

A. J. Bell.
Folding Couch.

Nº 76148

Patented Mar. 31, 1868

Fig. 1.

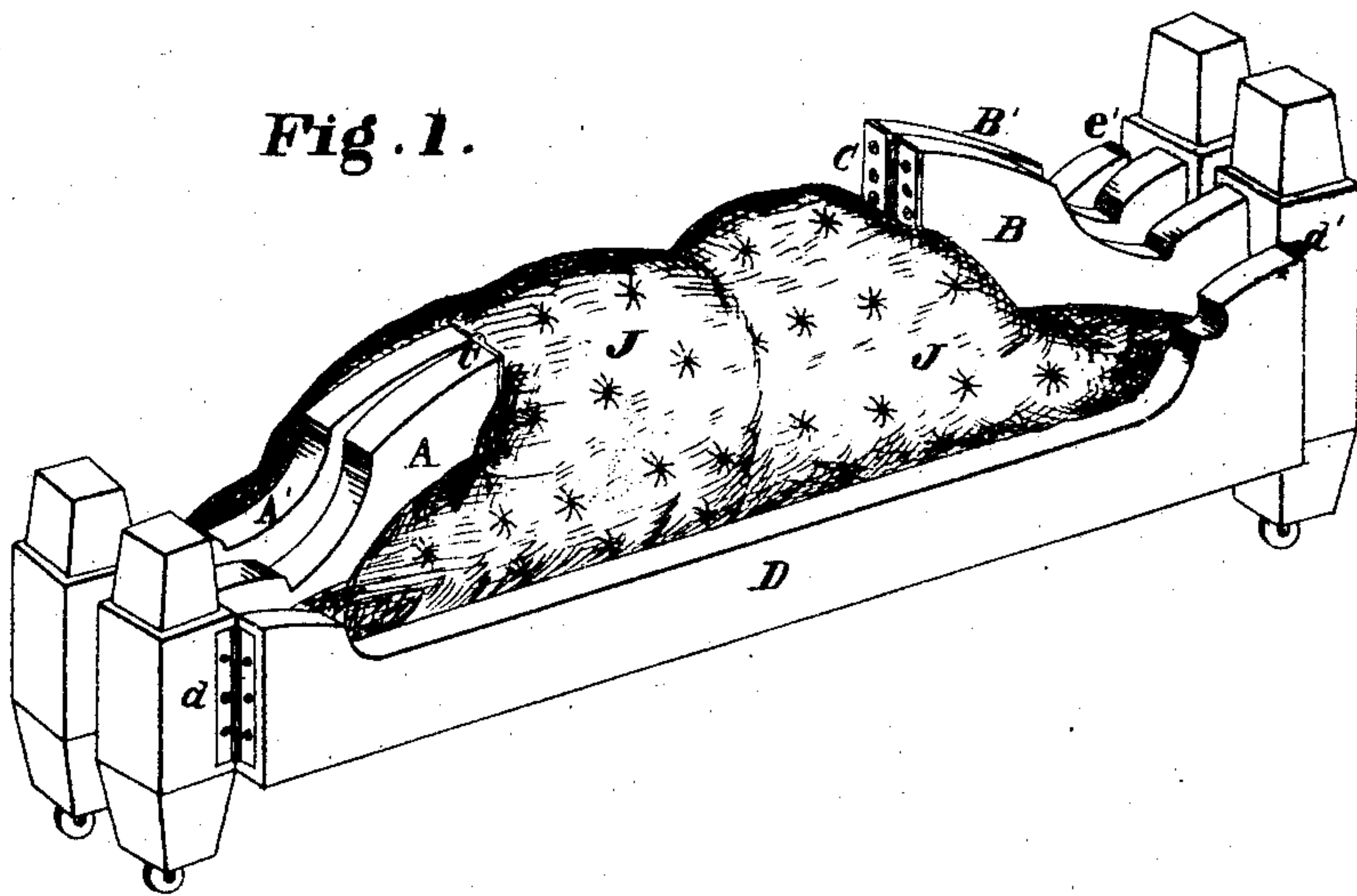
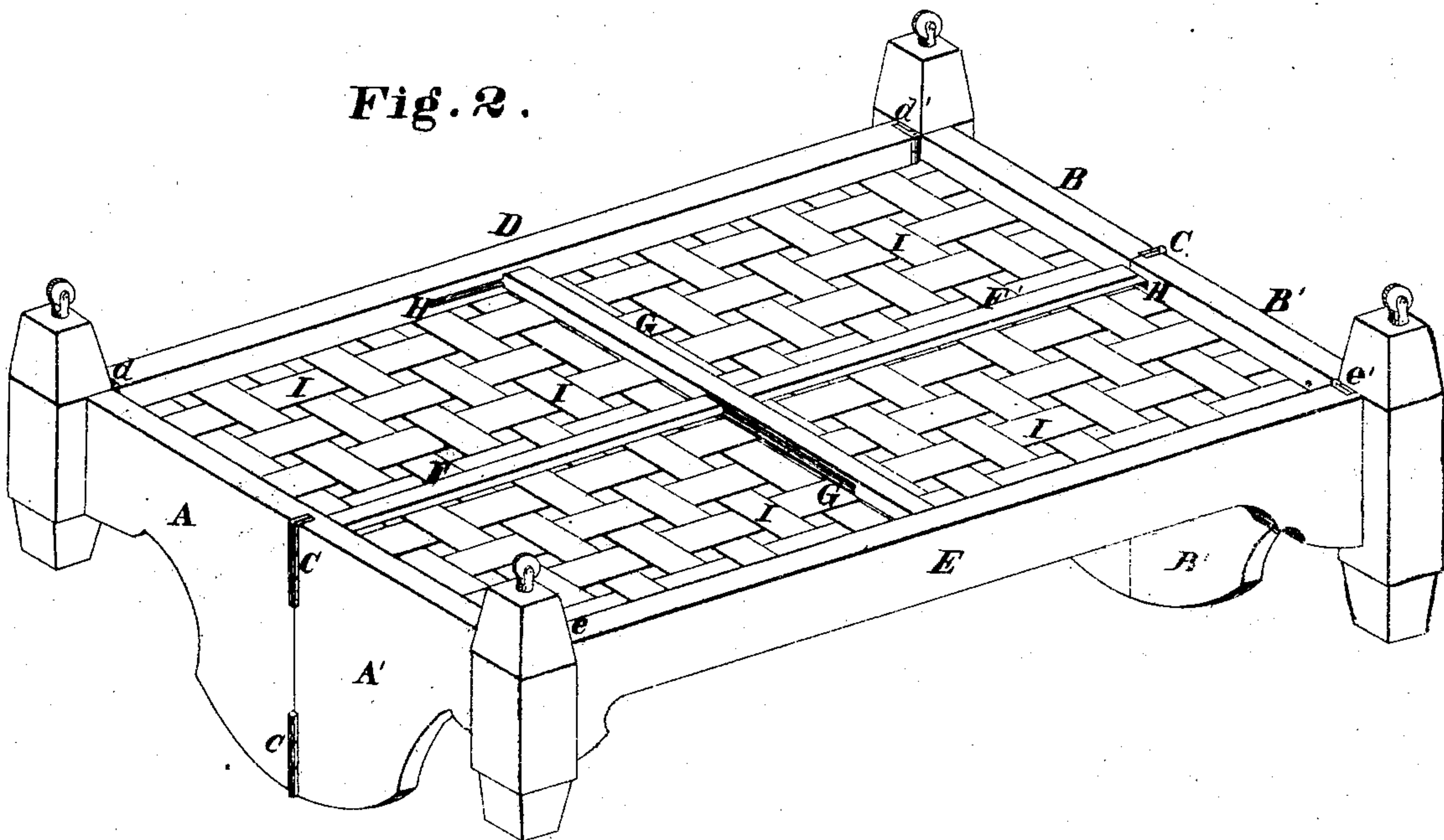


