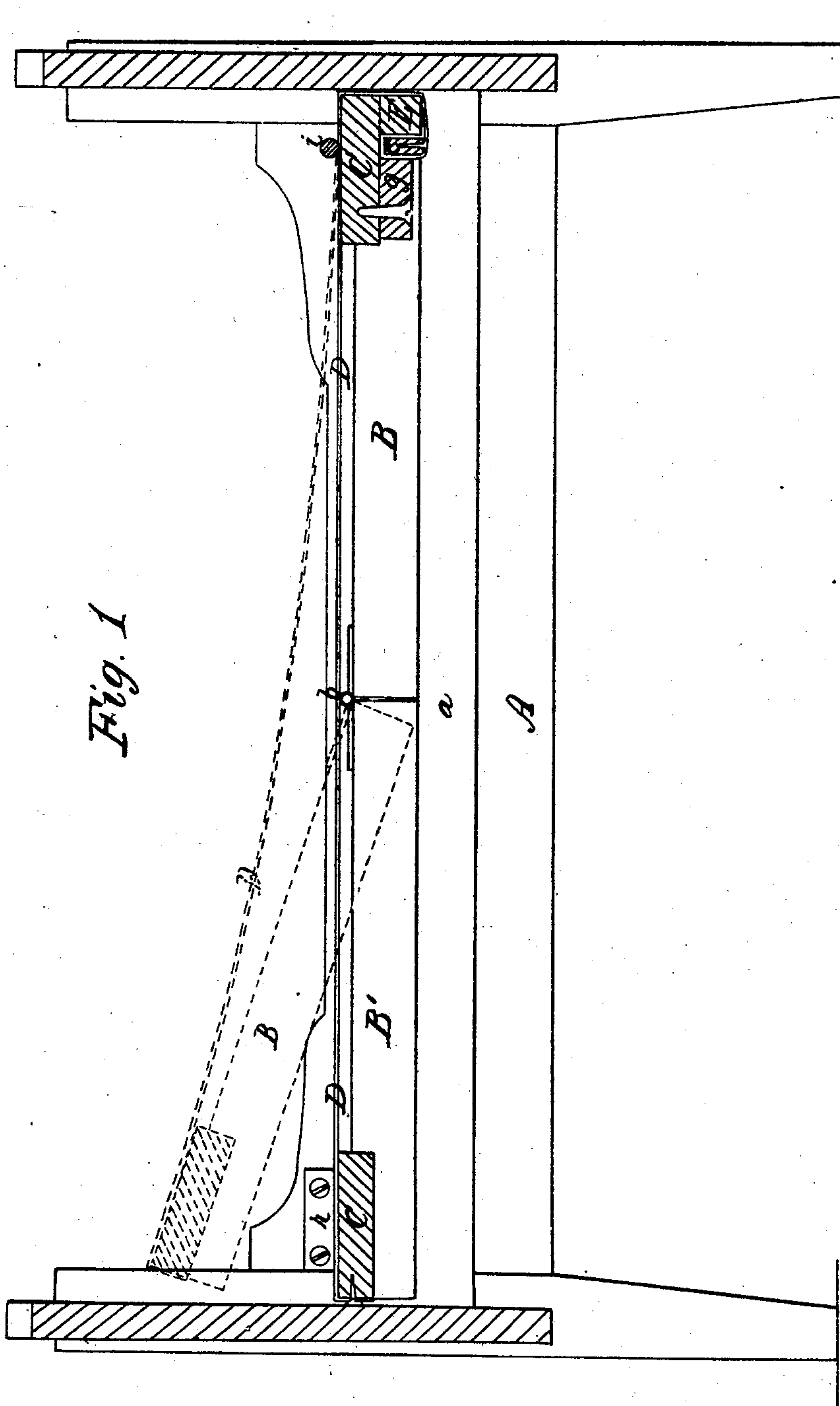


H. B. Walbridge. Bed-Bottom.

N^o 75321

Patented Mar. 10, 1868



Witnesses *A. J. Campbell*
John Schaefer

Inventor *H. B. Walbridge*
by
Mar. Hewich & Lamm

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Fig. 2.

