

H. H. WIGGERS.
Cribs and Cradles.

No. 153,647.

Patented July 28, 1874.

FIG. 1.

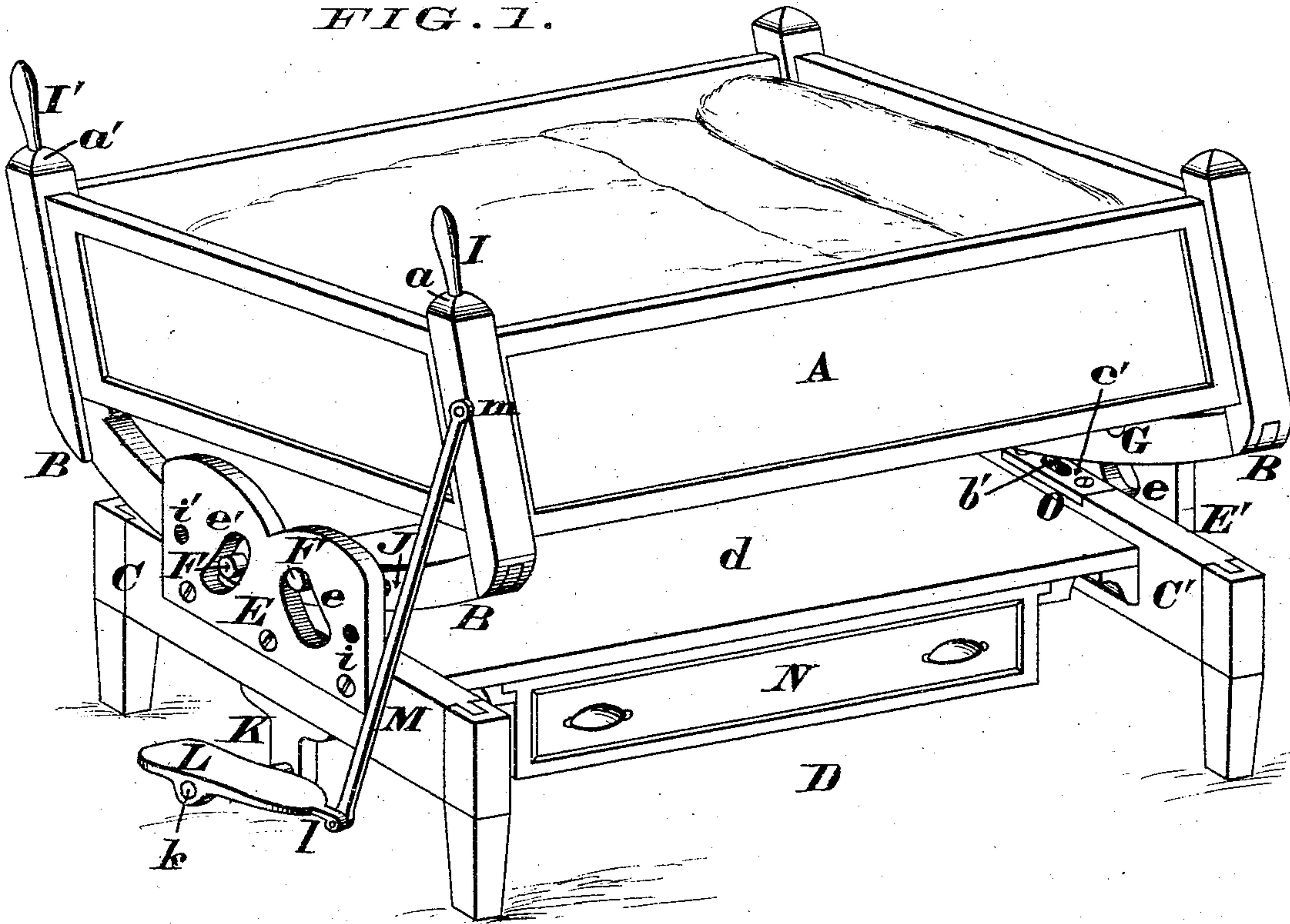


FIG. 2.

