

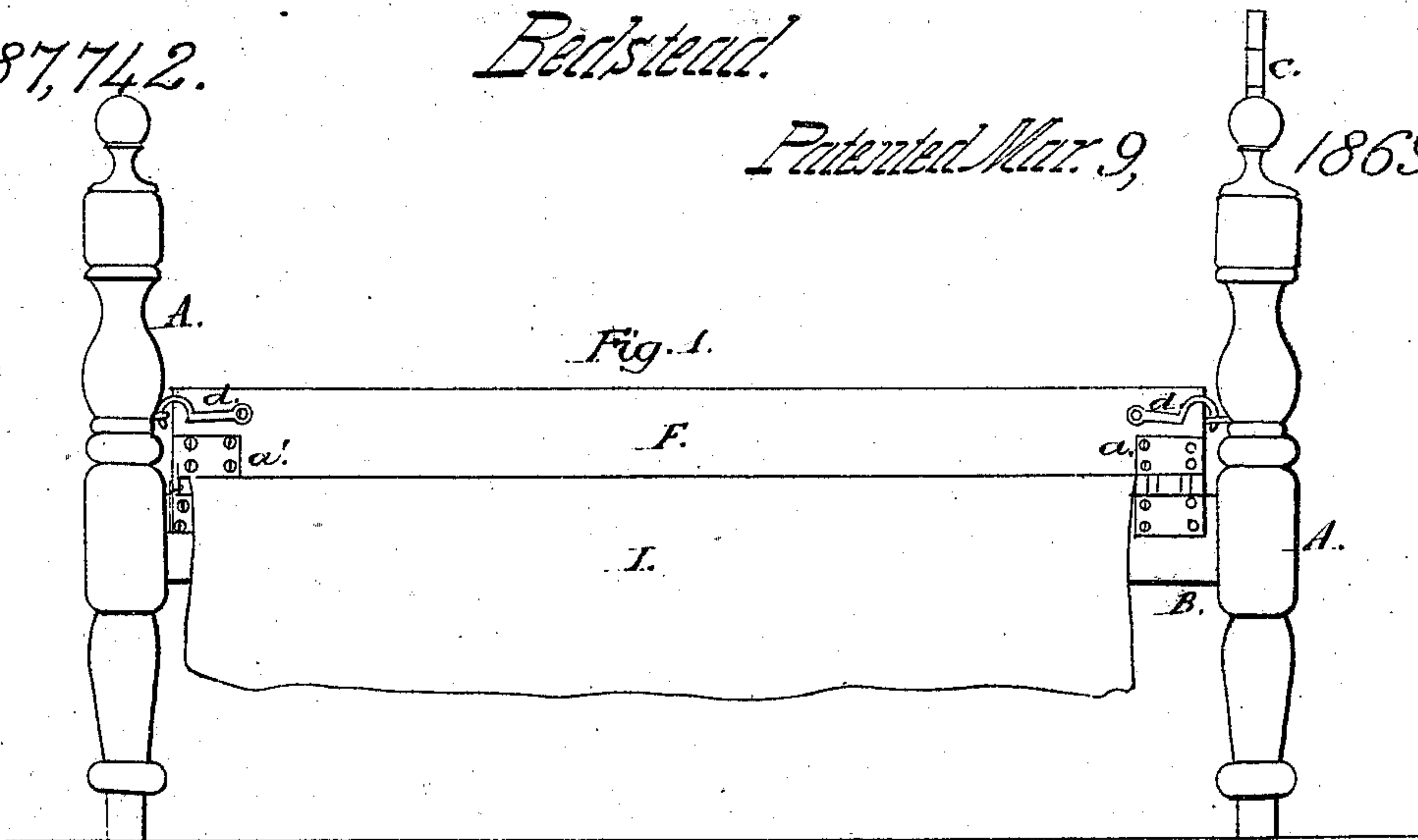
*H. H. Whitner.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 87,742.*

