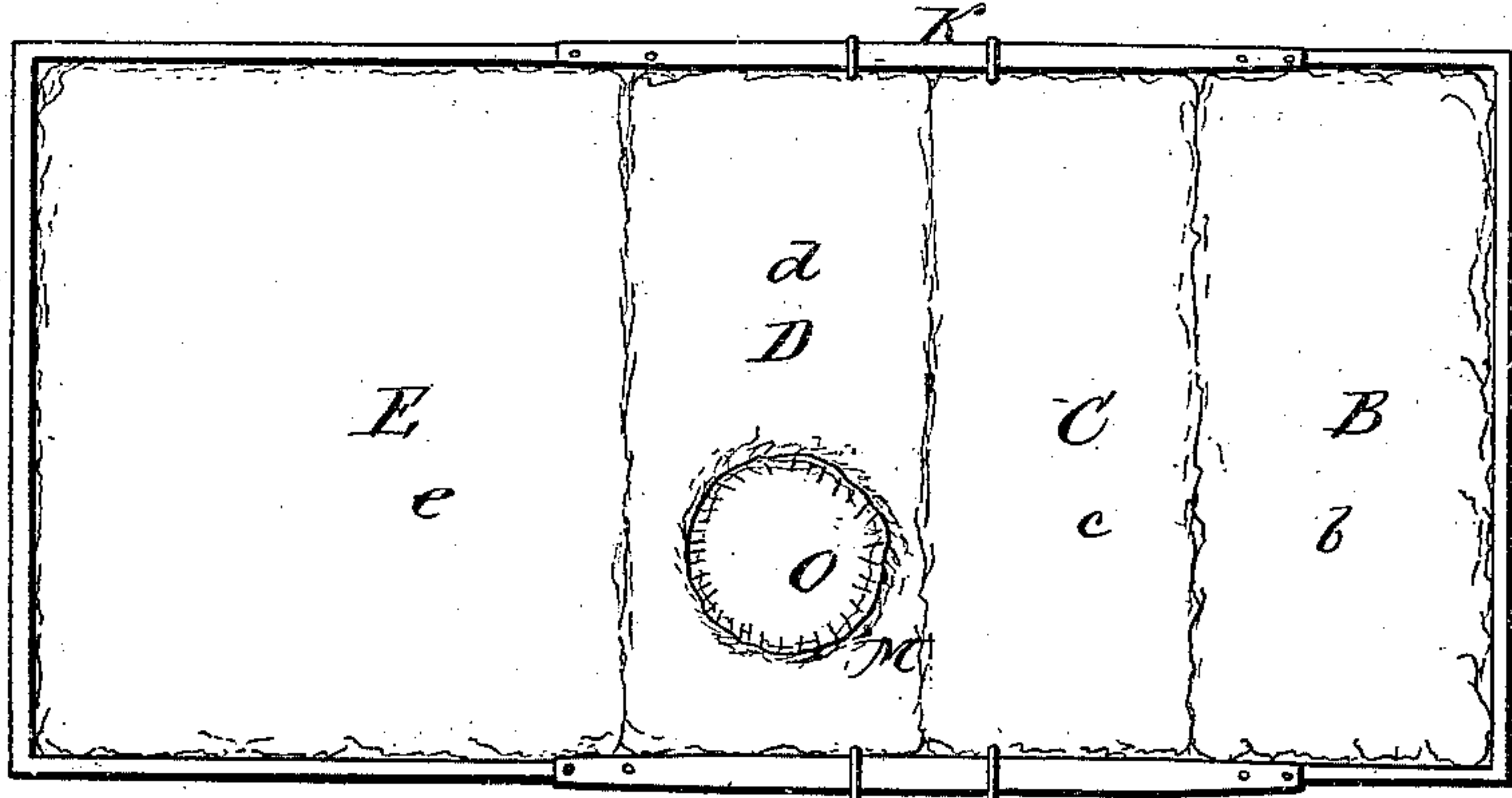


Fig. 2.

