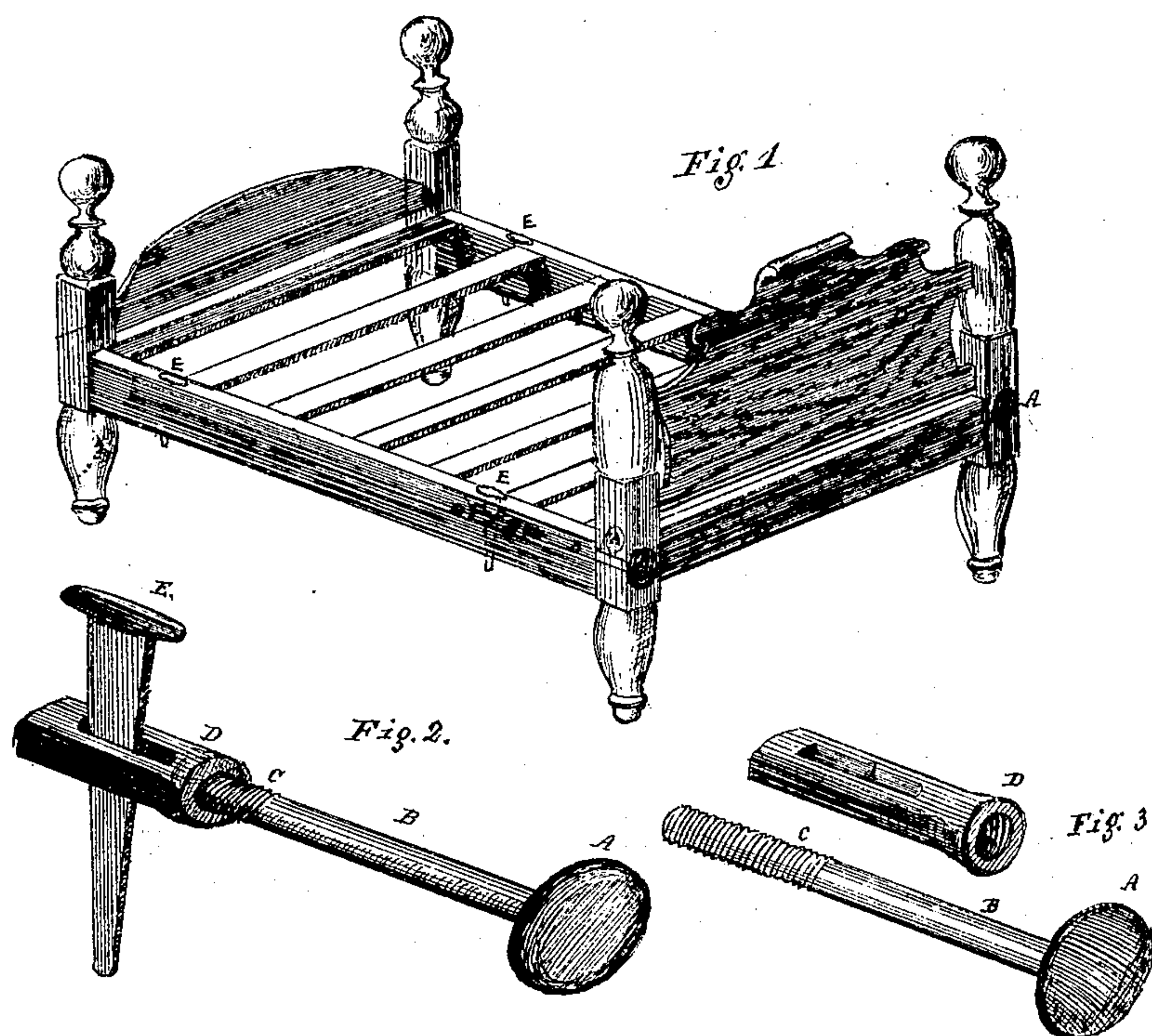


*A. B. Sheaffer,*  
*Bedstead Fastener.*

*No. 103511.*

*Patented May 24, 1870.*



Witnesses.

*Mary Selzer*  
*A. R. Selzer*

Inventor.

*Alfred B. Sheaffer*

# United States Patent Office.

ALFRED B. SHEAFFER, OF EPHRATA, PENNSYLVANIA.

*Letters Patent No. 103,511, dated May 24, 1870.*

## IMPROVED BEDSTEAD-FASTENER.

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

I, ALFRED B. SHEAFFER, of Ephrata, in the county of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Bedstead-Fastener, of which the following is a specification.

The nature of my improvement consists in the arrangement and application of a combination of the wedge and screw for bolting the rails and end pieces firmly together, and so as to enable the wood to be drawn as tightly together as at first, in case of shrinking in the wood so as to become loose.

The drawings illustrate the construction and application of my invention.

Figure 1 shows an ordinary common bedstead with the wedges shown.

Figure 2 shows the three parts detached from the rail, but combined in relation to each other.

Figure 3 simply shows the slotted screw-socket plug, with the headed screw-bolt withdrawn.

A brief explanation will enable any one skilled in the business to make and apply my invention.

Combined, the three parts form a new article for the trade, which simply consists of an ordinary smooth-headed bolt A B, with a screw end, C.

The slotted screw-socket D has a female screw-thread in one end for the reception of the screw end C of the bolt B. Both, united, are thrust through the post of the bedstead into the rail, so that the slot *d* in the plug D may receive a vertical wedge, E, (fig. 2,) from the top of the rail, so as to project beneath, if desirable; the hole being bored horizontally for the adjustable slotted plug D, and mortise made vertically

in the rail for the wedge E at the proper point, so as to set firmly in the wood, and draw upon the plug, to bring the rail and post squarely together, will form a firm and durable holder. It is only necessary to give the wedge a tap beneath, when it is easily withdrawn, and the parts separated without the use of a screw-driver.

Should it be desirable to shorten the bolt to tighten the union of wood, in case of having shrunk in, it is easily done; the key or wedge E, in the slotted plug-nut, can be used as a wrench. Thus the steads can be tightened from time to time, and always held firmly together.

I am aware that a removable nut with a screw-thread is claimed, when used in connection with a certain cross-piece; as also nuts made in screw-plugs, that can be inserted direct into an auger-hole, and drawn by a screw-driver; as also an appended wrench, nut, and hook combined, and the like, which I do not claim.

What I claim as a new combined bedstead-fastening, as a new article for the trade, is—

The combination and arrangement of the plug D, with its slot *d*, and screw-socket for a headed screw-bolt A B C, with the wedge E, all operating in the manner and for the purpose specified.

ALFRED B. SHEAFFER.

Witnesses:

MARY SELTZER,  
W. K. SELTZER.