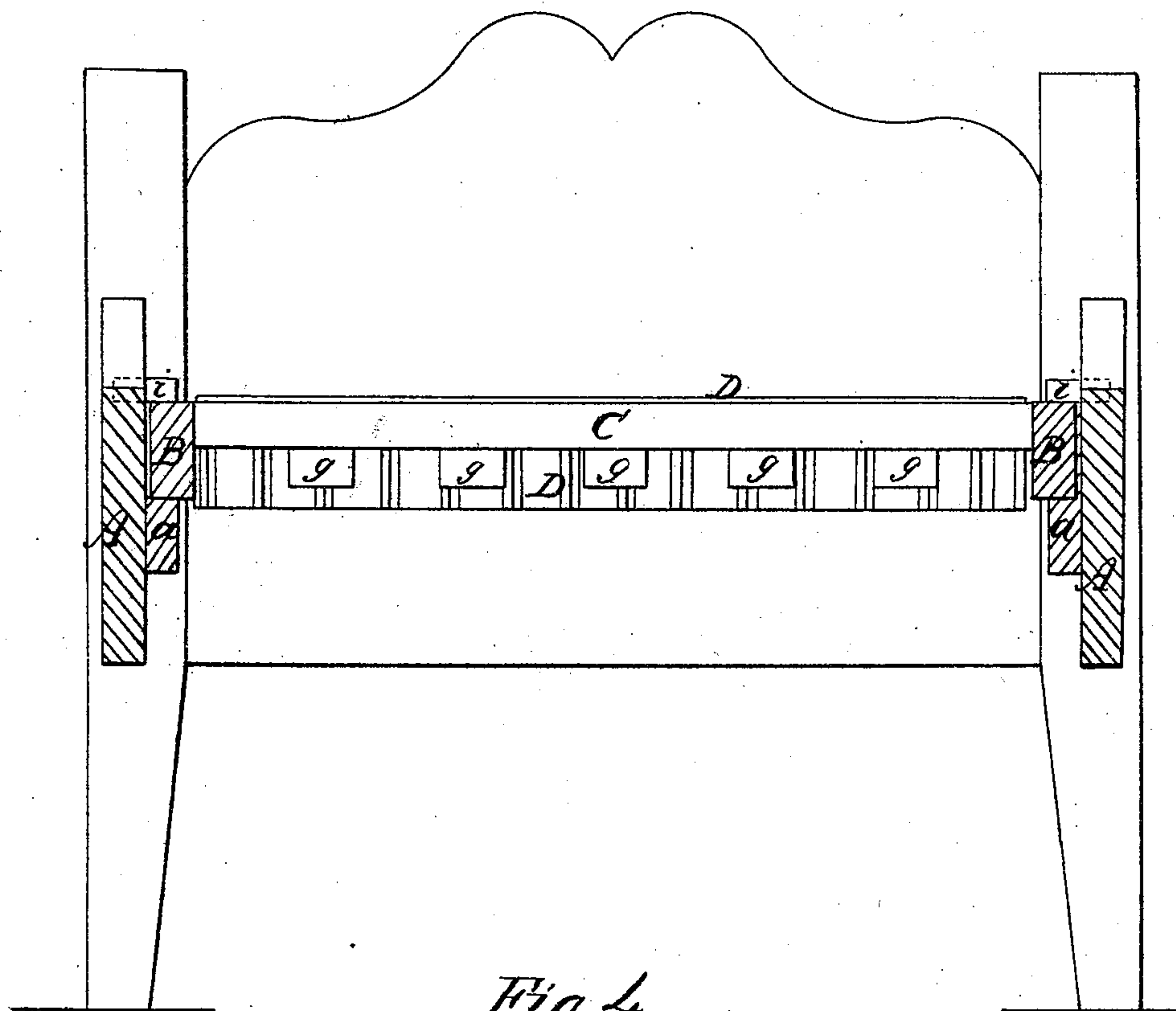