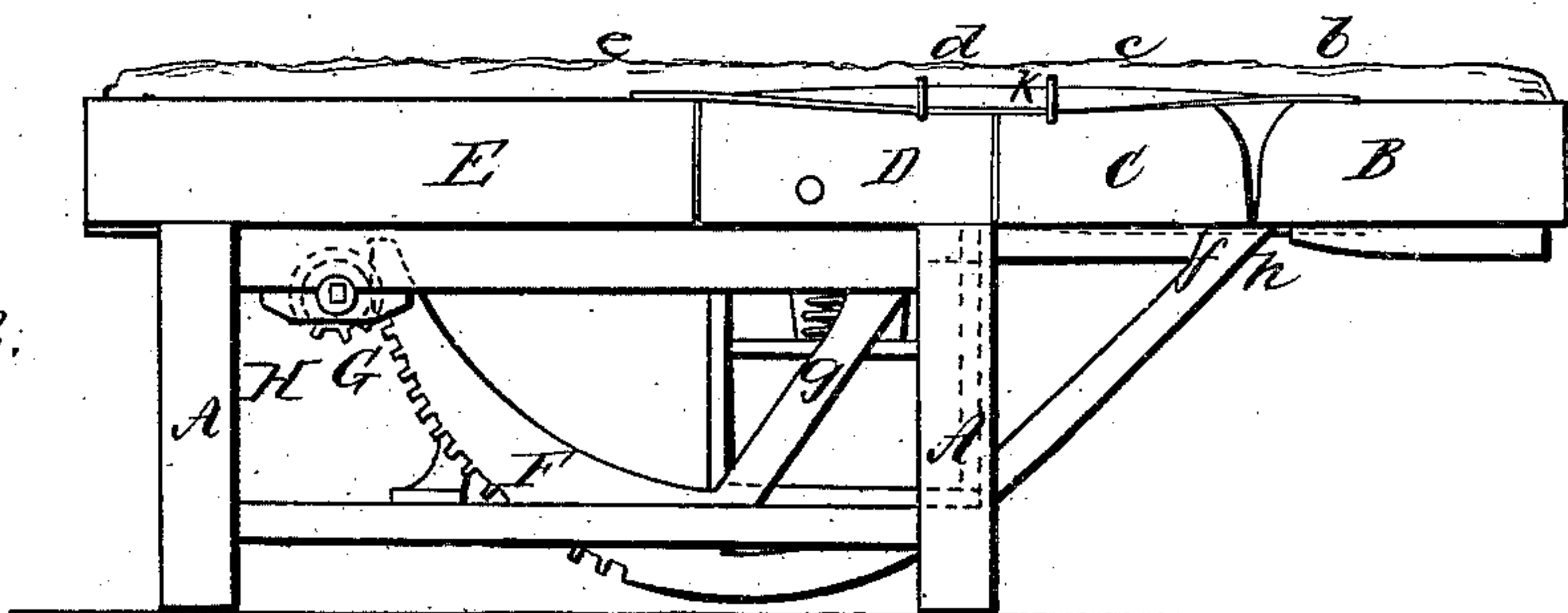


Fig. 3.

