

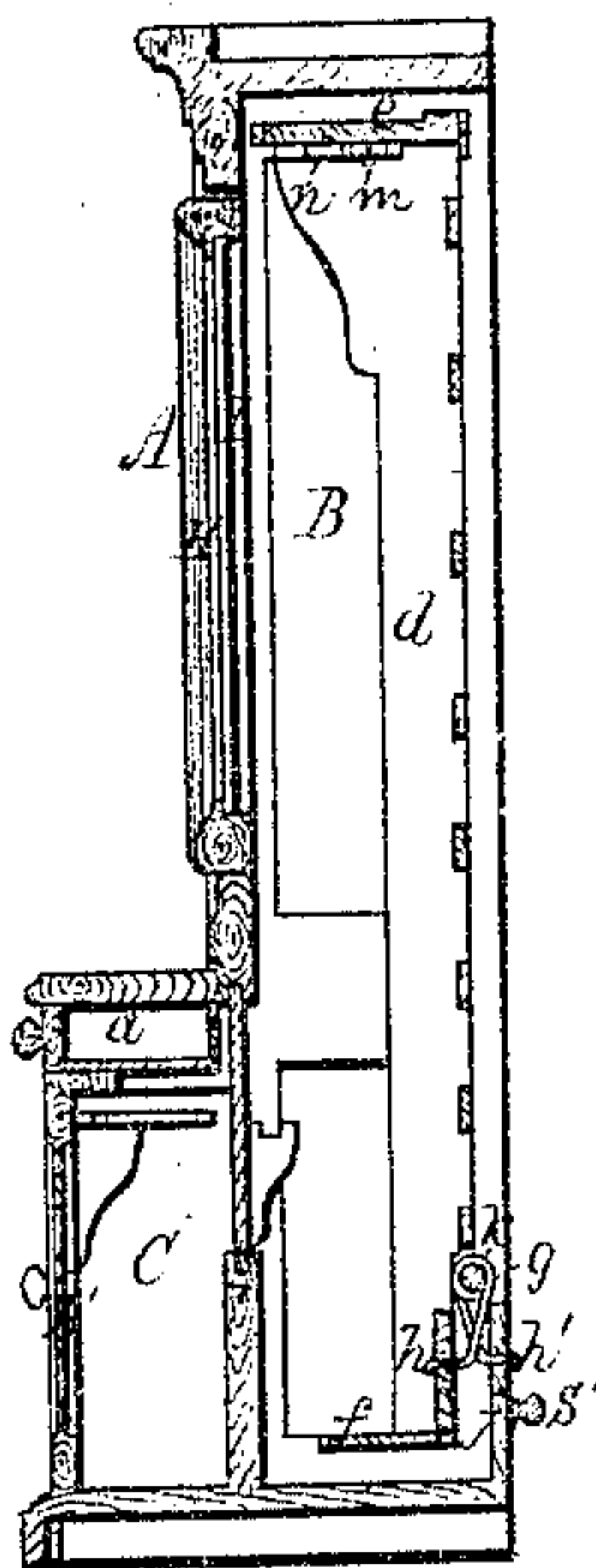
*Burr & Pierce,*

*Wardrobe Bedstead.*

*No. 94,560.*

*Patented Sept. 7. 1869.*

*Fig. 2.*



