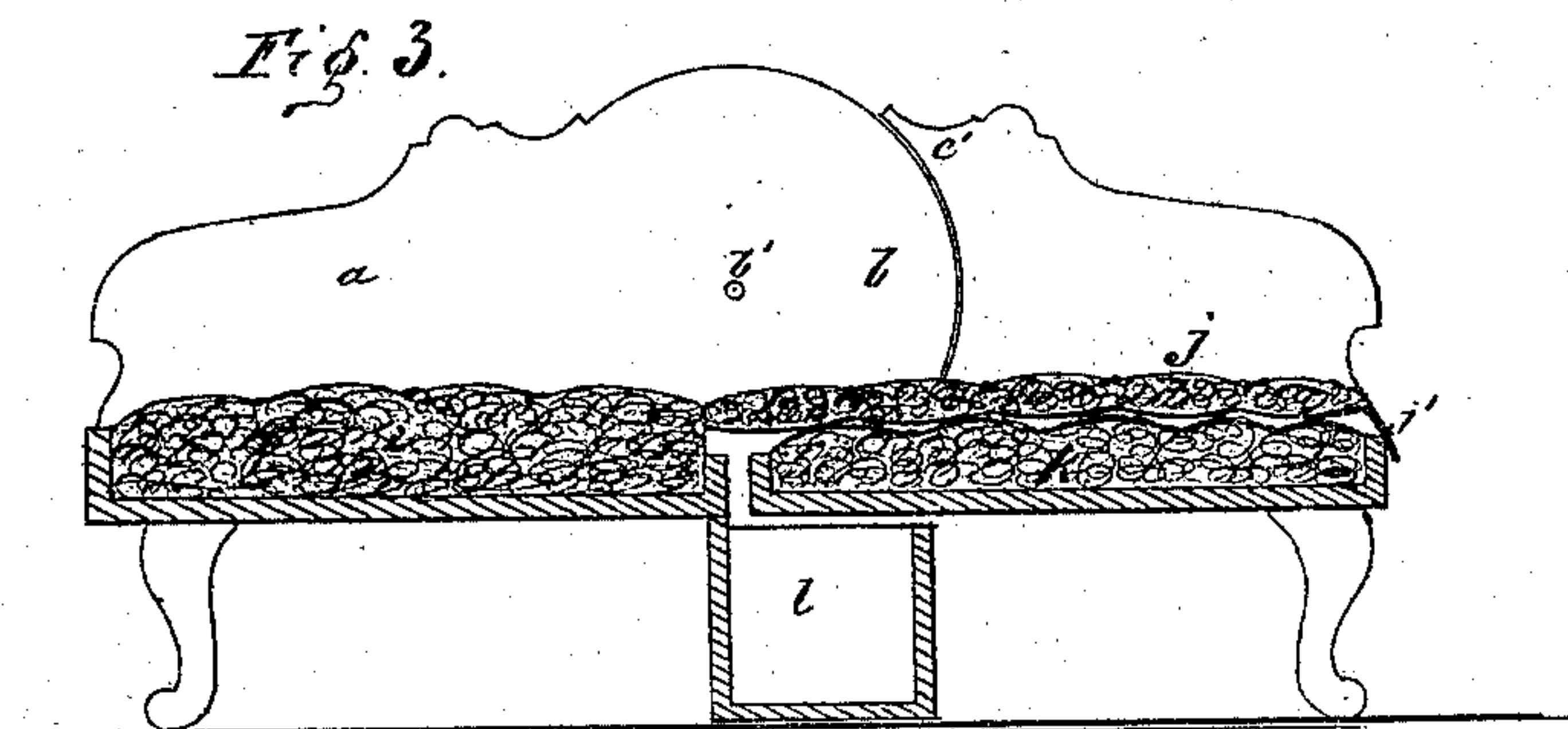
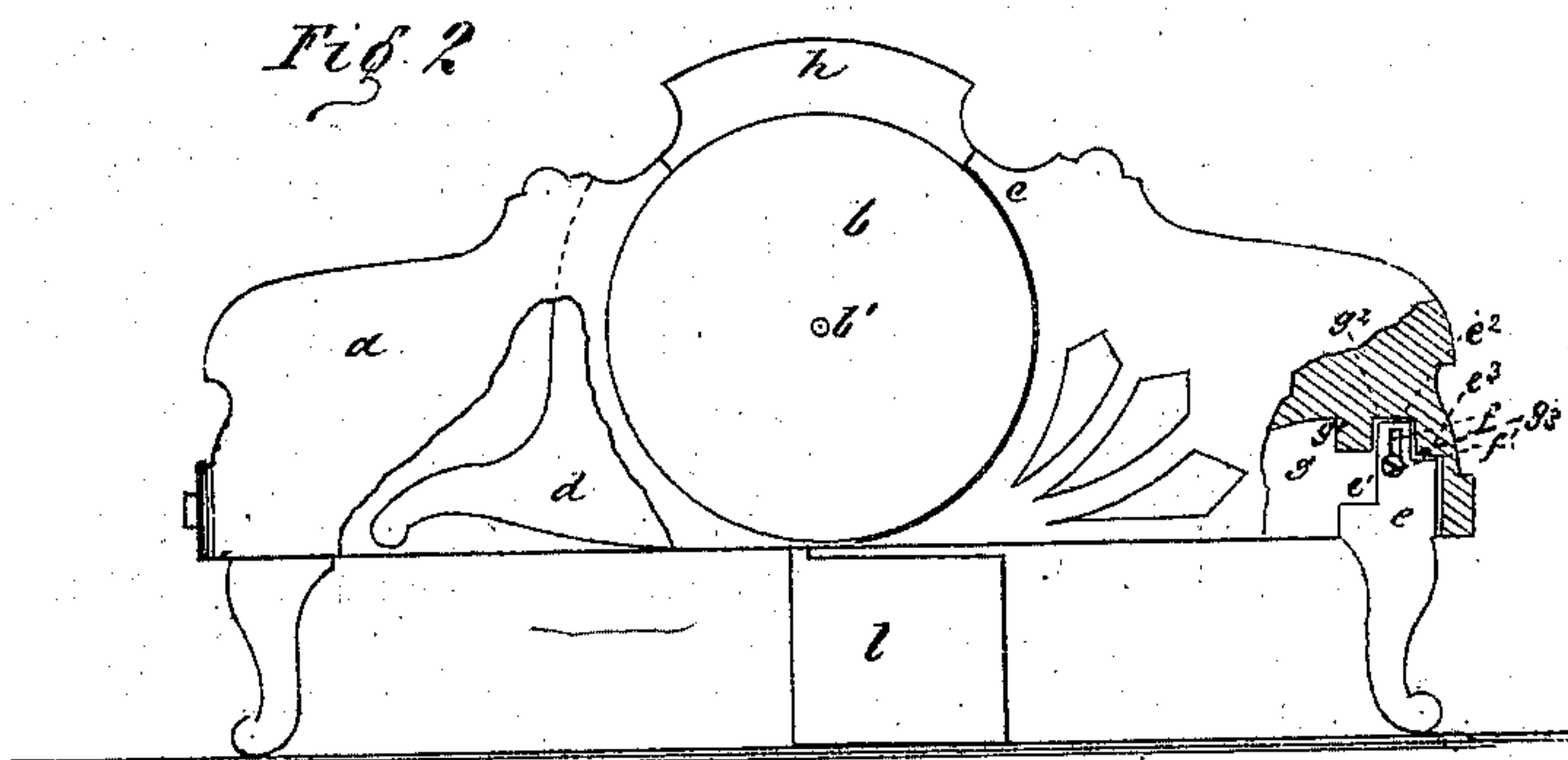
