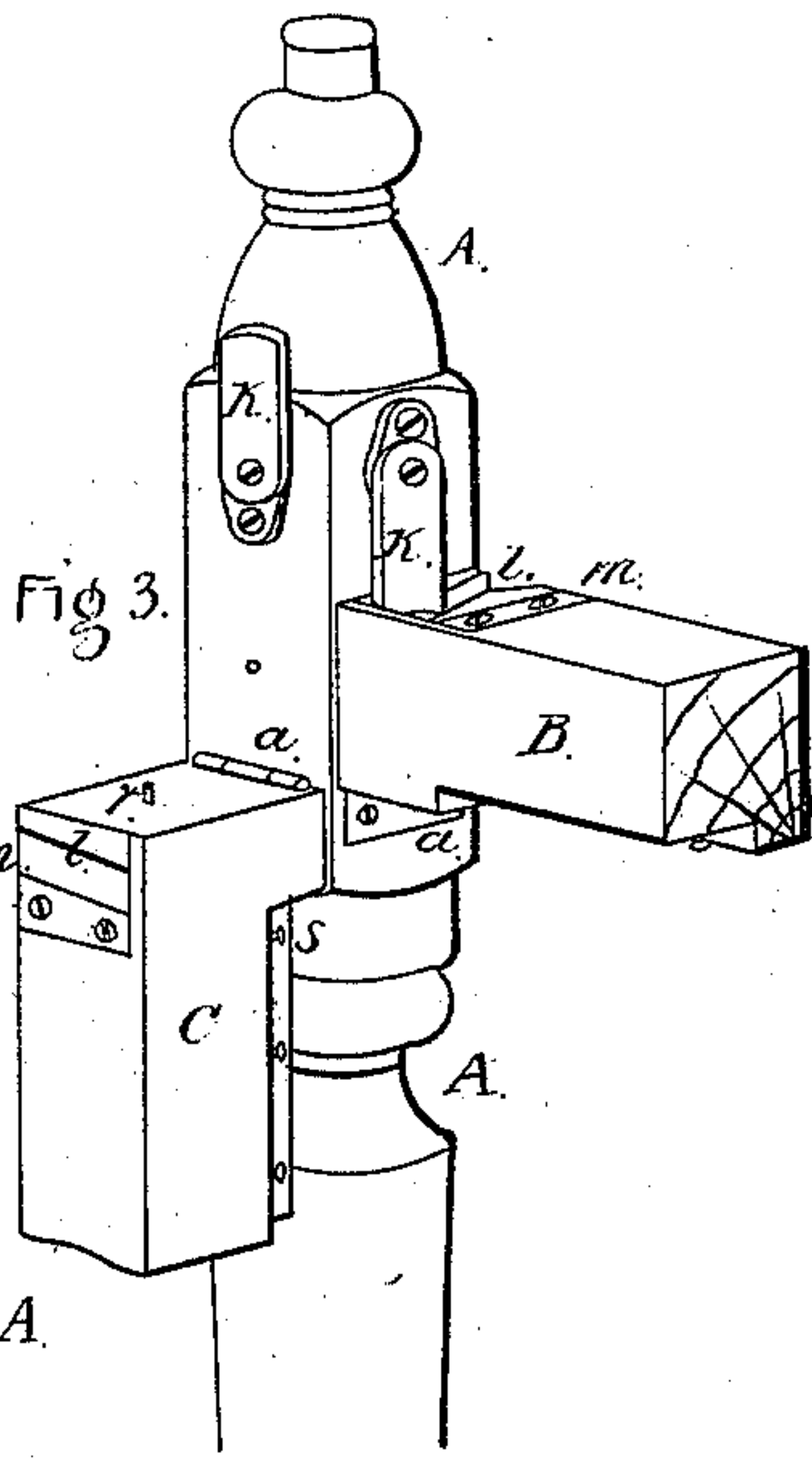