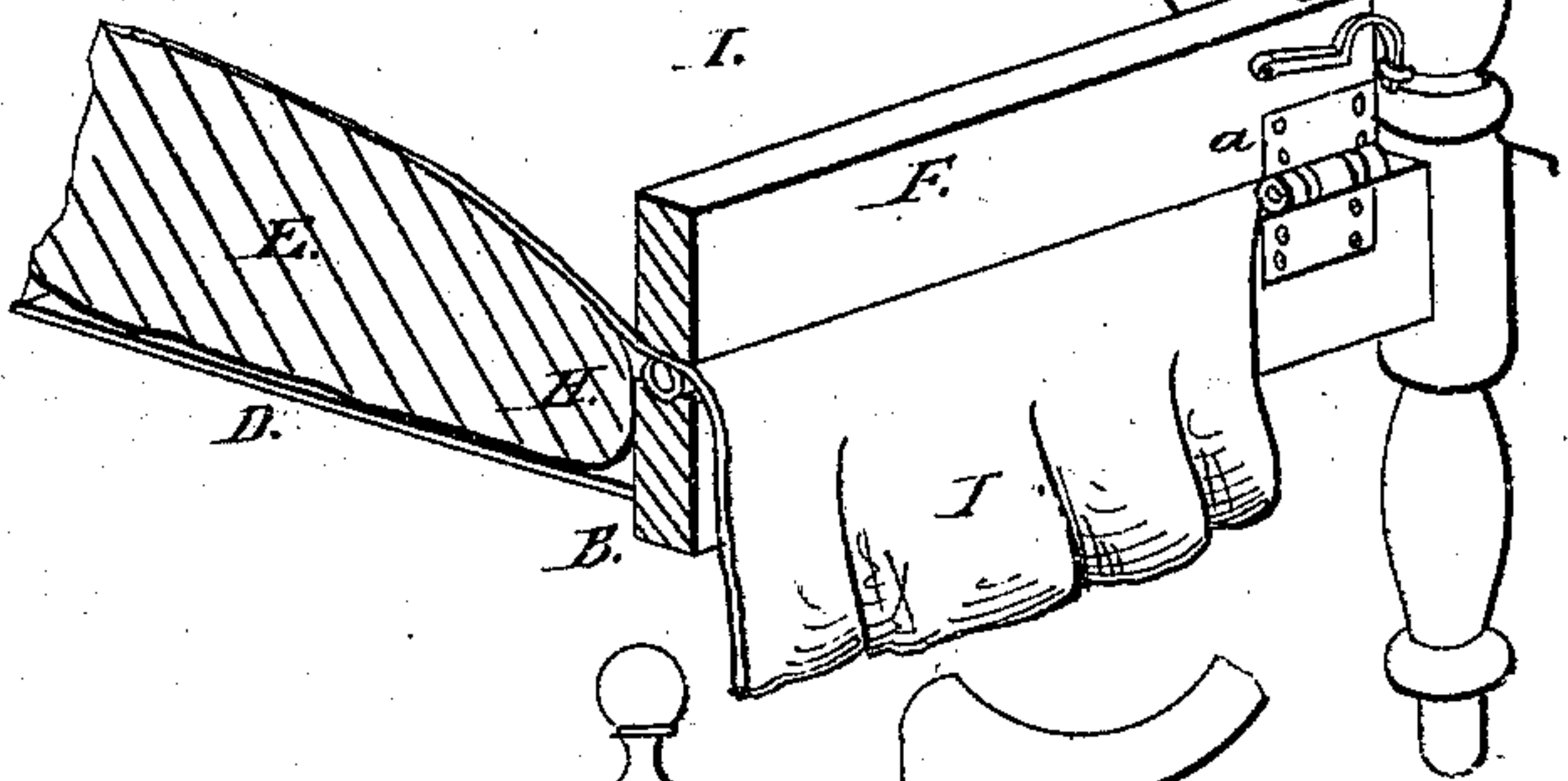
*Bedstead.*

*Patented Mar. 9,*