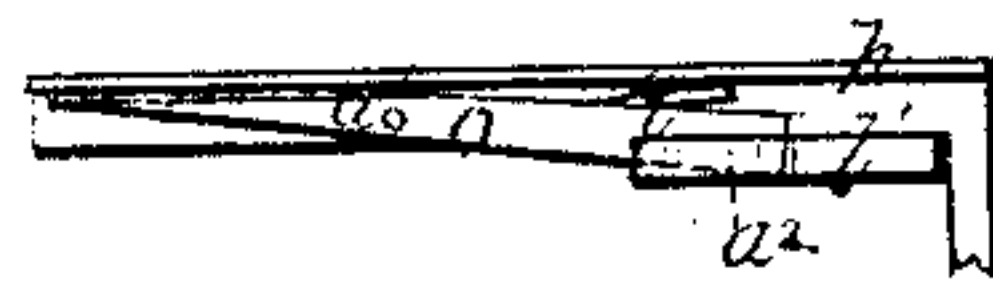
*Fig. 3.*



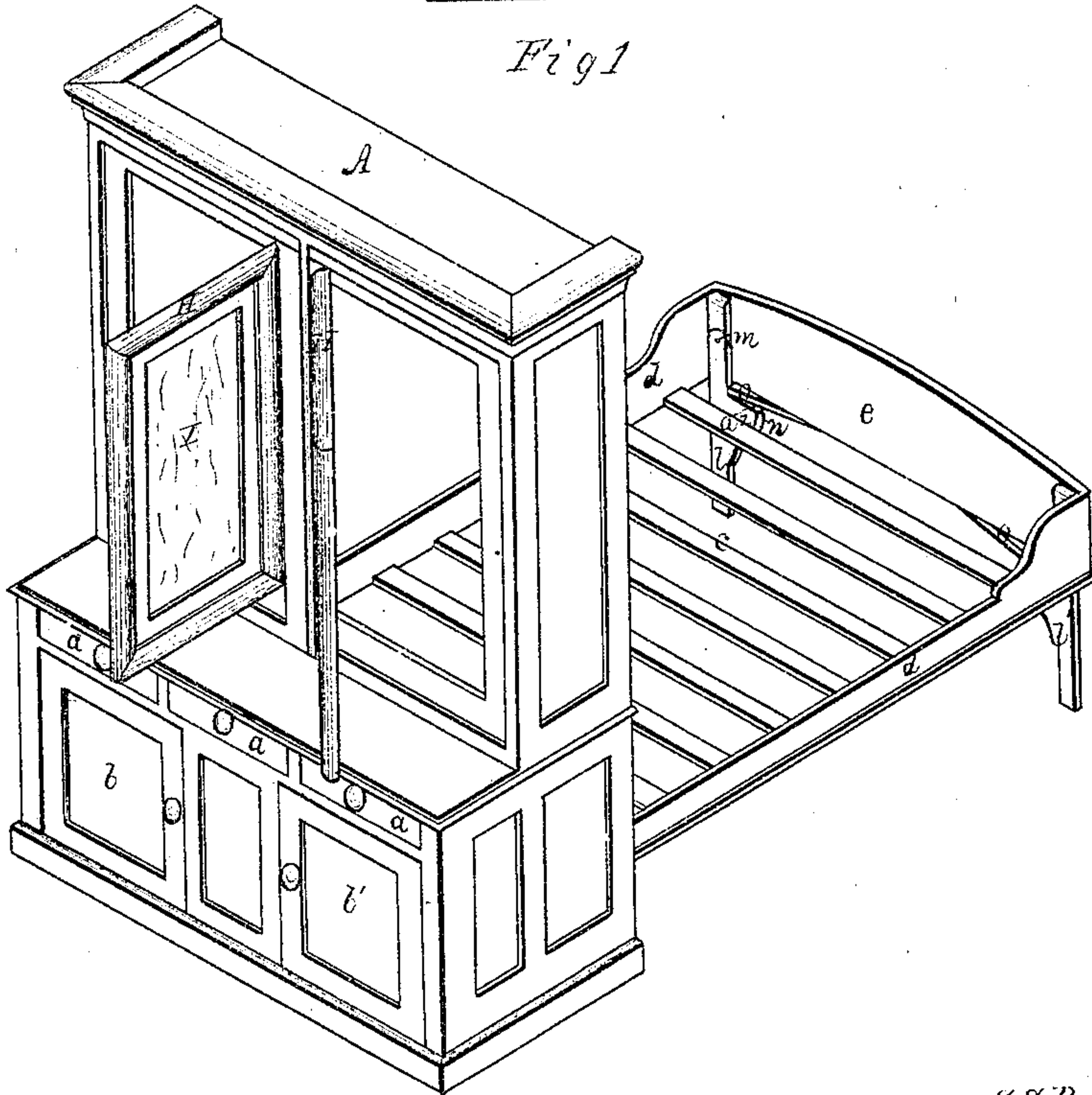
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 1.*



Witnesses.

