

SOPHIA L. MERCER.
Improvement in Traveling Cribs.

No. 131,698.

Patented Sep. 24, 1872.

FIG. 1.

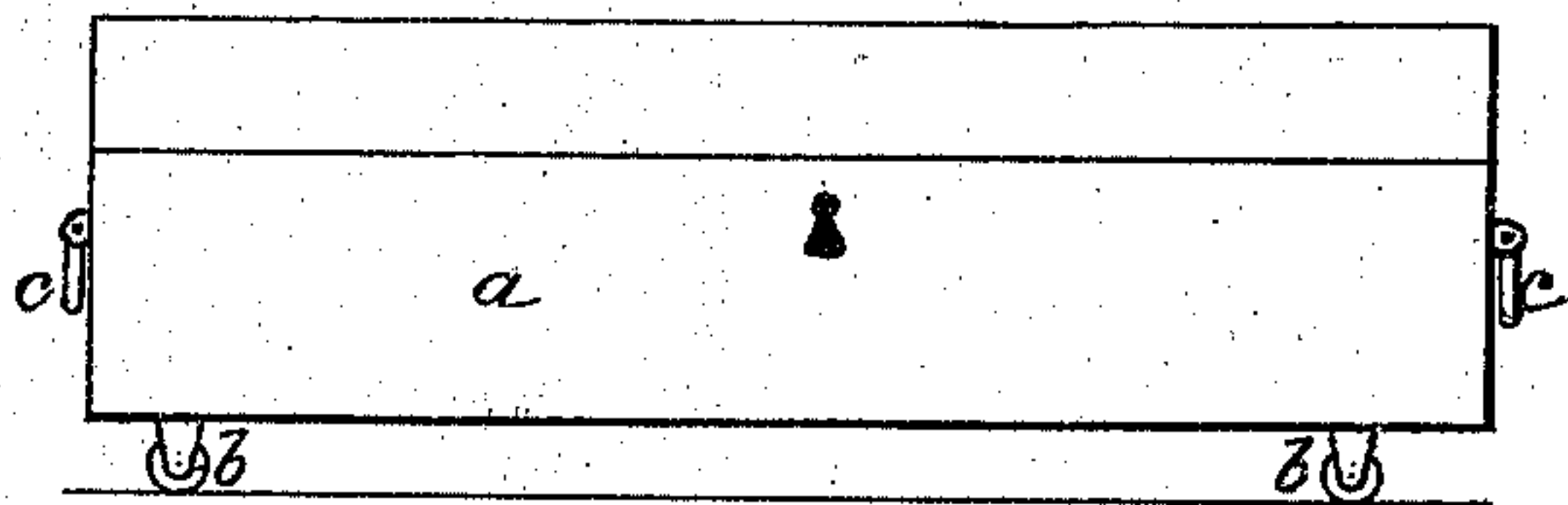


FIG. 2.