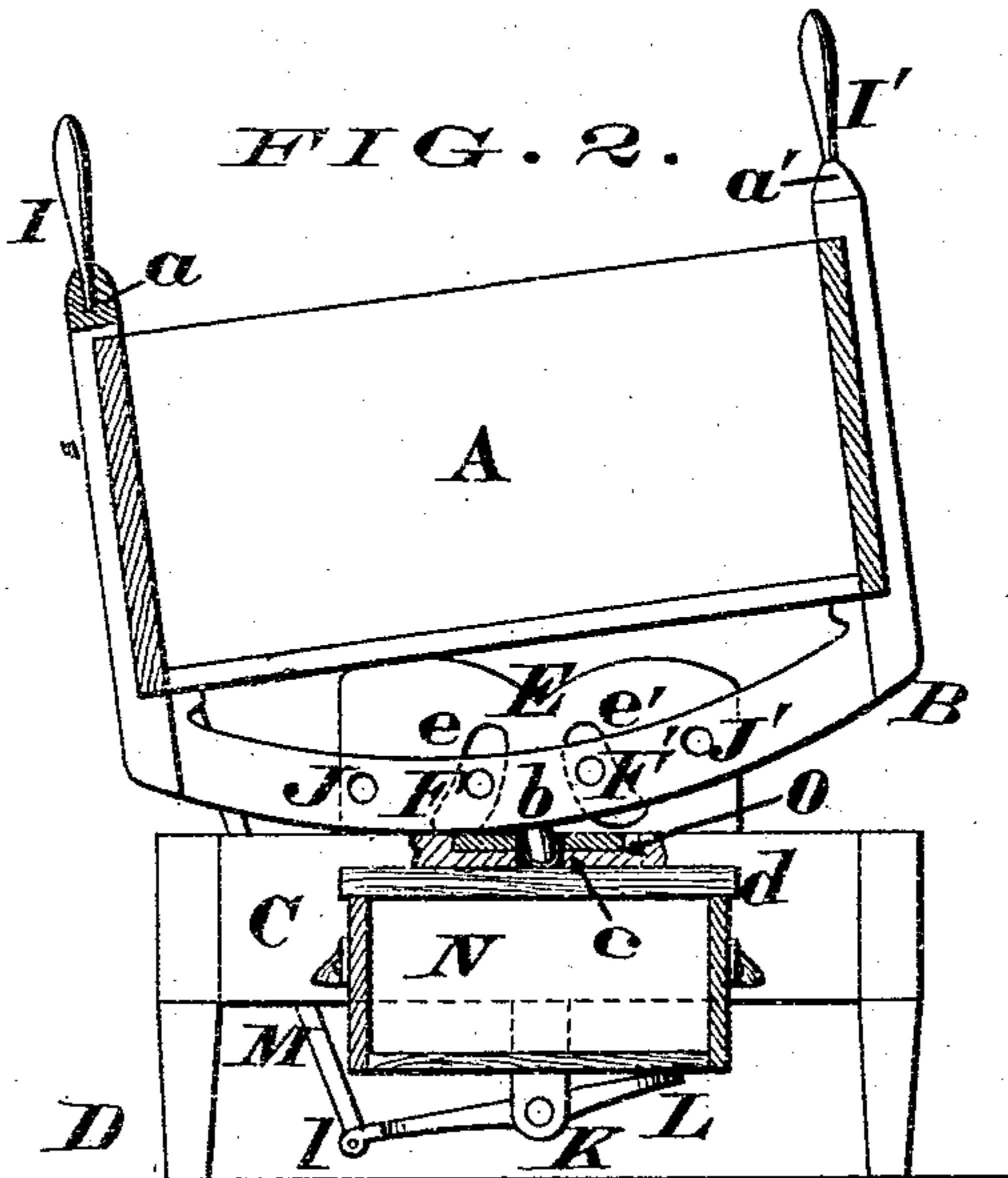


FIG. 3.