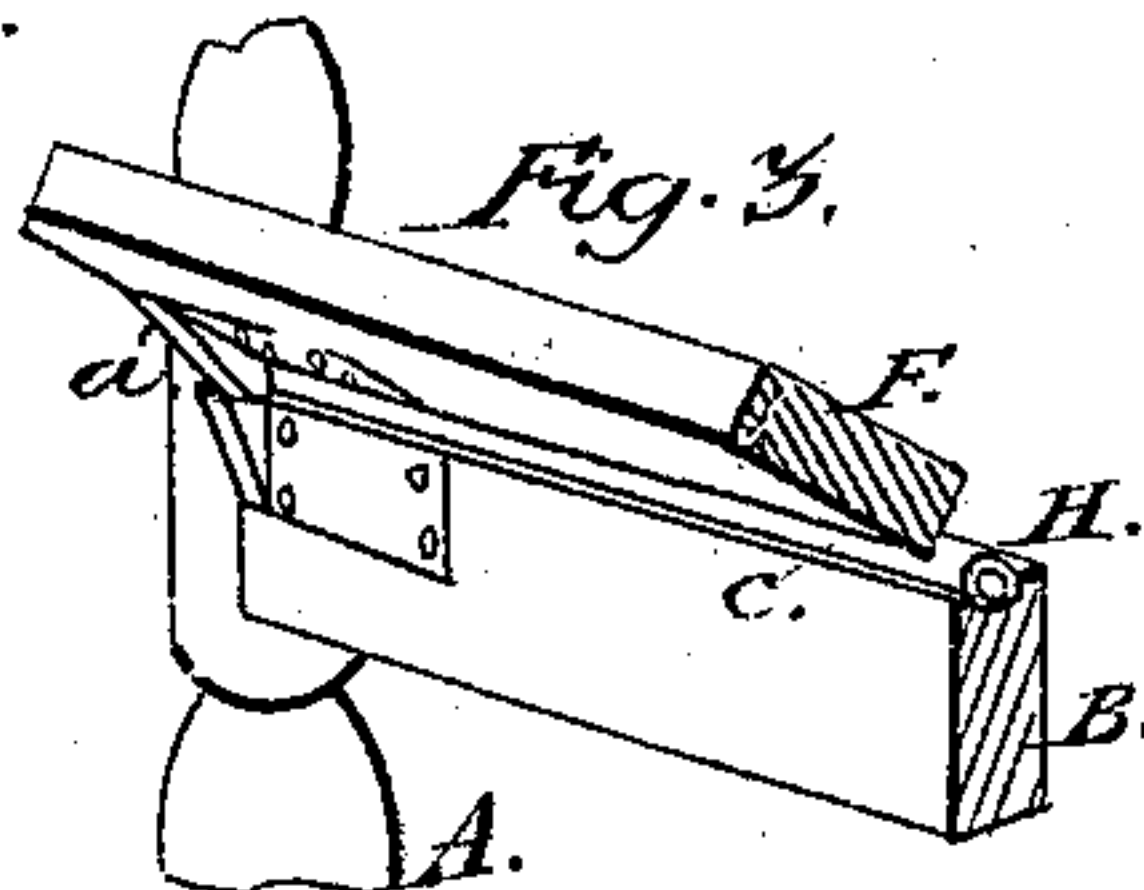
*1869.*



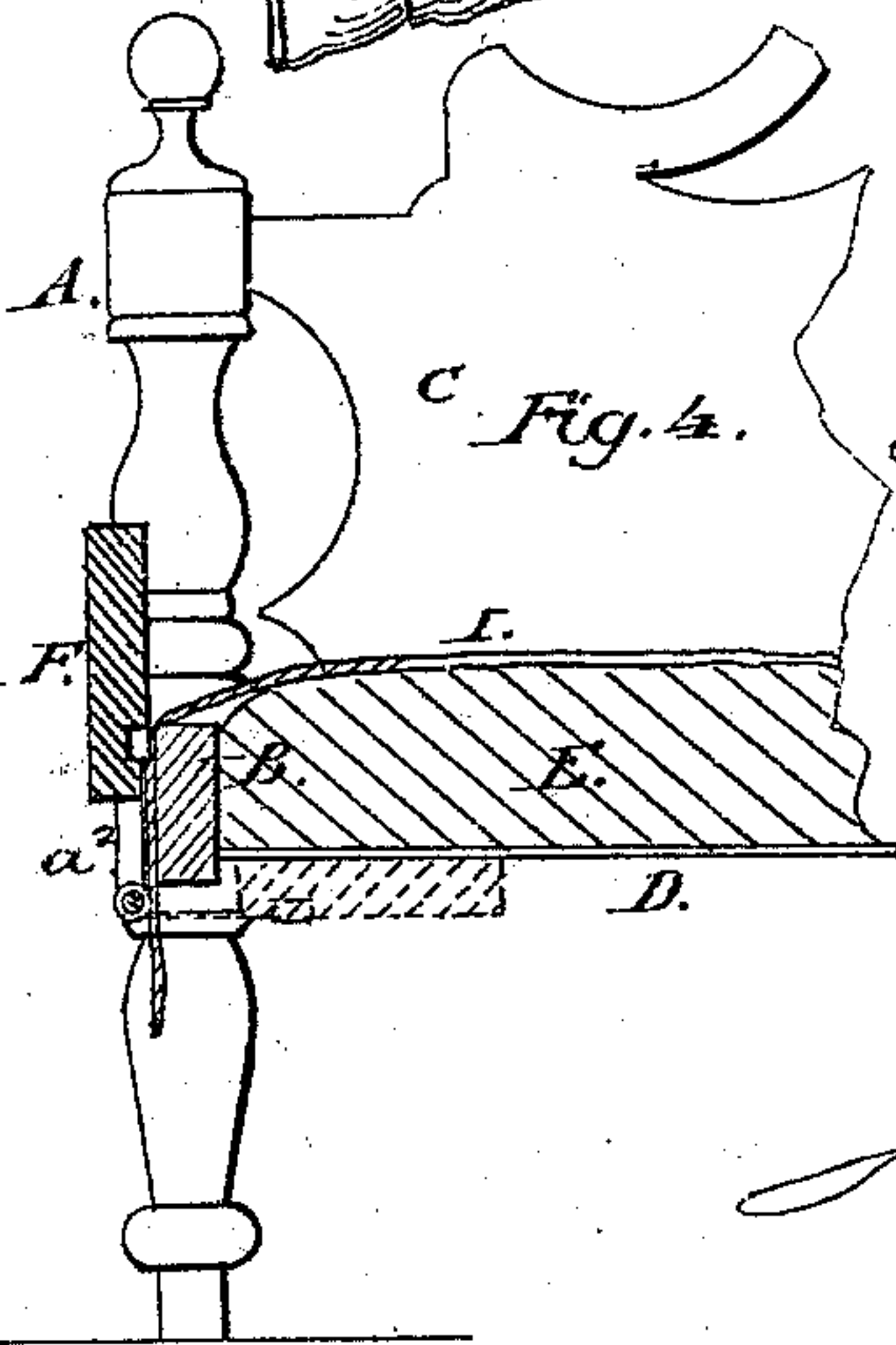
