J. Turner,

Folding Bedstead.

No. 110,697. Patented Jan. 3. 1871.

Fig. 1.

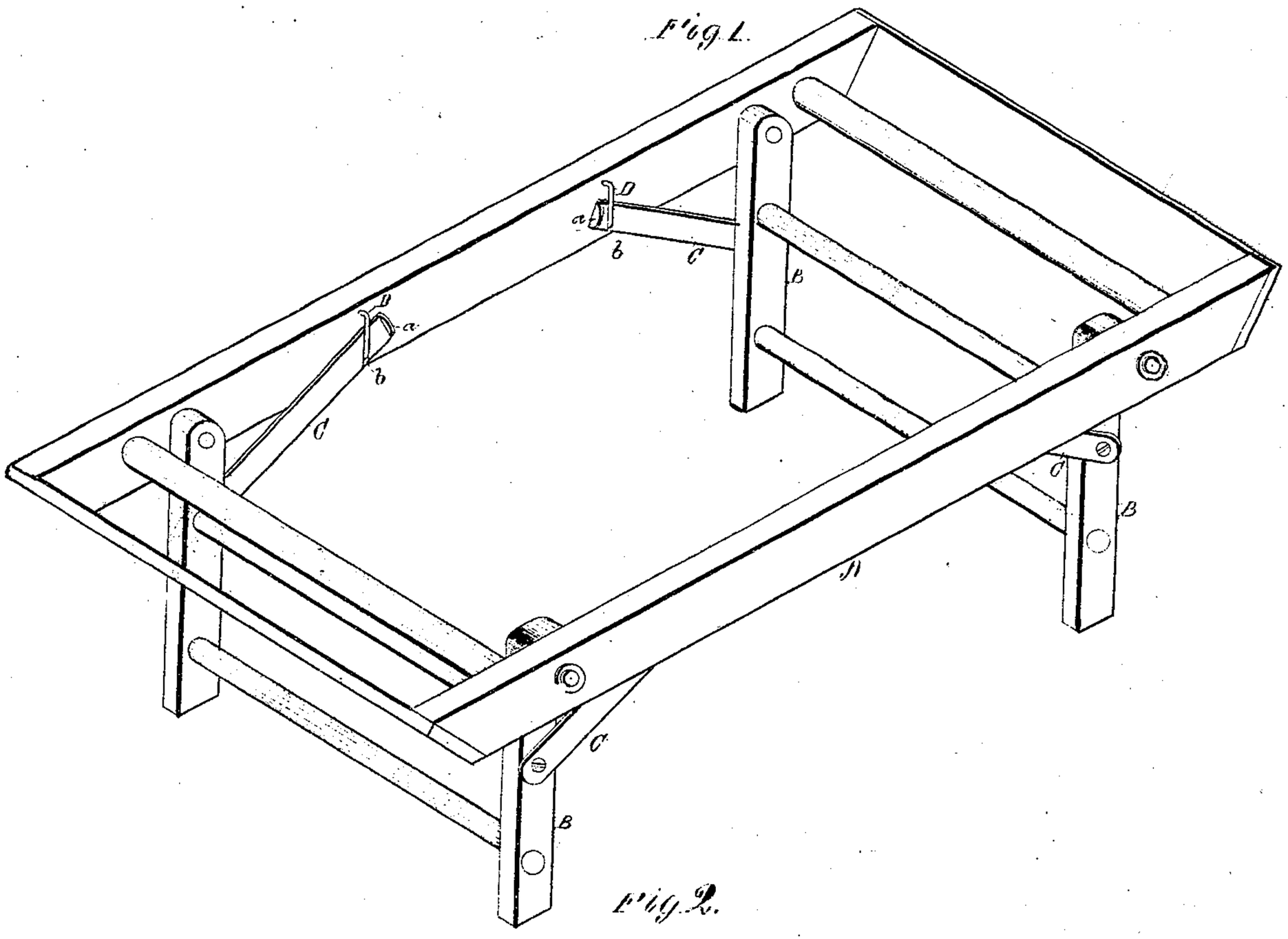
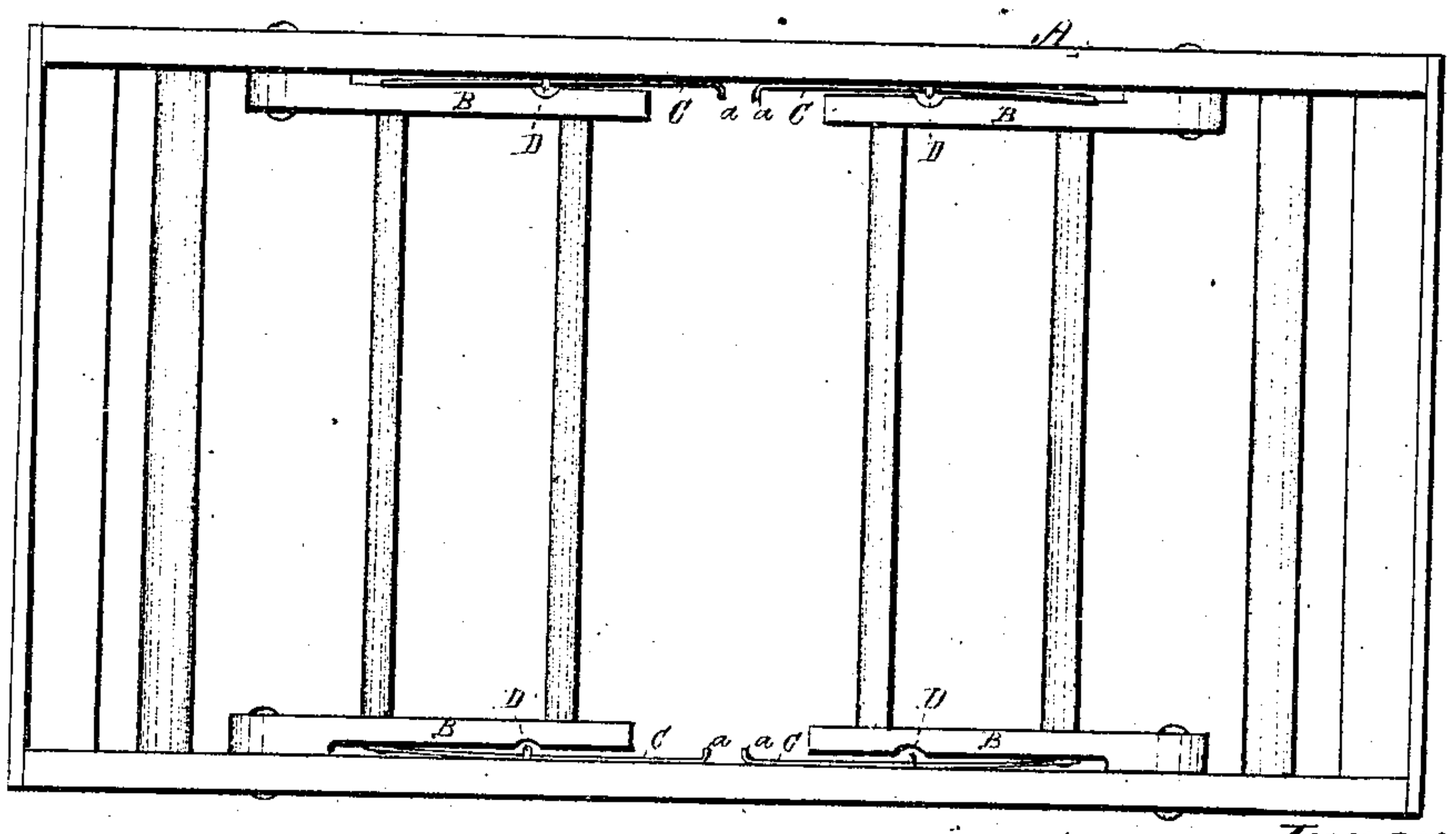


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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JOSHUA TURNER, OF CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO BENJAMIN A. PETTINGILL AND ISAAC S. PEAR, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 110,697, dated January 3, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING-BEDSTEADS.