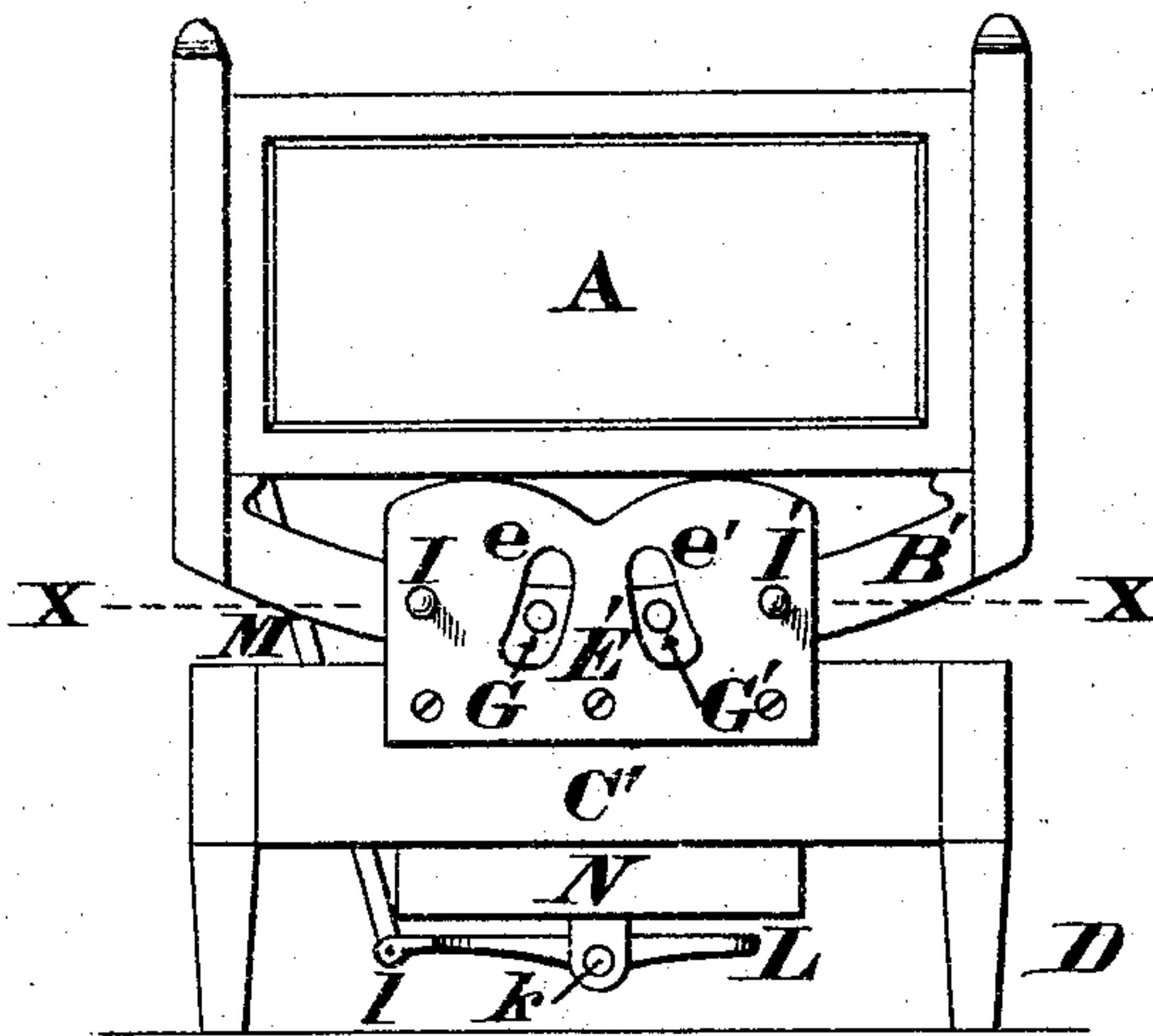