*Fig. 2.*



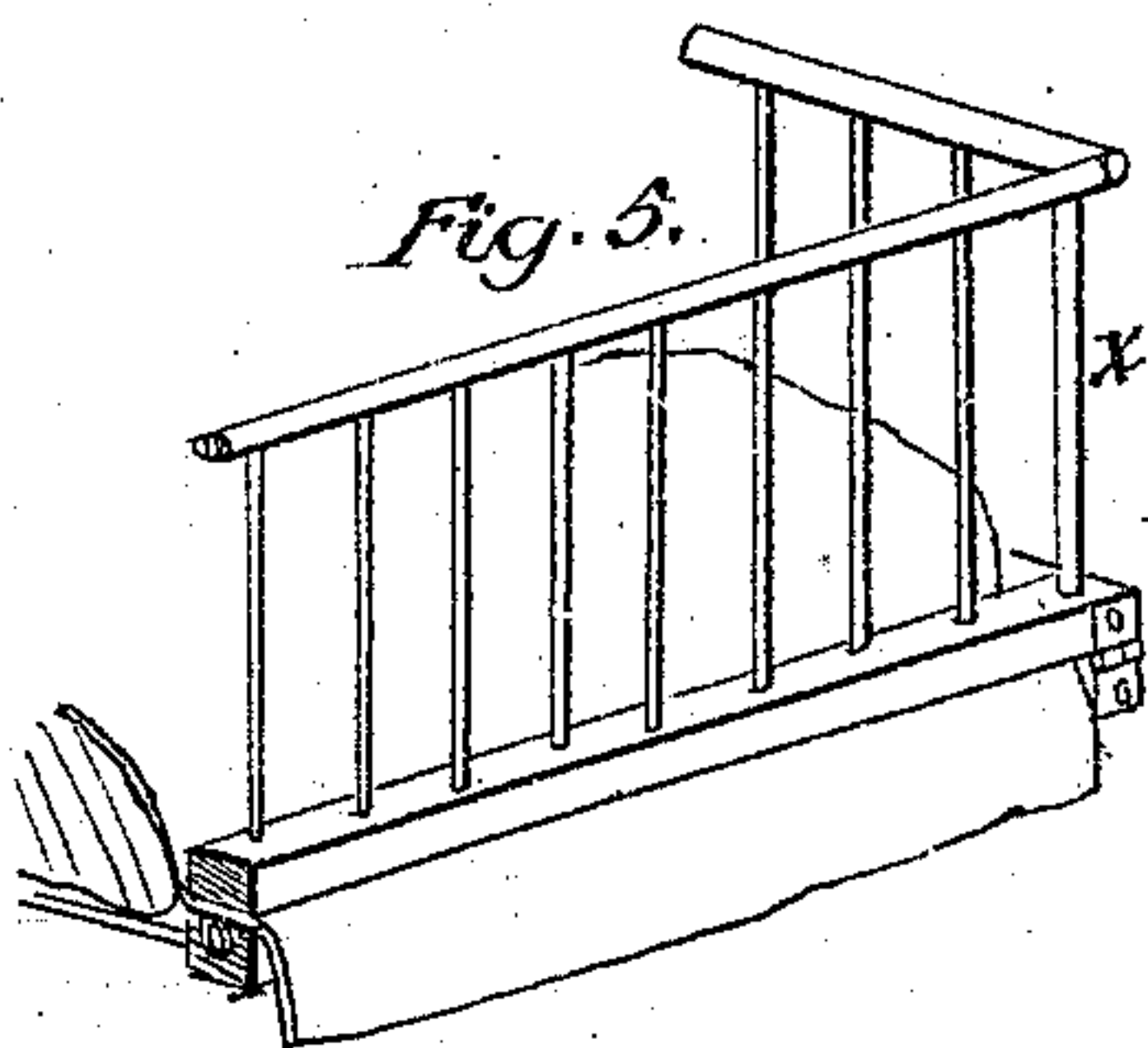
*Fig. 3.*