Geo. A. Loring.

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# United States Patent Office.

SANFORD S. BURR, OF DEDHAM, AND LEVI PIERCE, OF CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 94,560, dated September 7, 1869

## IMPROVED WARDROBE-BEDSTEAD.

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

*To all to whom these presents shall come:*

Be it known that we, SANFORD S. BURR, of Dedham, in the county of Norfolk, and State of Massachusetts, and LEVI PIERCE, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex, and State aforesaid, have made an invention of certain new and useful Improvements in Secretary or Wardrobe-Bedsteads; and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, due reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a secretary-bedstead, embodying the features of our invention, with its bed-bottom lowered.

Figure 2 is a vertical section of the said bedstead in a closed state, taken through one of its elevating-springs, to be hereinafter referred to.

The invention herein described, and which comprises the subject-matter of this patent, relates, primarily, to the construction of the shell or case of a secretary-bedstead, and the combination therewith of swinging doors, peculiarly arranged, and provided with mirrors, whereby perfect ventilation for the occupant of the bed is secured, and a duplex arrangement of mirrors obtained for performing the toilet, the whole being as hereinafter explained.

And this invention further relates to a spring of peculiar form, whereby non-liability of fracture is secured, and a spring produced which is eminently qualified to perform the office required of it, and which may be applied in an expeditious and easy, as well as lasting manner.

And this invention further consists in the peculiar arrangement of the supporting-legs, with respect to the free end of the bed-bottom, whereby they may be folded flatwise against the inner face of the foot-board of the same, in a compact manner, and so as to occupy no valuable space.

The above-mentioned features of our invention, as a whole, form an important improvement in the general construction of a class of bedsteads now coming into extensive use.

In the drawings before mentioned as accompanying this specification, and which illustrate our invention—

A denotes the case or shell of a structure, whose exterior resembles in appearance that of an ordinary secretary or book-case, such case consisting of an upright rectangular portion, B, occupying the entire area of the structure, and a front offset or extension, C, the former being for receiving the swinging bed-bottom and its bedding, and the latter the various toilet-articles, required in a sleeping-apartment.

The front of the main portion B of the structure is provided with two doors, H H, extending nearly or

entirely from its top to the upper part of the extension c, such doors being hinged to the case at their contiguous edges, and provided upon their outer sides each with a mirror, I or I'.

The upper part of the offset C contains a number of drawers, a a, &c., which form convenient receptacles for various indispensable requisites.

The lower part of the offset C is provided with two doors, b b, hinged to it in a suitable manner, the inner face of such doors being provided with a wash-stand, folding table, or any analogous device.

The bed-bottom, to which allusion has before been made, is composed of a rectangular frame, c, of which d d are the longitudinal side-rails, whose extremities are united by a foot-board, e, and head-board, f, the size of the frame c being such as to be easily received within the bed-receiving enclosure B.

The springs hereinbefore mentioned, and as shown at g g, &c., in the drawings, are coiled springs, the extremities of the wire composing them being prolonged into a straight and lateral extension, h or h', such extensions running in like directions, and substantially in the same plane, one being affixed to the bed-bottom C, at or near its lower outer part, while the opposite one is affixed to an upright bar, j, extending across the bottom of the enclosure B, and at the rear side thereof, the distance of the centre of the coiled springs from the extreme end of the bed-bottom being equal, or thereabout, to the depth of the bed-receiving enclosure B, in order that when the bed-bottom is lowered into a horizontal position, the portion below its springs shall extend across the said enclosure B.

The bed-bottom is to be provided with the customary bedding, which is secured in place thereon when in a perpendicular position, by elastic cords or other contrivances.

Any suitable number of the above-described springs is to be applied to the bed-bottom, and the case A, as explained, such springs serving as turning-points or hinges to the bed-bottom, and each receiving a horizontal rod or wire, k, which is extended through the entire series.