Fig. 2.



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Attest.

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United States Patent Office.

A. JOHN BELL, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 76,148, dated March 31, 1868.

IMPROVED FOLDING COUCH.

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

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, A. JOHN BELL, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Folding Couch; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

My invention relates to an arrangement of bedstead, bed-bottom, and mattress, capable of being folded into very compact dimensions when not required for use.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my couch in a folded condition.

Figure 2 is an under side view of the same in its open or extended form.

The two ends A A', B B', of the bedstead are jointed at their middles, and reunited by hinges C, so as to enable the bedstead to be folded, as shown in fig. 1. D F are the side-rails of the bedstead, and these rails are connected to the posts by means of hinges *d d'* and *e e'*.

The bedstead is held to its extended position by bars F F' G, which being inserted in suitable grooves H on the inner sides of the bedstead, and pushed to a position at or near right angles thereto, act to press and hold said sides apart with great power and force, so as to form, in conjunction with the sides and end, a perfectly rigid frame. The removal of these bars permits the bedstead to be folded, as shown in fig. 1.

The bottom is formed by strips of webbing I, interwoven and attached to the sides and ends of the bedstead, as shown, and upon this bottom the mattress J is formed by suitable upholstery.

The bottom proper, whether of webbing or other material, should be so attached as to be drawn tightest at the middle portion, in order to counteract the sag arising from the greater weight and stress on that part.

While describing the form preferred by me, I do not restrict myself rigidly thereto; for example, two bars placed some distance from the middle may replace the single transverse bar F. The bottom may be formed of a single sheet of canvas, instead of the strips of webbing. The bottom itself may be made with a hinged and stretched frame, substantially as here shown, the same being separate from the bedstead proper.

The folding and stretched bedstead may be used, if desired, with any kind of bottom; and with or without a mattress permanently attached thereto.

It will be seen that this device dispenses entirely with slats and springs.

I claim herein as new, and of my invention—

1. The hinged and folding bedstead A A', B B', C D, E, *d d'*, *e e'*, capable of extension by means of the bars F F', G, all substantially as described.

2. The combination of hinged folding and extensible bedstead, as above claimed, with the bottom, I, either with or without the permanent mattress J.

In testimony of which invention, I hereunto set my hand.

A. JOHN BELL.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,

JAMES H. LAYMAN.