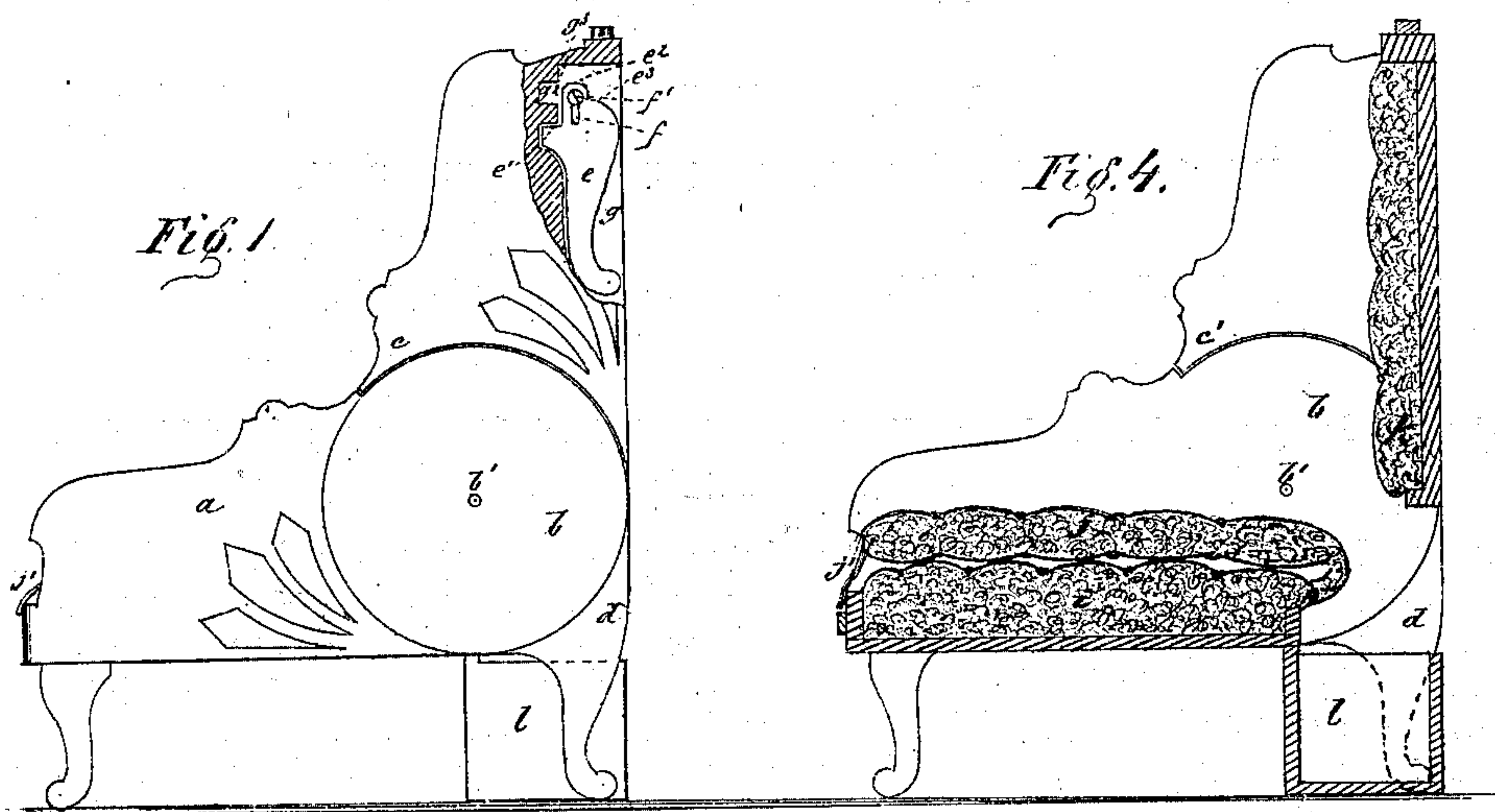