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

To all to whom these presents may come:

Be it known that I, JOSHUA TURNER, of Cambridgeport, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding-Bedsteads; and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawing, of which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a folding-bedstead having my invention applied thereto, the same being represented as open or ready for use.

Figure 2 is a top view of the same in a folded state.

My invention has reference to that class of bedsteads whose legs are so pivoted or hinged to their frames as to be capable of being folded into planes coincident or parallel therewith, in order to render the same compact, either for convenience when not in use or for transportation.

The object of my invention is to remedy an evil incident to folding bedsteads as ordinarily made, viz., the swinging and displacement of the braces while the bedstead is being either folded or unfolded, or during transportation; also, to render such brace automatic, or self-folding and locking, as hereinafter set forth.

My invention consists in a peculiar mode of forming and applying the braces to the legs and frame, whereby the braces are rendered self-adjusting, so as to both fold and unfold and lock automatically, while the legs are being correspondingly either folded or unfolded.

In the said drawing—

A denotes the frame of the bedstead as supported upon four legs, B B B B, which are hinged or pivoted to the frame in the usual manner, so as to be capable of being either turned and folded within the frame, as shown in fig. 2, or of being set at right angles thereto, as shown in fig. 1.

Each of the legs B is connected with the frame by means of a metallic brace, C, one end of which is pivoted or hinged to the leg, and the other extends up through a flat staple or guide-loop, D, which may be arranged on either the inner or outer side of the longitudinal bars of the frame, as may be desirable.

The upper or outer end of each brace is formed with an angular projection or lip, *a*, which, by its action against the loop, serves to prevent the brace from becoming disconnected from the frame. Furthermore, each of the said braces is formed with a recess or notch, *b*, to receive and catch upon the lower part of the loop D, and thereby securely lock the parts together, and maintain the legs firmly in position when the bedstead is in use. Or, if preferable, each brace may have a slot made in it longitudinally from near its upper end, and be connected with the frame by means of headed pin or stud, on which it may freely slide, such slot having a transverse opening to catch upon the stud and lock the legs in the proper postions.

Having described the parts composing my invention, I will now describe their operation.

If we suppose the bedstead to be open, or ready for use, and we desire to fold the same for transportation or otherwise, the braces are first to be unlocked, or their catches raised from their connection with the lower part of the loop. The legs are next to be turned and pushed inward until they have reached the desired parallelism. By this operation the braces are forced through the loops or staples, and are so guided as to be caused to fold or adjust themselves in parallelism with the sides of the frame, and in close contact therewith, in which position they are confined by the loops, and thus prevented from swinging or getting out of place, as is the case with folding bedsteads, as ordinarily constructed.

In case the bedstead is folded, and we desire to unfold the same, or prepare it for use, all that is requisite is to draw out the legs until they are brought into the desired position, or at right angles to the frame, the braces in the meantime, guided by the loops, being drawn downward, their catches (through the action of gravity) are brought into engagement with or catch upon the lower parts of the loops, when the bedstead will be firmly secured in position.

I do not claim a folding bedstead, nor supporting the legs thereof by means of a brace attached to the legs and frame.

I claim—

In a folding bedstead, composed of a frame, A, legs B, and braces C, the construction and application of the braces to the legs and frame, in manner as described, whereby the former are rendered self adjusting, while the legs are being either folded or unfolded, in manner as set forth.

JOSHUA TURNER.

Witnesses:

F. P. HALE,

F. C. HALE.