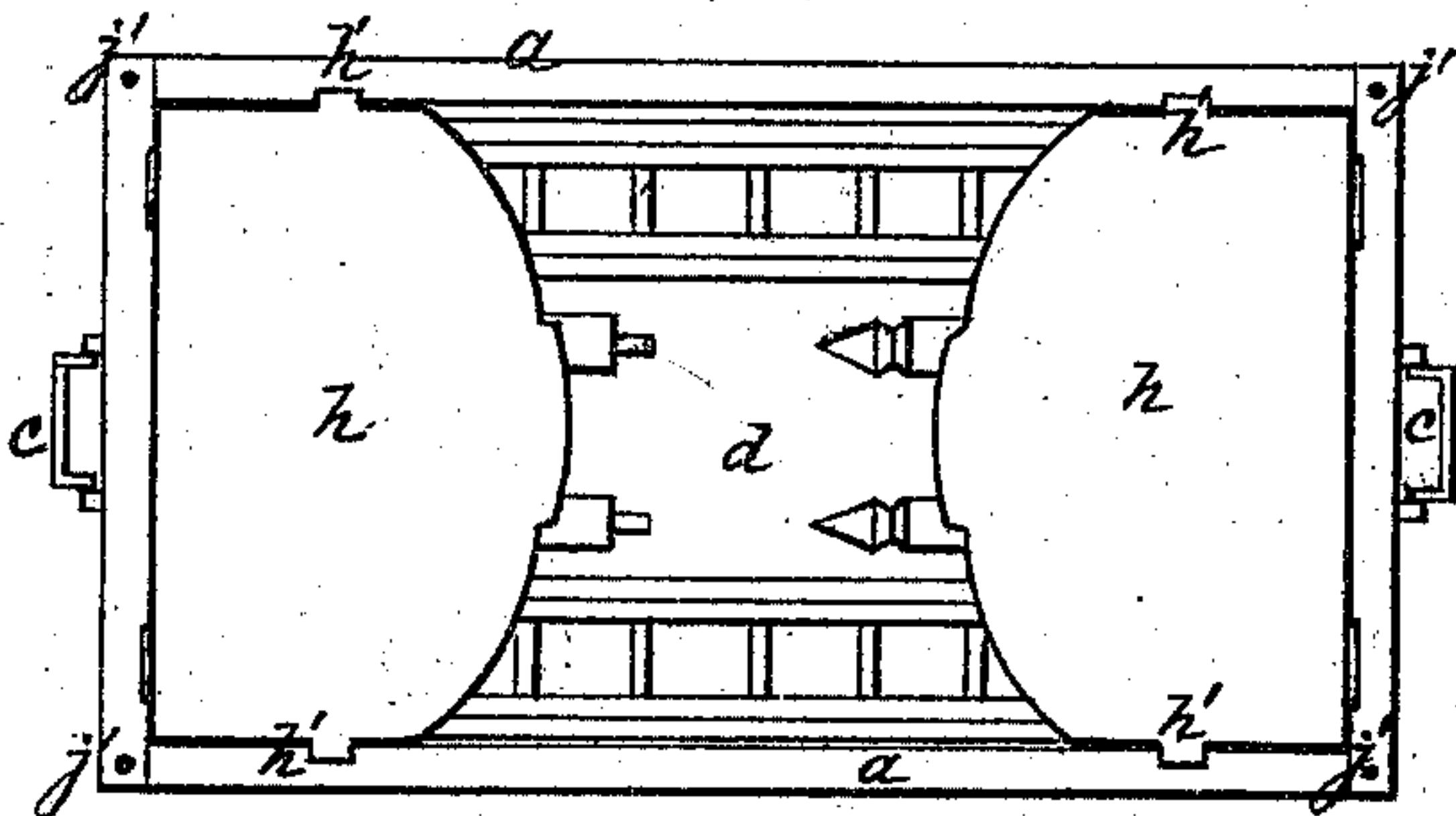


FIG. 5.