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Improvement in Sofa Bedsteads.

No. 124,990.

Patented March 26, 1872.



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Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WALCUTT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SOFA-BEDSTEADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 124,990, dated March 26, 1872; antedated March 19, 1872.

I, WILLIAM WALCUTT, of New York, New York county, New York, have invented an Improved Sofa-Bedstead, of which the following is a specification:

This invention consists in the combination, with the swinging part of a sofa-bedstead, of legs rigidly attached to the inner edge thereof at its ends, and, at the opposite side therefrom, of the pivots on which said part swings, in such manner that, as the latter turns downward to complete the bedstead, the said legs turn upward and disappear within the head-board and foot-board, and, as the swinging part turns upward to form the sofa-back, said legs emerge from their places of concealment and turn downward so as to become the hind legs of the sofa. The invention also consists in the combination, with the swinging part of a sofa-bedstead, of legs suspended to the latter near the outer edge thereof, at its ends, in such manner that, as the said part turns upward, the said legs swing inward and disappear in recesses formed for the purpose in its ends; and, as said part turns downward, the suspended legs swing outward so as to become the supports of the bedstead. The invention also consists in certain other improvements, which, together with those hereinbefore referred to, are hereinafter fully described.

Referring to the drawing, in which Figure 1 is an end elevation of the sofa, enough being broken away to show the leg suspended in its chamber—Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the bedstead, enough being broken away to show the rigid leg within the head-board and the means by which the swinging leg is rigidly attached to the swinging part. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional elevation of the bedstead; and Fig. 4 is a similar elevation of the sofa.

The stationary part of the article of furniture therein represented is constructed with end pieces *a* that form either the arms of the sofa or portions of the head-board and foot-board of the bed. The end pieces terminate in circular or otherwise shaped heads *b*, which come at the middle of the head-board and foot-board. The circular heads are recessed centrally, vertically, and lengthwise, and in their recesses are placed tongues *x*, which extend from the adjacent extremities of the end pieces *c c'* of swinging part, and are pivoted to the heads *b* by pins *b'* passing through the centers of the