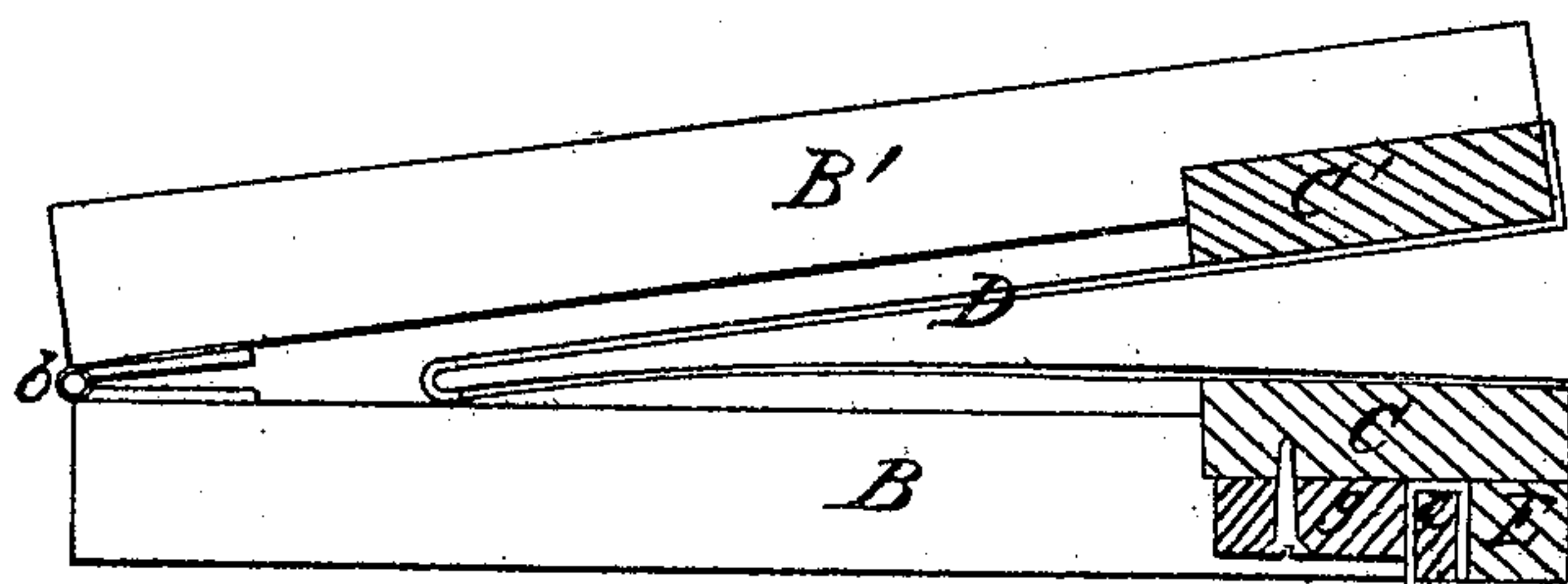