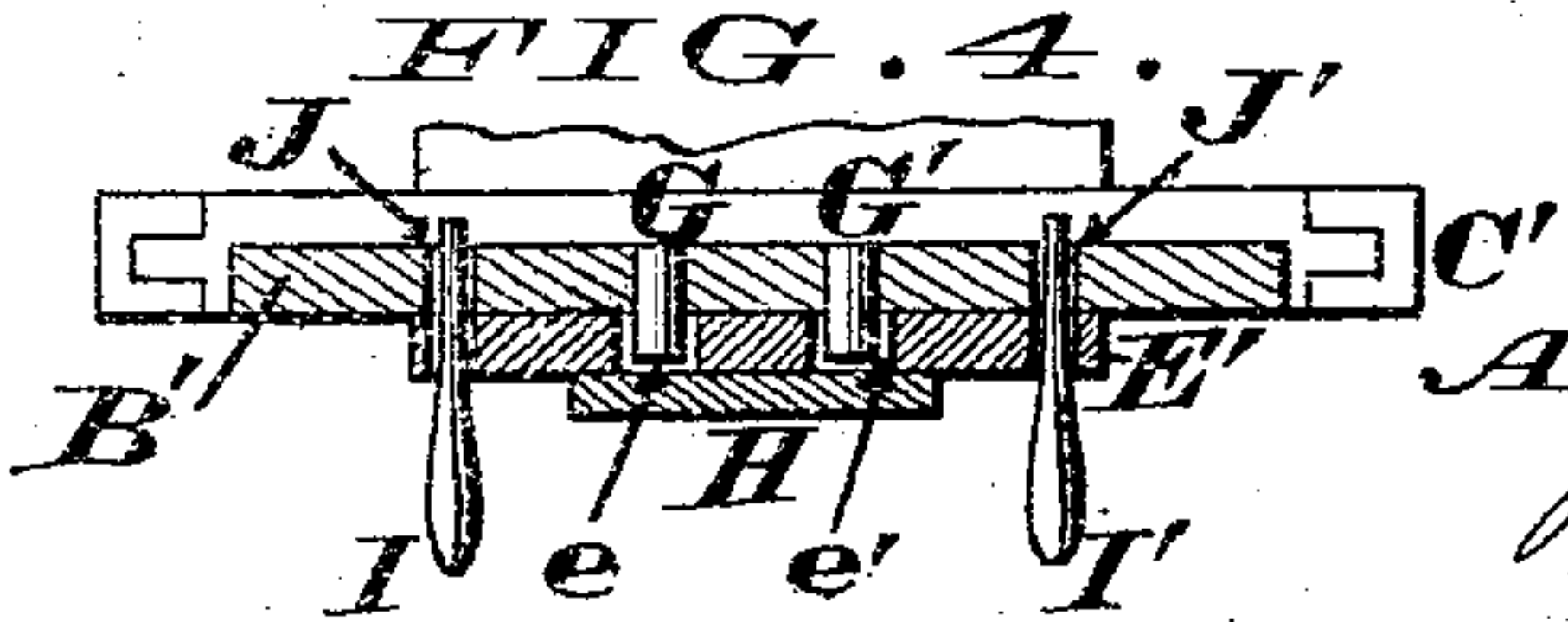