latter, which construction forms what is termed a "dolphin" hinge, the same occupying the whole central portion of the head-board and foot-board, and forming the means whereby said head-board and foot-board are changed into the ends of a sofa, and whereby the ends of the sofa are changed into a head-board and foot-board. The end pieces *c c'* are hollowed transversely at their tongued extremities so as to fit the heads *b* accurately; and their movements are accomplished without breaking the plane at either end of the sofa-bedstead—that is to say, without producing gaps, laps, or other disarrangement of parts. In all other respects the pieces *c c'* are exact duplicates of the pieces *a*. As each circular head *b* apparently forms as much a part of the adjacent piece *c* or *c'* as of the piece *a*, to which it belongs, the head-board and foot-board of the bedstead are perfectly symmetrical, and so are the ends of the sofa. In other words, the article of furniture assumes the exact shape of a sofa or of a bedstead, according to the part it has to play. The legs above referred to as being rigidly attached to the end pieces of the swinging part are shown at *d*. These legs project from the tongues of the end pieces *c c'* that occupy the recesses of the head *b*, and their outer sides are in line with the outer sides of the pieces *c c'*. The recesses for the concealment of the legs *d* when turned up are formed in the lower edges of the end pieces *a*. The suspended legs above referred to are shown at *e*. The means for their suspension are a slot, *f*, in the leg and a screw, *f'*, that passes through the slot and connects the leg with the end piece *c* or *c'*. The leg *e* swings freely on the screw *f'*, maintaining always an erect position. At the upper end of the leg are two shoulders, *e¹ e³*, which form opposite corners, and from the leg between said corners a part, *e²*, projects. The chamber *g* in the end piece *c* or *c'* is constructed with a recess, *g²*, and with a shoulder, *g³*, at one side thereof, these being so placed that when, in the formation of the bedstead, the foot of the leg *e* strikes the floor the outer extremity of the end piece continues its descent until the projection *e²* enters the recess *g²* and the shoulder *g³* strikes the shoulder *e³*. The leg *e* thus automatically becomes rigidly connected with the end piece and forms a support for the bedstead. When the sofa is forming the projec-

tion e^2 drops out of the recess g^2 . As soon as the swinging part is raised high enough, and as the latter approaches the perpendicular, the shoulder e^1 of the leg e enters a recess, g^1 , formed in the side of the chamber g for its reception, within which chamber the leg finally disappears. To the end-piece c that forms part of the head-board of the bedstead an ornamental piece, h , is attached in such position that, while the swinging part is turned up, said ornamental piece is concealed from view within the recess in the circular head b ; and, when the swinging part is turned down, the ornamental piece h rises above the head b , extending as much to one side of the center thereof as to the other side so as to preserve the symmetry of the head-board, and serving as a mark whereby to distinguish the latter from the foot-board. The tongue of the end piece fills the gap left in the recess by the departure of the ornamental piece therefrom when the bedstead is formed. The stationary part is provided with a mattress, i , to the inner side and upper edge of which is attached a cushion, j , of half the thickness, more or less, of the mattress, which cushion, when the sofa is formed, lies on the mattress, forming the top of the sofa-seat. The sofa-back is provided with a separate cushion, k , also of half the thickness, more or less, according to that of the cushion j , of the mattress i . When the bedstead is formed the cushion j is turned over upon the cushion k , and these two cushions, in conjunction with the mattress i , form a continuous double bed. The cushion k and the outer side of the cushion j are covered with silk, rep, or other material suitable for a sofa. The mattress i and the inner side of the cushion j are covered with ticking, which is entirely concealed when the sofa is formed. The silk or rep is also entirely concealed when the bed is formed, and is, moreover, preserved from the defacement to which it would be subject if used as a bed. To the under side of the stationary part, and at the inner edge thereof, is secured a box, l , of sufficient depth to reach the floor, and otherwise large enough to contain bed-clothes. This box supports the back of the stationary part while the swinging part is turning down, and pre-

vents the bedstead from sinking in the middle to the floor, as it would be liable to do if not in some way sustained. The box l also assists in supporting the back of the sofa.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that in the one movement of producing the bedstead from the sofa the head-board and foot-board are completed, the rigid legs that support the back of the sofa disappear, the suspended legs that support the back of the sofa emerge from their recesses and become rigid, the ornament comes up from its hiding-place and surmounts the head-board, and the tongue of the end piece c fills the gap left in the recess in the head-board by the issue therefrom of said ornament.

The description herein made of a sofa-bedstead is equally applicable to a lounge-bedstead.

I claim as my invention—

1. A sofa-bedstead, the swinging part of which is provided with rigidly-attached legs d , which turn down for the support of the back of a sofa, and which turn up and are concealed from view when the bedstead is formed, substantially as specified.

2. The end piece c or c' , having the chamber g constructed with a recess, g^2 , and shoulders g^1 g^3 , in combination with the suspended leg e , having the slot f , shoulders e^1 e^3 , and projecting part e^2 , arranged as specified.

3. The ornamental piece h , combined with the end piece c , as set forth.

4. The combination of the swinging and stationary parts of a sofa-bedstead, the mattress i , and the cushions j k , operating as explained.

5. In the head-board and foot-board of a sofa-bedstead, the end pieces a , provided with the circular heads b having longitudinal, central, vertical recesses, and combined with the end piece c having at its inner end a tongue, x , entering the aforesaid recess, which end piece c is hollowed at its inner end at each side of the tongue x so as to accurately fit the head b , and is flush therewith at its sides, all substantially as described.

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