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
R. J. Campbell
Edw. Schaefer

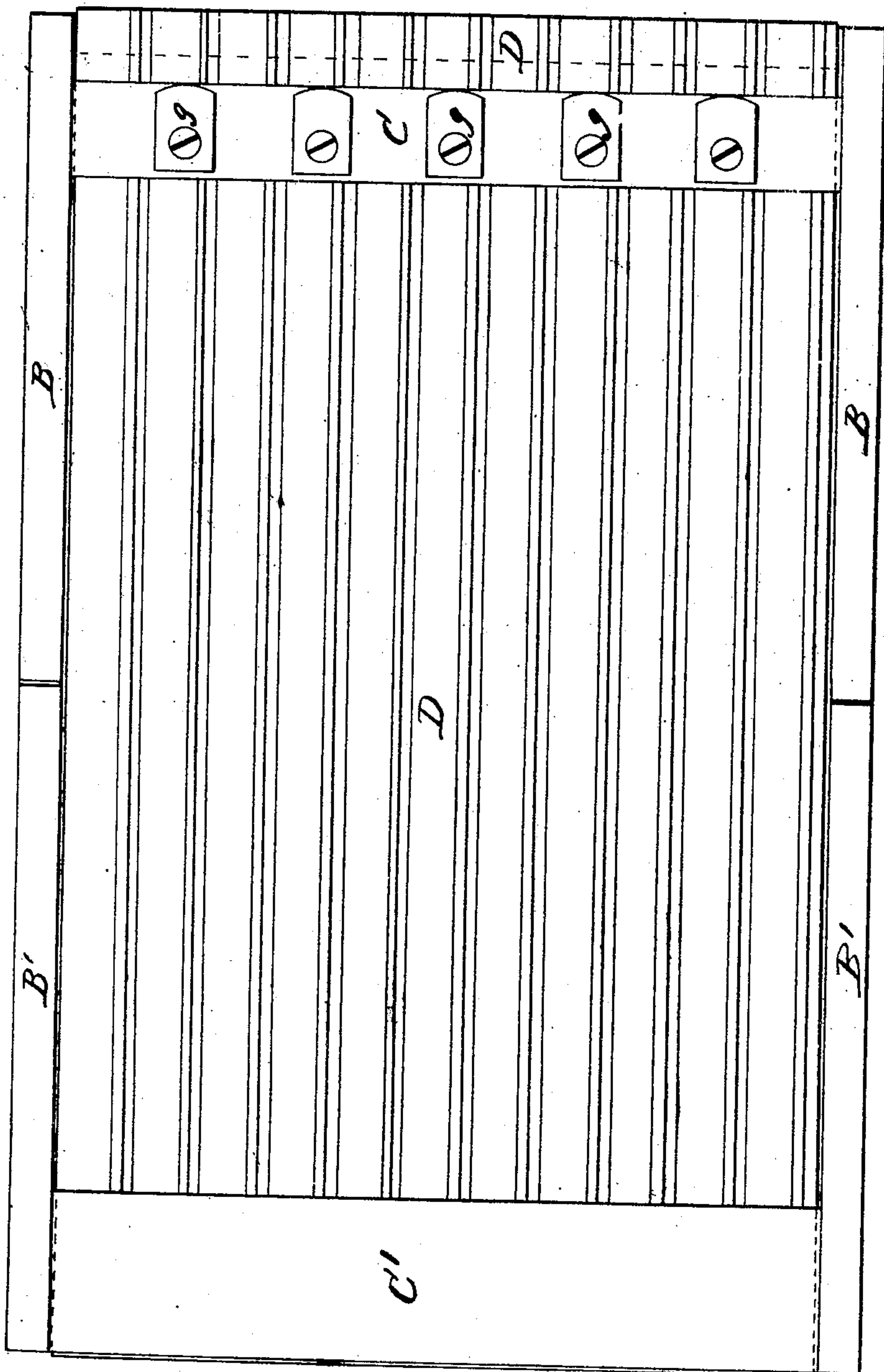
Inventor
H. B. Walbridge
by
Mar. Hewich & Lawrence

H. B. Walbridge. Bed-Bottom.

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Fig. 3



Witnesses
A. J. Campbell
J. W. Schaffer

Inventor
H. B. Walbridge
by
Marion Fenwick Lawrence

United States Patent Office.

HENRY B. WALBRIDGE, OF TOLEDO, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 75,321, dated March 10, 1868.

IMPROVED BED-BOTTOM.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, HENRY B. WALBRIDGE, of Toledo, in the county of Lucas, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and improved Bed-Bottom; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section through a bedstead, having my improved bed-bottom applied to it.

Figure 2 is a transverse section, taken in a vertical plane through fig. 1, at the point indicated by the red line *z z* thereon.

Figure 3 is a bottom view of the bed-bottom detached from a bedstead.

Figure 4 is a side view of the same when folded.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement on bed-bottoms, of that class wherein sacking or cloth of any other suitable description is employed for supporting the beds.

The object of my invention is to construct a bed-bottom, so that, while it can be made very cheap and durable, means are afforded for stretching the cloth, and keeping as tightly stretched as may be found desirable, and also for taking up any slack in the cloth which might occur from long use.