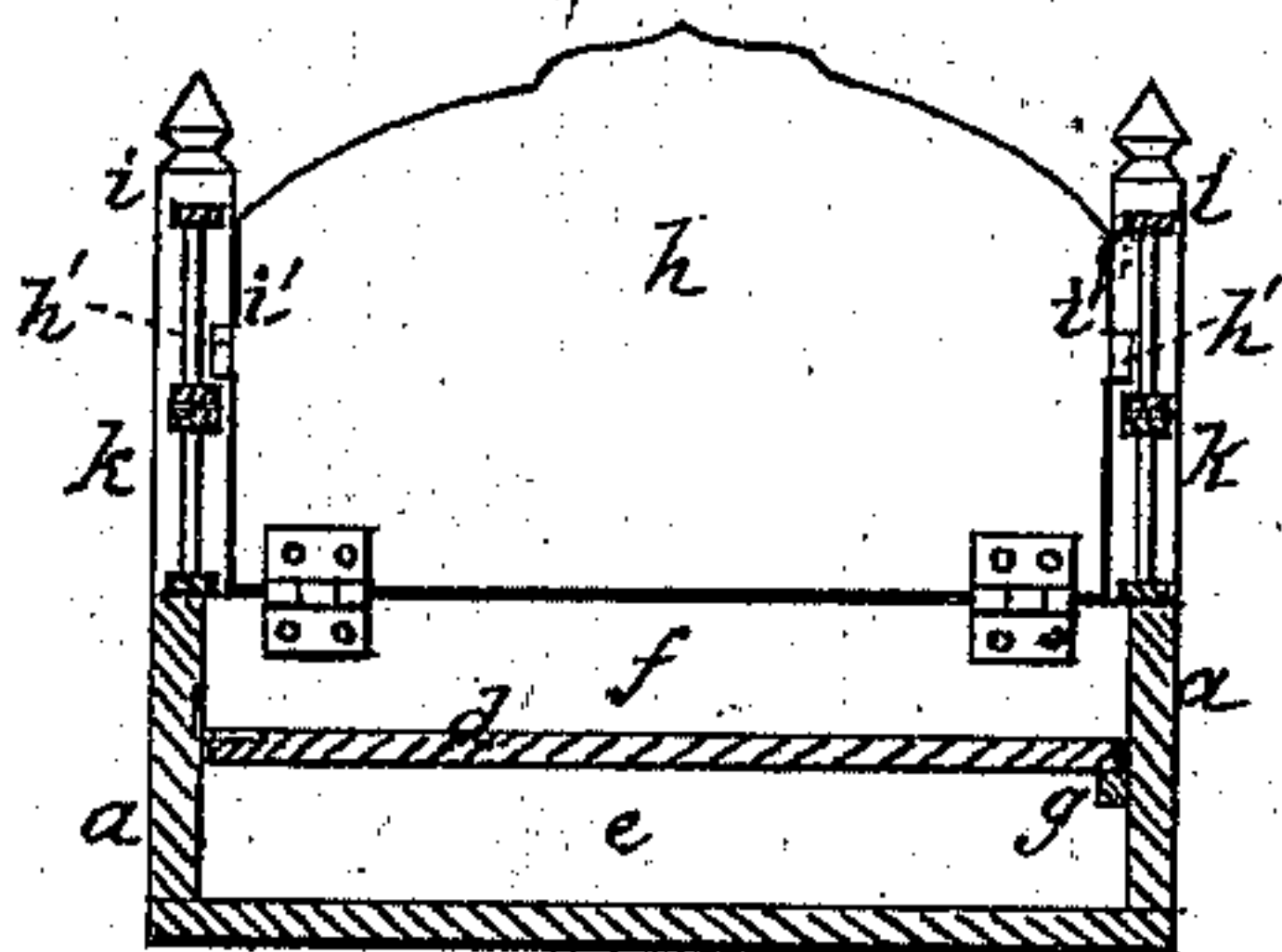


FIG. 3.