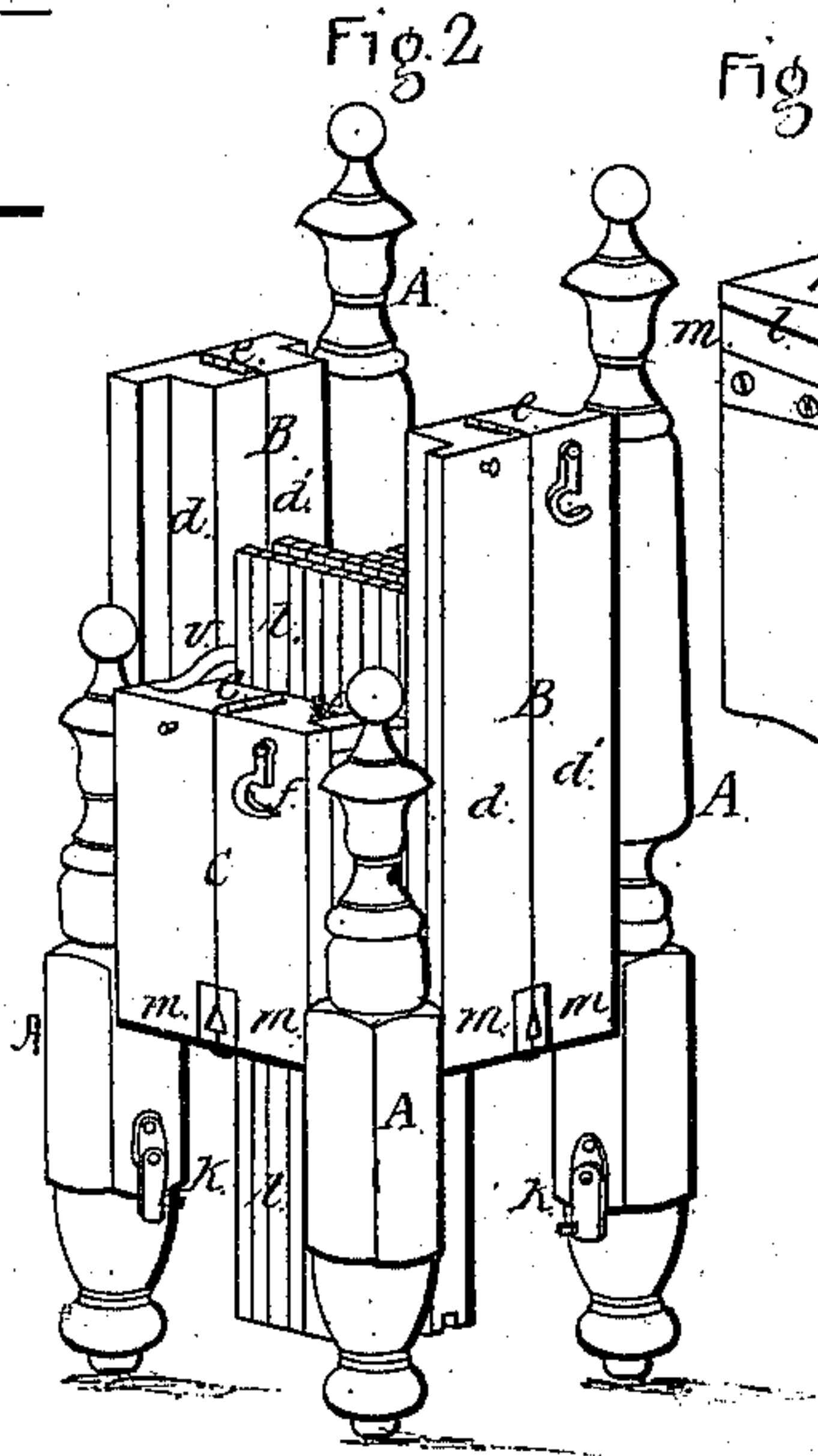
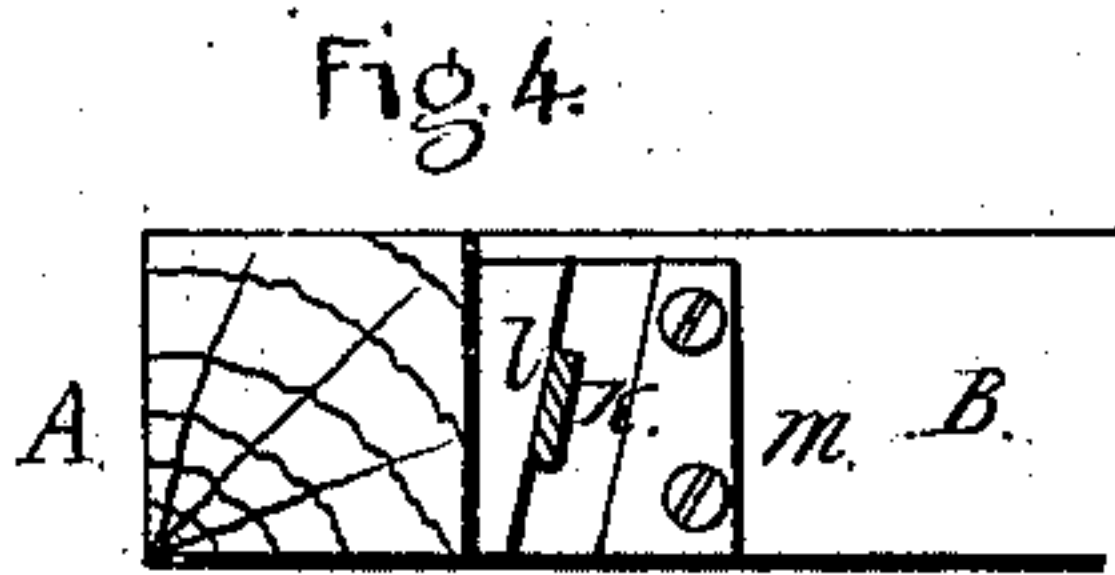