The nature of my invention consists in a removable, rectangular, and centrally-divided hinged frame, having a sacking-bottom secured permanently to one end of it, and applied to the opposite end of it by means of a stretching or take-up bar and button-fastenings, in the manner hereinafter described, so that the sacking can be readily taken up or let out at pleasure, after which one portion of its frame can be conveniently employed as a powerful lever, by which to stretch the sacking, and hold it under any desired tension, as will be hereinafter explained.

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

The bedstead to which my invention is represented as being applied is made in the usual well-known manner, as the improved bed-bottom which I am about to describe may be applied to almost any of the well-known bedsteads, by securing inside ledges *a a* to the longitudinal rails *A A* for the frame of the bed-bottom to rest upon. The frame of the bed-bottom is of rectangular form, and consists of two longitudinal sections *B B'*, which are hinged together at or near the middle of their length by means of hinges *b b*, which are secured on the upper sides or edges of their longitudinal bars. This frame may be folded, as shown in fig. 4, or it may be adjusted so as to have its two sections lie in a horizontal plane, as shown in figs. 1 and 3. Its ends are connected together by means of strong bars *C C'*, which are let into and secured firmly to the longitudinal rails or bars, as shown in the drawings. This frame is made of such width and length that it will fit snugly within the bedstead for which it is adapted, and be supported upon the ledges *a a*. To the outer edge of the transverse bar *C'* of the frame-section *B'* the cloth *D* is permanently nailed, so that it will allow the cloth to resist considerable strain. The opposite end of this cloth *D* is nailed to a flat bar, *e*, of such length as to fit between the two rails of the section *B*. This flat bar is introduced inside of a piece, *E*, and held firmly in place against this piece by means of a number of buttons, *g g*, which are pivoted to the bottom side of the cross-bar *C*, as shown in figs. 1, 2, and 3. It will be seen that, when bar *e* is clamped against the piece *E* by the buttons *g*, this bar cannot be drawn out of it by any ordinary amount of strain applied to the cloth, yet the bar *e* can be readily removed by releasing the buttons *g* from it. The object of bar *e* is to allow the cloth or sacking *D* to be wound upon or unwound from it for regulating the tension of the cloth upon the frame.

The adjustment is affected as follows: One end of the frame is held down in place upon its ledges *a a* by means of cleats *h*, and the opposite end or section *B* is held down by means of pins *i*. These pins *i* are removed and section *B* thrown up, as indicated in red lines in fig. 1, which will so slacken the sacking as to allow the bar *e* to be readily removed from its place. If the sacking should have been too slack, the bar *e* is turned partly or entirely around, so as to roll up a proper amount of the sacking upon it. This bar is again returned to its place and secured by means of the buttons *g*, as before described, when it will be found that it will require considerable pressure to return the section *B* back to a horizontal position, in doing which the sacking will be

forcibly stretched and tightened. The pins *i* being then inserted over the section B into the side rails A A, section B will be held down in place upon its ledges *a*. Thus it will be seen that more or less of the sacking can be readily taken up or let out, as occasion requires, and that one of the hinged sections of the sacking-frame will serve as a lever to render the operation of stretching the sacking a very simple and convenient one. The bar *c* sustains the sacking throughout its entire width, and enables a person to keep this cloth under any proper tension as long as it is strong enough to withstand the strain. It will also be seen that the frame to which the sacking is applied is removable, and that it can be folded so as to reduce it to a compass of about half its length. Instead of using cleats and pins for holding the frame B B' in place in the bedstead, as described, strong button-fastenings may be employed, fitted in recesses made in the side rails of the bedstead.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A bed-bottom, which is composed of a hinged sectional frame B B', having the sacking secured permanently to one section, and applied to the other section by means of a flat bar, *c*, and clamps *g g*, substantially as described.
2. Constructing the sacking-frame B B', and applying the sacking thereto, in such manner that, while the sacking can be more or less slackened or tightened at pleasure, one section of said frame will serve as a means for forcibly tightening the sacking, in combination with retaining-cleats and removable pins applied to the bedstead-rails, substantially as described.

HENRY B. WALBRIDGE.

Witnesses:

T. K. BOLTWOOD,
W. H. WALBRIDGE,