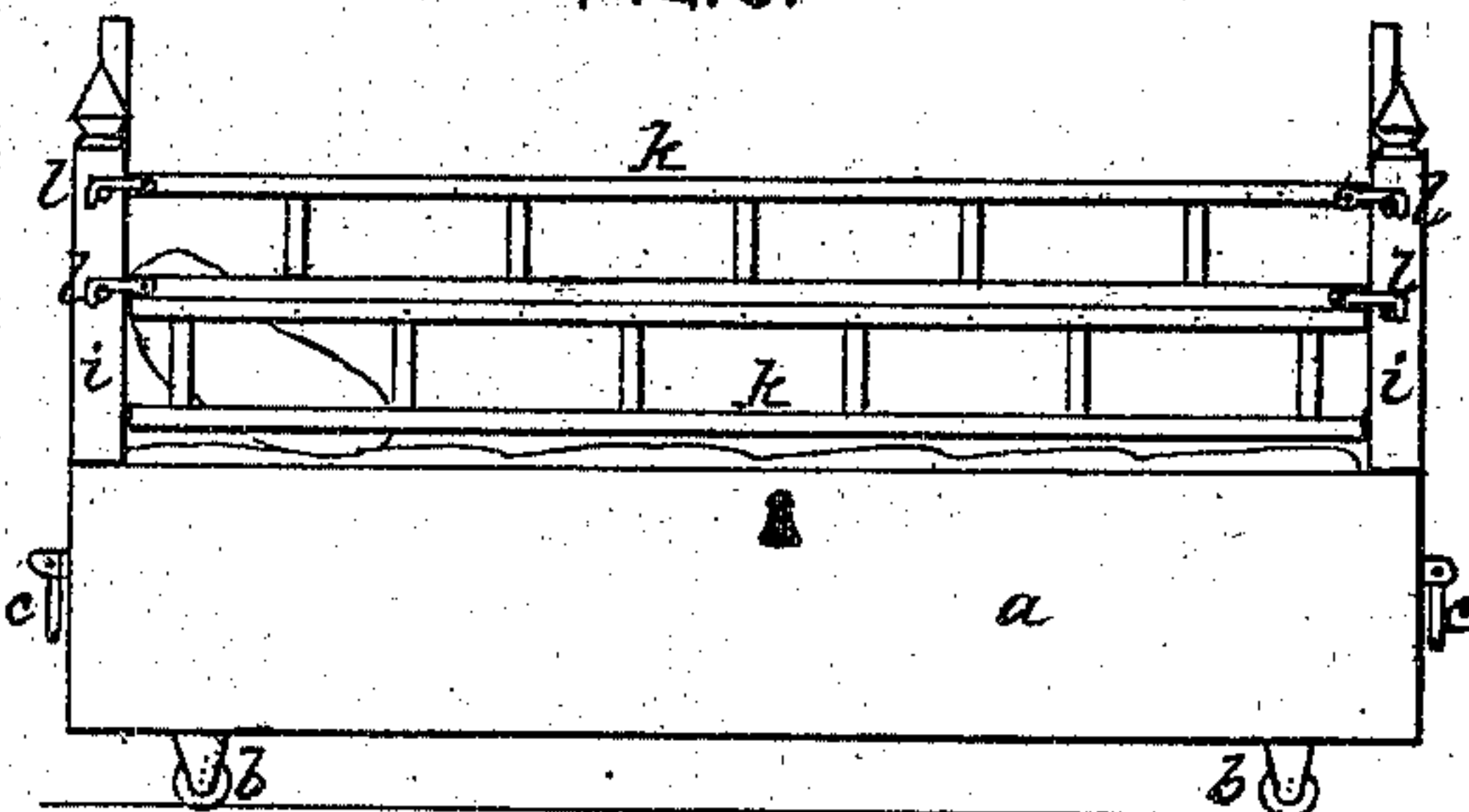


FIG. 4.