It will be obvious, that as the bed-bottom is lowered from a vertical into a horizontal position, the prongs h h' of the springs g g will be caused to recede from one another in such a direction as to contract the coils of wire about the rod k, and, by reducing the circumference of such coils, create a powerful strain upon the bed-bottom, or sufficiently so to elevate it from a horizontal to an upright position, with little or no extraneous aid.

The inner face of the free end or foot-board e of the bed-bottom is provided with two turn-down legs, l l, one of the extremities of each leg being pivoted to the



ends of said foot-board, as shown at *m* in the drawings.

Furthermore, each leg is provided with a ledge or notch, *n*, formed thereupon, at such a distance from the pivot *m*, that when lowered into a vertical position, as shown in fig. 1 of the drawings, a small space, *a*<sup>2</sup>, shall be created between such ledge, *n*, and the bottom of the foot-board.

The space *a*<sup>2</sup> is for reception of the outer end of one of two turn-buttons, *o* or *o'*, pivoted to the outer or lower edge of the foot-board, as shown at *a*<sup>1</sup>, in fig. 5 of the drawings, which is an under-side view of the foot-board, and parts immediately connected therewith, a small projecting ledge, *p*, being formed upon the outer edge of said foot-board, to retain the turn-buttons in their proper place.

The outer ends of the said turn-buttons *o* *o'* are caused to project inwardly beyond the inner face of the foot-board, by means of springs, *q* *q*, applied as shown in the above-mentioned fig. 5 of the drawings.

As the leg *l* is turned down into a perpendicular position, the turn-button *o*, by the power of its spring, *q*, is turned upon its pivot, *a*<sup>1</sup>, and its outer end inserted between the projection *n* of said leg and the lower edge of the foot-board, by which means such leg is securely held in place while the bed-bottom is in use. The turning the leg *l* back to its place will be readily understood by intelligent persons.

The raising and lowering of the bed-bottom, also, is so simple an act, that any one of ordinary intelligence will understand it without further explanation.

S S, &c., in the accompanying drawings, represent a plurality of elastic balls or studs, applied in a suitable manner to the rear edges of the case A, for the purpose, as before alluded to, of preventing injury to the wainscoting, walls, or other portions of an apartment.

The springs *g* *g* possess the following advantages: They are extremely simple and cheap in construction; are easily and expeditiously applied, and, when once fixed in position, require great force to displace them; they are powerful in action, and will outlast the bed-bottom to which they are applied.

The disposition of the open spaces or door-ways in

front of the case of the structure meets a want long felt, for some efficient means of ventilating the interior of such case about the heads of the occupants of the bed. These open spaces, in case of sickness, will be found very advantageous, as they enable the invalid to readily reach medicines or condiments placed upon the shelf *a*<sup>2</sup> of the offset C. They also serve a desirable purpose, should a person desire to read in bed, as, while permitting of the passage of rays of light from a lamp placed upon the shelf *a*<sup>2</sup>, they also allow the occupant of the bed to extinguish such light without rising.

We also, by means of the spaces or door-ways before mentioned, obtain thorough ventilation for the bed and bedding while folded within the case, the doors H H being left slightly ajar for this purpose.

The whole general construction of the device above explained is at once ornamental and highly convenient, and may be produced at very small comparative cost.

#### Claims.

We claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, as follows:

1. The combination, with the bed-bottom and the case, of the springs *g*, and rod or rods upon which the same are mounted, arranged substantially as described, so as to constitute the hinge around which the bed-bottom moves.

2. The combination and arrangement of the legs *l* *l'* and the turn-buttons *o* *o'*, with respect to each other, and to the foot-board *f*, essentially, and in manner, and for the purpose as herein shown and described.

3. As an improvement in secretary-bedsteads opening from the rear, a case or structure containing the bed-bottom, and provided with apertures or openings at front, for purposes of ventilation and convenience, as described, such apertures being furnished with doors hinged to the structure at their inner edges, whether such doors be provided or not with mirrors, the whole being as before set forth.

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Witnesses:

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