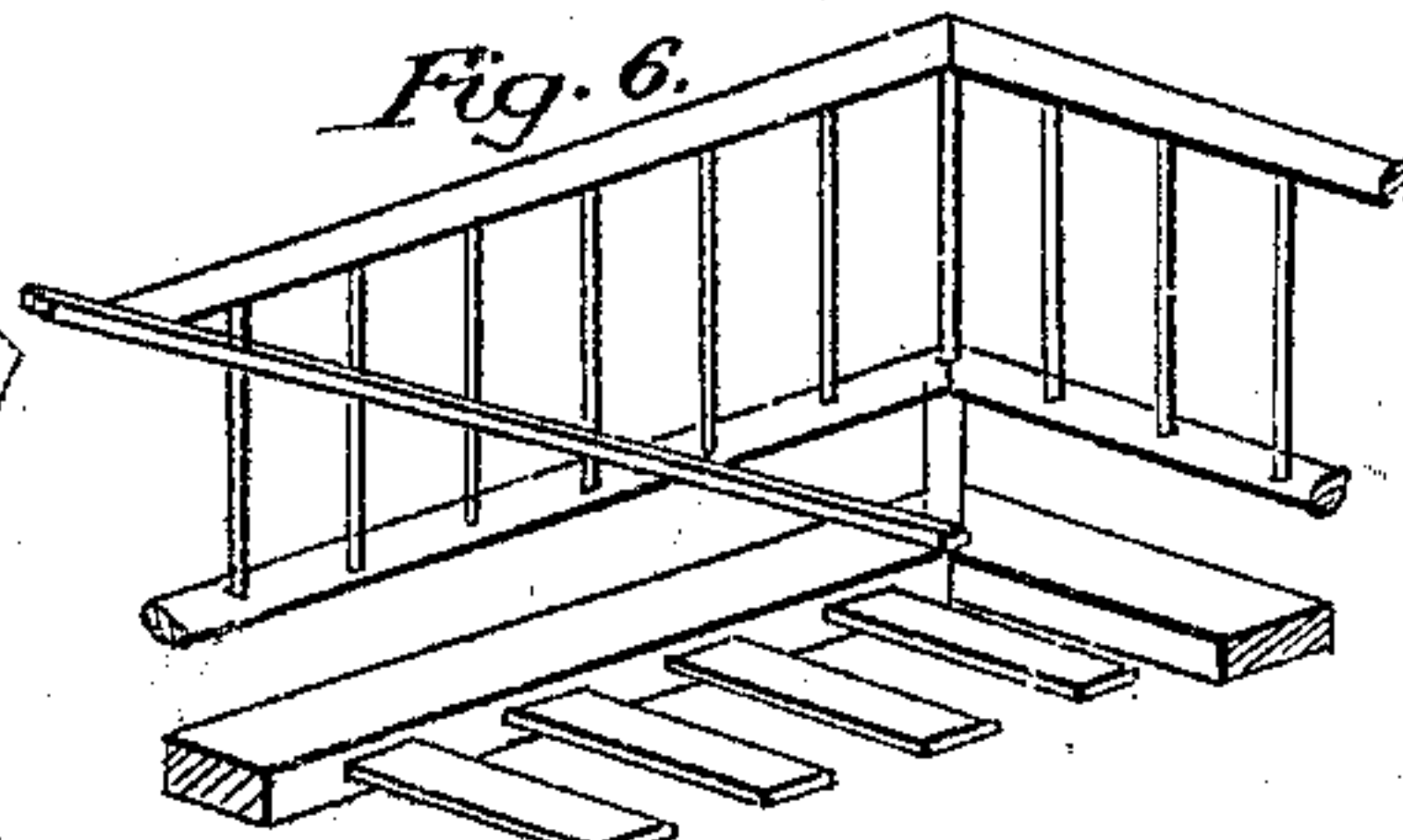
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 6.*