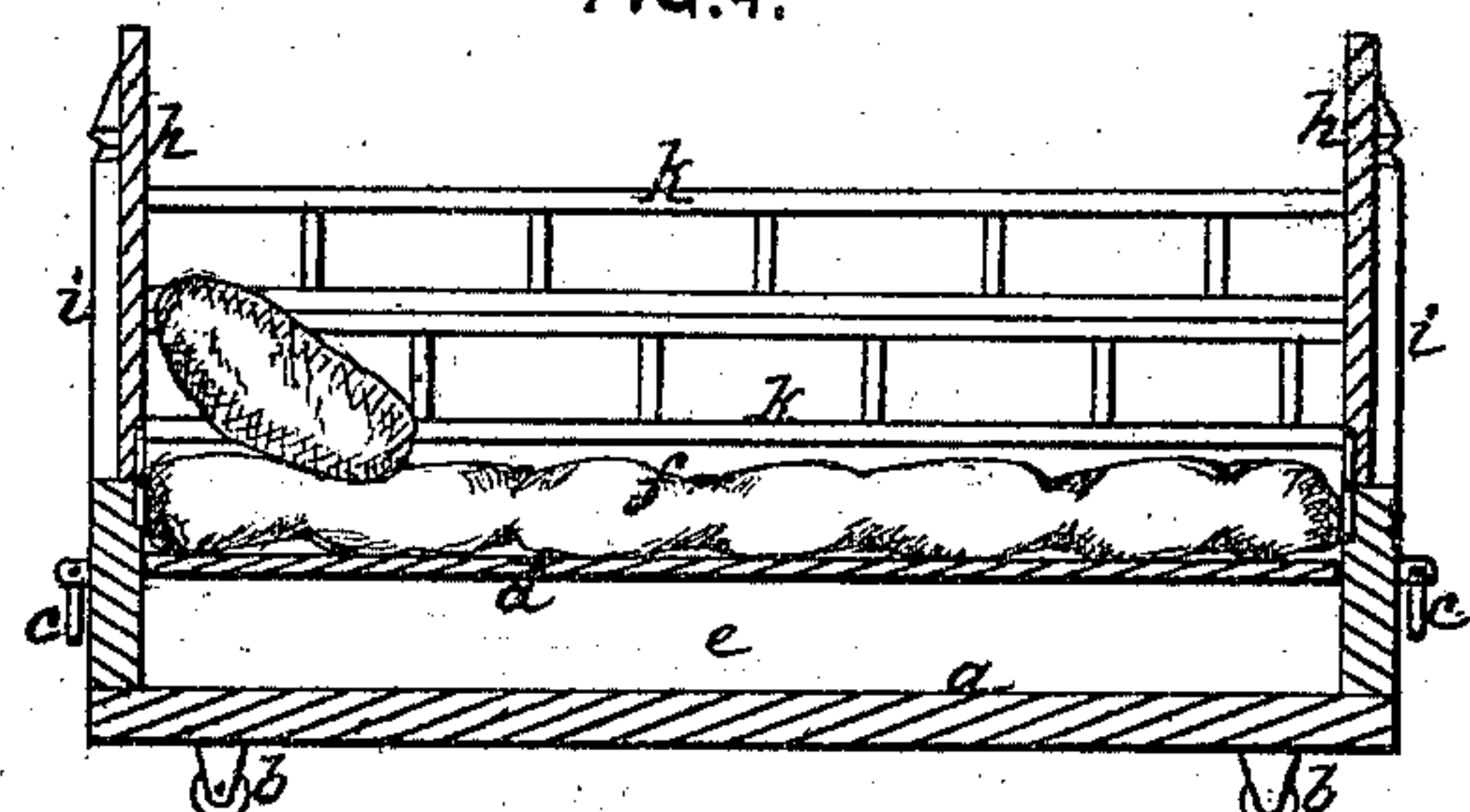
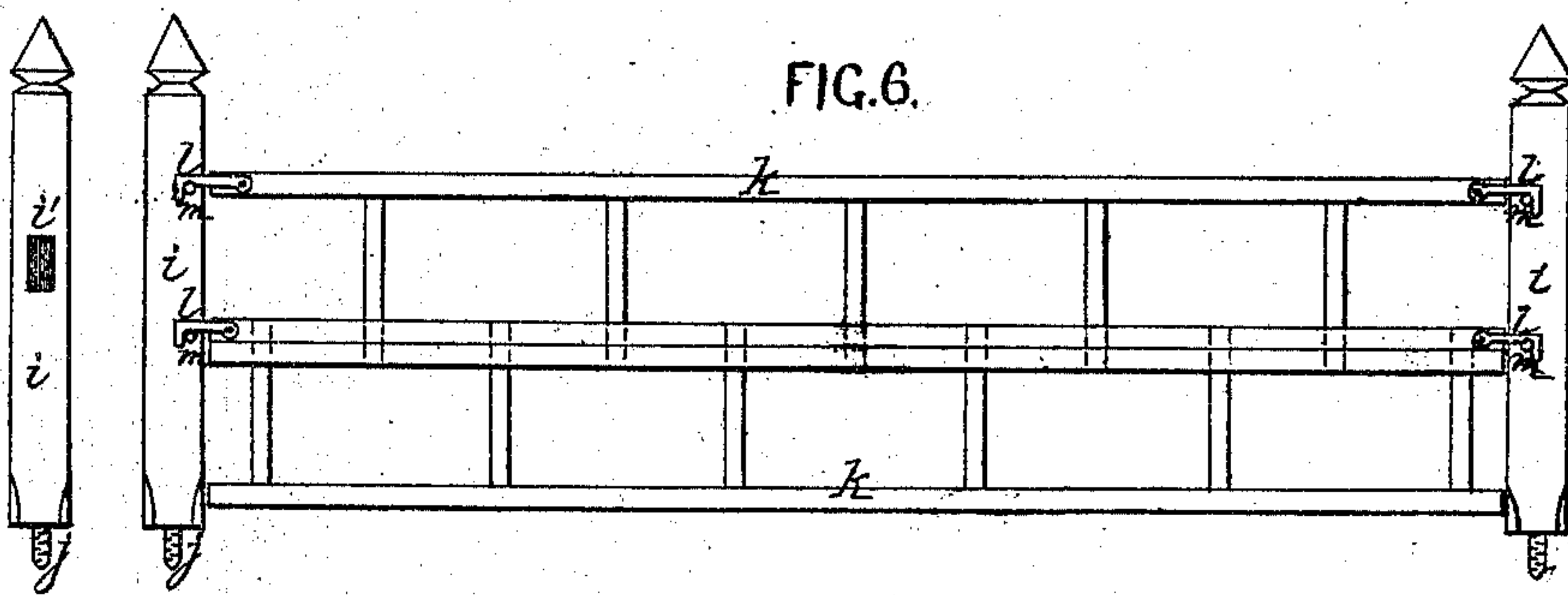