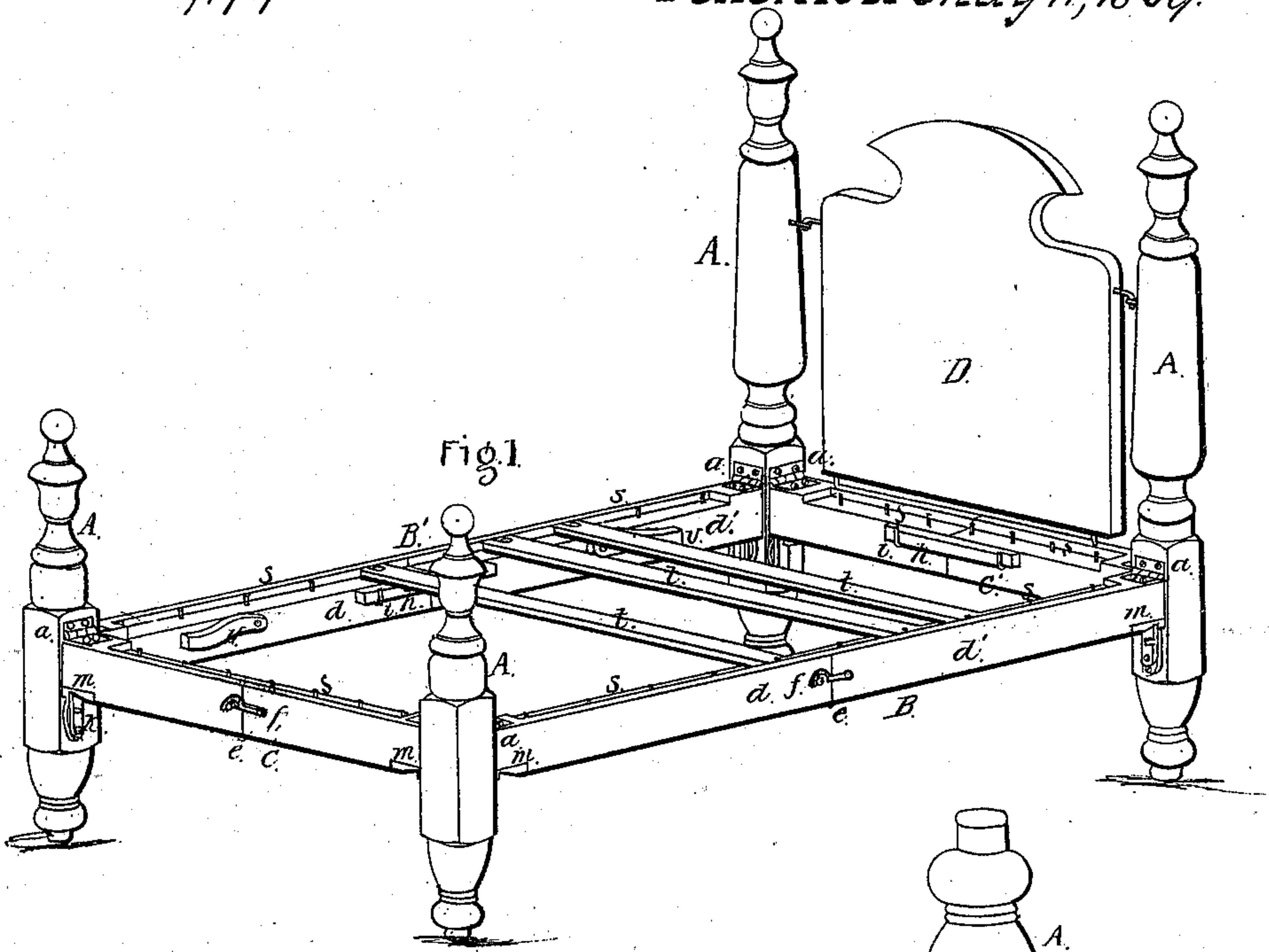