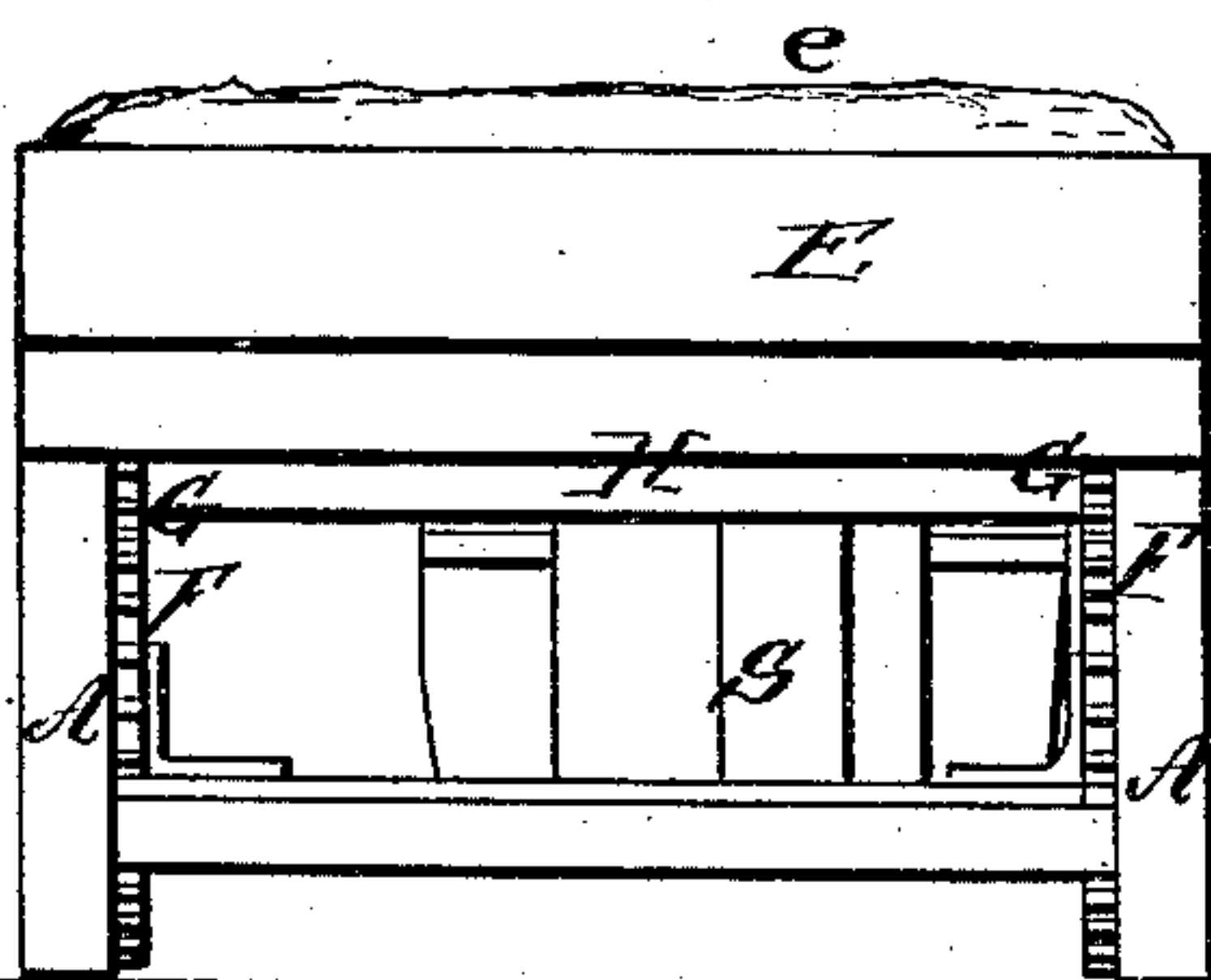
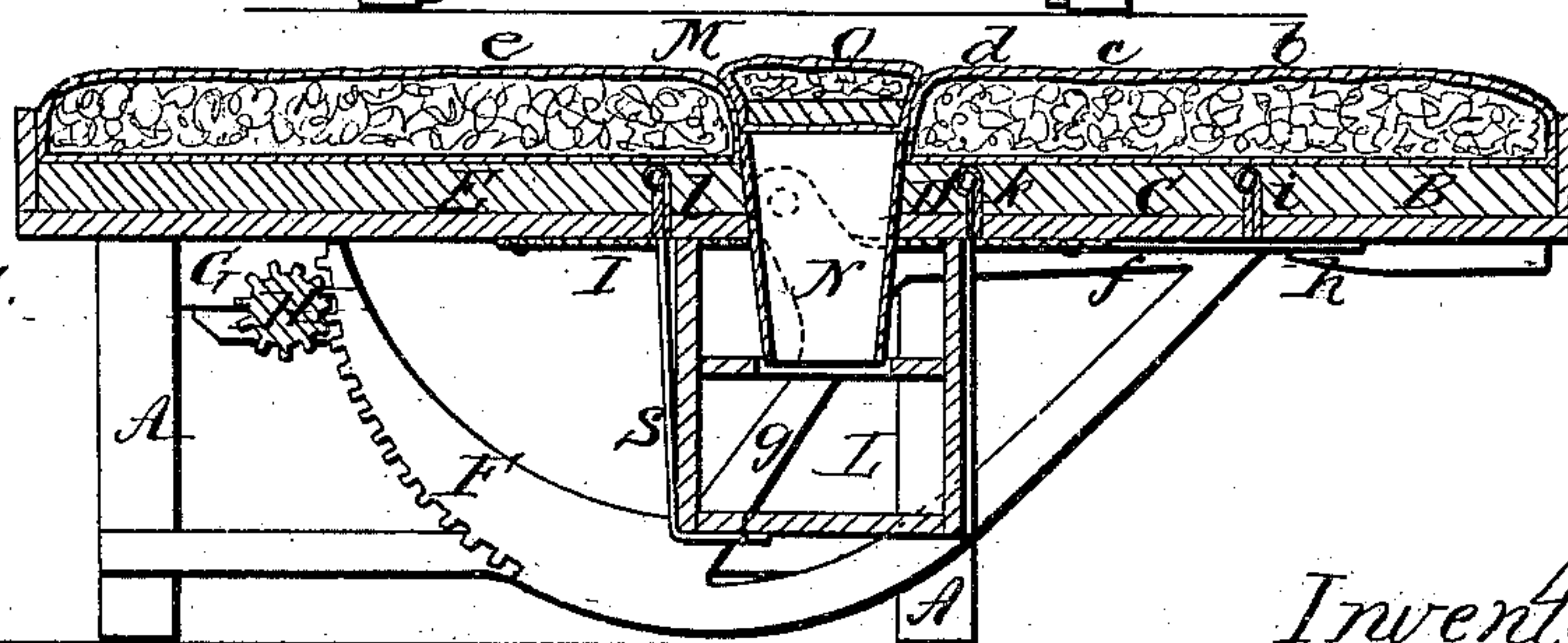