FIG. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN TRAVELING-CRIBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 131,698, dated September 24, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SOPHIA L. MERCER, of the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Traveling-Cribs with Safety-Rails, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of bedsteads which are arranged for being moved from place to place in traveling, and are, therefore, made in trunk-shape, and more especially to such bed for children, it being, in fact, a portable crib with safety-rails; and my said invention consists in so constructing the said crib that it can be folded up into trunk form for ready transportation, the several parts being constructed and arranged to be taken apart and folded up within the trunk; and my invention also consists in the combination, in a traveling-crib, of detachable posts and detachable safety-rails, united to each other by hooks or other means, so as to readily effect their attachment and detachment when required.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my improved traveling-crib, shown as folded and closed ready for transportation; Fig. 2 represents a plan or top view of the same with the top removed; Fig. 3 represents a side elevation, when arranged as a crib; Fig. 4 represents a longitudinal vertical section of Fig. 3; Fig. 5, a cross-section; and Fig. 6 represents a detached view of the extensible safety crib-rail and corner posts of the crib.

The body of my crib is formed like the body of a trunk, and may resemble it in form and shape. This body *a* may rest on rollers *b*, and may have handles *c* at each end for ready handling of the same. On the inside of this body *a* a lid, *d*, is hinged to one of the sides a suitable distance below the top edge of the sides of the body *a*, so as to form a lower compartment, *e*, and an upper one, *f*, the lid *d* resting with the side opposite to the one hinged on a cleat, *g*, secured to the respective side of the body *a*. At each end of the body *a* a head or foot board, *h*, is hinged, so as to rest on and be flush with the inner faces of the ends of the body *a*. At each end each board *h* is provided with a short projection,

h', which, when the parts are arranged to form a crib, fit into corresponding openings *i'* formed in the four corner-posts *i*, which, at their lower ends, are provided with screw-ends *j*, which screw into corresponding openings *j'* in the corners of the body *a*, and which openings may be formed by metal sockets.

When it is desired to put up the crib the corner-posts *i* are screwed into their respective places, leaving them in such position that one half turn inwardly will bring them square or into proper position. When the four posts *i* are in that position, their openings *i'* are so turned that when the boards *h* are raised they will be in line with and extend into the projections *h'* of the boards *h*. By now turning the posts *i*, each two at one end at a time, so as to bring their openings *i'* inwardly opposite to each other, the projections *h'* are forced into the openings *i'*, and the boards *h* are thus held in a vertical position. The parts being in this position, the lid *d* is raised and the bedding taken from the lower compartment *e* and placed on the lid, which has been shut down again and now forms the bottom of the bed. This would form a complete crib, if some provision had not to be made, against the accidental or willful falling out of the child from the same. For this purpose I use safety-rails *k*, which consist of a double rail, the alternate rounds of both rails passing through the inner longitudinal pieces of the same, allowing the upper rail to be raised above or lowered to the lower rail. To the upper longitudinal pieces of both rails I fasten hooks *l*, one at each end, which, seizing over the bolts or loops *m*, firmly hold the rails to the crib and prevent the child from falling or crawling out.

When the crib is folded up for transportation the bedding, together with the child's wardrobe, are placed in the lower compartment, and the lid *d* closed down. The safety-rails *k* are folded up, or rather pushed together, and placed on the lid *d*, together with the four posts *i*, which are separated by a half turn from the head and foot board *h*, and, when freed from the projections *h'*, are unscrewed. The head and foot board are then turned down, and the lid *n* of the body *a* placed over it and secured by being locked

to the body *a* on two sides, or fastened in any other convenient manner.

It is very seldom that a crib can be furnished in a hotel, and my improved traveling crib is for this reason a great convenience. It may be made low enough, when folded up into trunk form, to allow it to be placed under an ordinary bedstead, so as to be out of the way in the day-time.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. A traveling crib-trunk, in which the crib parts—that is to say, the posts *i*, extensible

safety-rails *k*—are made removable, packed in the upper compartment *f*, and the head and foot-boards *h h* folded over and within the said compartment *f*, and covered as a trunk, essentially as described.

2. The combination, in a crib-trunk, of the detachable posts *i* and the detachable and extensible safety-rails *k*, essentially as described.

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