T. B. Harkins

Folding Bedstead.

N^o 89,993.

Patented May 11, 1869.



Witnesses:
Wm. A. Steel
Jno. B. Harding

Inventor:
J. B. Harkins
by his atty
J. H. Rowson

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS B. HARKINS, OF BRISTOL, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 89,993, dated May 11, 1869.

IMPROVED FOLDING 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, THOMAS B. HARKINS, of Bristol, county of Bucks, State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Folding Bedstead; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention consists of a bedstead in which both the side and end rails are made in two sections, hinged to each other and to the bed-posts, as fully described hereafter, so that the bed, when not required for use, or for convenience of transportation, can be folded compactly together.

My invention also consists in a locking-device, hereafter described, by which the rails can be rigidly secured to the posts, and prevented from turning on their hinges when the bedstead is unfolded.

In order to enable others to make and use 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 perspective view of my improved bedstead as it appears when extended and ready for use;

Figure 2, the same, folded;

Figure 3, an inverted perspective view of one corner of the bedstead, drawn to an enlarged scale; and

Figure 4, a detached view, also enlarged.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The four posts, A A A A, of the bedstead, are connected together by the side rails B and B' and end rails C and C', and to the posts at one end of the bedstead is hung the usual head-board D.

At the opposite ends, and on the upper edges of the side rails B and B', are hinges *a a*, by means of which they are secured to the bed-posts, and each of the said rails is made in two sections, *d* and *d'*, of equal length, connected together on the under side by a hinge, *e*. This arrangement of hinges enables the side rails to be folded in such a manner that the posts to which they are connected can be brought into close proximity to each other. The end rails C and C' are also made in sections, and hinged in the same manner, so that they can likewise be folded, and their posts brought close together.

In order to prevent the rails from folding in the

centre when the bed is required for use, I employ hooks *f* on the outside, and short bars *h*, adapted to hooks or staples *i*, on the inside of the said rails.

It is also necessary that the rails should be rigidly fixed to the bed-posts, and prevented from turning upon their hinges *a*, for which purpose the locking-device, shown in figs. 3 and 4, is employed. This consists of a movable button, *k*, attached to the post, and adapted to an inclined recess, *l*, formed in a plate, *m*, which is secured to the under side of the rail, the end of the button, when forced into the inclined recess, having a tendency to draw the rail and post tightly together.

At each end of each rail, there is also a projecting pin, *r*, fig. 3, adapted to a corresponding opening in the adjacent post, this arrangement preventing any lateral movement of the rails and consequent resisting of the hinges *a*.

The pins *o*, which extend around the bedstead, are adapted either for the reception of the notched ends of the slats *t* or for the attachment of a suitable sack-ing bottom.

When not required for use or for convenience of transportation, the bed can, after loosening the buttons *k*, &c., be folded compactly together, as illustrated in fig. 2, and, when thus folded, movable arms *v v*, which are attached to the side rails, will serve as braces for the support of the end rails C and C', enabling the whole, if desired, to be firmly-bound together.

The slats *t t t*, &c., can be conveniently packed in the space within the folded bedstead.

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

The combination of the posts A A, the side and end pieces, consisting of two sections, each hinged together and to the posts, as described, and the buttons *k*, hung to the posts, and adapted to inclined recesses in the sections, all substantially as set forth.

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

THOMAS B. HARKINS.

Witnesses:

JOHN WHITE,
HARRY SMITH.