Fig. 4.



Witnesses;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HEATH, OF BATH, MAINE.

IMPROVEMENT IN INVALID-BEDSTEADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 59,600, dated November 13, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HEATH, of Bath, in the county of Sagadahoc and State of Maine, have invented an Improved Invalid-Bedstead; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view, Fig. 2 a side elevation, Fig. 3 a rear elevation, and Fig. 4 a longitudinal section, of it.

In the said drawings, A denotes the frame for supporting the operative parts, it being formed as represented or otherwise suitably made. At or near one end of this frame is what I term the "seat-frame" D, which constitutes part of the bedstead-frame, which is composed of four portions, B C D E, all of which are to be suitably connected together by hinges *i k l*, and upholstered or provided with cushions, as shown at *b c d e*.

Within the frame A, and against opposite sides of it, two toothed sectors, F F, are arranged and applied to the frame, so as to be capable of being moved on centers and in vertical planes, and by means of gears G G, fixed on a horizontal shaft, H, extended across the frame A, and being supported in metallic boxes or bearings applied thereto.

From each of the toothed sectors an arm, *f*, supported by a strut, *g*, is extended toward, underneath, and against the part *c* of the bed-frame. The front edge of the said part *c* rests on the said two arms.

There are also one or more arms, *h h*, which are extended from the portion C and underneath and against the portion B.

An elastic band or spring, I, extends from the part C to the part E, and at its ends is fastened to the bottoms of such parts.

When the part E is in the act of being elevated by the toothed sectors the said band I serves to depress or decline the part C, other elastic bands or springs, K K, which connect the part B with the part E, and which are arranged as represented, operating at the same time to maintain the foot-rest or part B in a level or nearly level position.

The said two bands K K go through rings fixed to the ends of the two parts C D, and, besides operating the foot-rest, they serve to keep the bed-clothes from being caught in the joints of the bed.

There is applied to the seat part D a case, L, for holding a chamber-pot or vessel, a seat-hole, M, being made in the cushion of the part D, and provided with a tunnel or conductor, N, leading down from it into the case L. A cushion-cover, O, may be applied to the hole M. The hole M is designed for the convenience of a patient or invalid when it may be necessary for him to effect either a urinal or fecal evacuation.

One great merit of my invalid-bedstead is the simplicity of the mechanism for operating its movable parts B C E. A person while in the bed has his back against a part, E, and his feet on the portion B.

When the part E is elevated, the portions B and C serve to support the legs.

An invalid-bedstead made as hereinbefore explained, and represented in the accompanying drawings, is calculated to be of great convenience to a sick person, or to one who may be suffering from amputation of a leg or thigh, as by means of it he can be readily brought from a horizontal up into an inclined position to such extent as may be desirable.

In case the same may be deemed essential, a spring-band, S, may be applied to the part E and the bottom of the case L, such band being to aid in depressing the part E.

I am aware that a bedstead has been made with a movable back, leg, and foot-rests combined with a seat, the whole being upholstered.

I am also aware that such a bedstead has had a close stool or its equivalent combined with it. Therefore I do not claim such.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination for simultaneously operating or moving the leg and back portions C and E of the bed, the same consisting of the shaft H, its gears G G, the toothed sectors F F, the arms *f f*, and the spring or band I, the whole being applied to the frame A and the said portions C and E, and arranged therewith, substantially in manner and so as to operate as specified.

2. The combination and arrangement of the bands K K with the parts B C D E, and the mechanism for operating the two parts C E, substantially as described.

WILLIAM HEATH.

Witnesses:

JAMES W. FRYE,

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