*Witnesses*  
*Wm. A. Stul*  
*John Parker*

*Inventor:*  
*H. H. Whitner*  
*By*  
*J. H. Rowson*



# United States Patent Office.

H. K. WHITNER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 87,742, dated March 9, 1869.

## IMPROVED BEDSTEAD.

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, H. K. WHITNER, M. D., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Bedsteads; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention consists of rails, hinged to the permanent side-rails of a bedstead, as fully described hereafter, for the purpose of clasping the edges of the bed-clothes, and thus preventing their disarrangement, and also to serve as guards, (which can be made of any desired height,) to prevent children or invalids from falling from the bed.

In order to enable others to make and apply my invention, I will now proceed to describe the mode of constructing and using the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a bedstead with my improvement;

Figure 2, a sectional perspective view of the same on the line 1-2, fig. 1;

Figure 3, a detached view; and

Figures 4, 5, and 6, views showing different methods of applying my invention.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A A represent two of the posts of a bedstead;

B, one of the side-rails;

C, the head-board; and

D, a portion of the usual slotted bottom, upon which rests the bed E.

On reference to figs. 1, 2, and 3—

F is an additional rail, jointed at each end, by open hinges *a*, to the upper edge of the side-rail B, and a precisely similar rail is hinged to the permanent rail, at the opposite side of the bedstead.

The hinges A are of such construction, that when the rail F is elevated, as seen in fig. 2, its lower edge shall bear upon and compress a gum tube, or other packing, H, which is attached to the rail B; and the hinges are so arranged that when the rail F is turned to about the position shown in fig. 3, a considerable space, *c*, shall intervene between it and the edge of the permanent rail.

The method of using my invention is as follows:

The rail F, having been turned to one side, as seen in fig. 3, one of the overhanging edges of the bed-clothing, I, is passed through the space *c*, and the rail is then elevated, so as to clasp the clothing between its lower edge and the compress H, as best observed in fig. 2; after which the said rail is secured at each end to the bed-posts by hooks, *d*, and thus maintained in its elevated position.

At the opposite side of the bed, the overhanging

portions of the covering are also passed between rails, F and B, and tightly clasped in the same manner.

It may be here remarked, that in place of ordinary hinges, (which contract the length of the openings through which the bed-clothes are passed,) specially-constructed hinges, such as are illustrated in fig. 3, and at *a'*, in fig. 1, may, if desired, be employed for attaching the movable rails.

The rails F, besides clamping the clothes at each side of the bed, and thus preventing their disarrangement, serve also as guards, to prevent the occupants of the bed from falling from the same, they being for this purpose of especial use for children, and in hospitals, &c.

In some instances, especially where the upper edges of the permanent rails are ornamented by mouldings, &c., it is impracticable to arrange the movable clamping-rails, as above described.

In such cases, I employ long hinges, *a''*, fig. 4, attached to the lower edges of the rails B, and cause the rails F to bear against the outside of the latter, either with or without the introduction of packing.

This plan is fully as effectual as that first described, and the movable rails, when not in use, can be folded beneath the bed, as shown by dotted lines in fig. 4.

In applying my invention to a child's crib, the movable rails can either form a portion of the hinged side-frames, X, as seen in fig. 5; or, where the frame of the crib is fixed, each clamping-rail can be hinged at one end, so that the other end may be raised, as shown in fig. 6.

Although I prefer to use gum tubing as a yielding compress, or packing, yet it will be evident that flat strips of gum, or other suitable material, can be employed, or, where the rails fit closely together, the packing may be altogether dispensed with.

I do not claim, broadly, hinging the side-frames, or pieces, to the side-rails of a bedstead; but

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

1. The combination, with the side-rails B, of a piece, F, so hung to the rail that the bed-clothing may be passed and secured between the two, as set forth.

2. So hanging the piece F to the side-rail, that the said piece may be turned down and beneath the rail, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

H. K. WHITNER, M. D.

Witnesses:

JOHN WHITE,  
WM. A. STEEL.