FIG. 4. T'



Attest.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENREY H. WIGGERS, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN CRIBS AND CRADLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **153,647**, dated July 28, 1874; application filed January 26, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENREY H. WIGGERS, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cribs and Cradles, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of cradles whose bodies or beds are provided with rockers that play upon horizontal bearings at the opposite ends of a supporting stand or base; and my improvements consist in a novel method of coupling the cradle proper to the aforesaid stand or base, which coupling is arranged as follows: The under or convex surface of each rocker is provided at its mid-length with a downwardly-projecting pin or shank that is adapted to vibrate within a suitable slot or excavation formed in the horizontal supporting members at each end of the stand or base. These two pins serve as the pivots or centers of oscillation for the cradle, but it is evident that if said pins were employed alone the cradle would be liable at times to rock too far on either side of the supporting-base, and thereby to overturn. It is also apparent that in attempting to lift such an article of furniture the cradle would instantly separate from its supporting-stand, as the pins would be drawn out from the slots as soon as the crib was elevated a slight distance. Therefore, to overcome both of these objections to such cradles I employ, in conjunction with said pins and excavations, two double-grooved plates or blocks and four studs or stops that are adapted to move freely within the grooves, it being understood that the grooved plates are attached one at each end of the stand, while the studs or stops are arranged in pairs, projecting outwardly from each rocker.

As previously stated, these studs play freely within the aforesaid grooves without coming in actual contact therewith, as long as the cradle is rocked in the usual manner, but whenever it swings over so far on either side as to be in danger of upsetting the appropriate stud then strikes against the end of one of the grooves, and thus limits the movement of the crib. These studs also come in contact with the ends of the grooves, when the cradle is elevated, and consequently they prevent said

cradle being separated from its supporting-stand. A pair of removable-pins are provided for the purpose of preventing the cradle rocking at all, when desired, the location of said pins, together with the manner of using them, being hereinafter fully described.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cradle embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a transverse section, showing the cradle inclined in an opposite direction to that represented in the preceding illustration. Fig. 3 is an end elevation, showing the cradle locked, so as to prevent being rocked, and Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section through one of the rockers on an enlarged scale.

A represents the body or bed of the cradle, having secured to it two customary rockers, B B', that rest upon the horizontal end pieces or sills C C' of the supporting-stand or base D. These end pieces or bearings are united together by a stout frame, d, although any suitable kind of stretchers or rods may be substituted for said frame or connecting-board. The rockers are respectively provided at their mid-lengths with downwardly-projecting pins b b' that serve as pivots or centers of oscillation for the cradle A, and said pins are adapted to play within suitably-shaped excavations or mortises c c' in the supporting-sills C C', or in plates O. These pins, in conjunction with their appropriate recesses, allow the cradle to rock freely from side to side, while at the same time they prevent said cradle being shifted longitudinally of its supporting-stand. Securely attached to the exposed or outer sides of the sills C C' are blocks or plates E E', each of which is provided with two grooves or slots, ee', for the reception of studs or lugs F F' and G G', that project, respectively, from the rockers B B'. These grooves are capacious enough to allow the studs to play freely within them without causing any friction whatever, but at the same time the length of said grooves is such as to arrest the cradle in time to prevent its overturning. This result is accomplished by the proper stud impinging against the end of its groove, as shown in Fig. 1. This arrangement also enables the cradle to be lifted bodily without detaching it from the stand, as it is evident that all of the studs will thus impinge against the ends of their respec-

tive grooves as soon as the cradle is elevated. The grooves *e e'* may be carried completely through the blocks or plates, so as to constitute slots, in which case such slots should be concealed with a scutcheon or guard, *H*, as shown in Fig. 4. When composed of wood the blocks *E E'* may be ornamented with carving, or they may be made of cast-iron, if desired.

In order to maintain the cradle securely in a horizontal position, so as to prevent it being rocked at all, two pins, *I I'*, may be employed, said pins being adapted to pass through apertures *i i'* and *J J'* in the block *E* and rocker *B*, respectively. The pins *I I'*, when not inserted in the apertures *i i J J'*, may be seated within sockets *a a'* in the corner-posts or other convenient part of the body *A*, in which position said pins serve as levers, wherewith the cradle may be rocked by hand when the operator becomes tired of using the treadle. The apertures *i i'* and *J J'* may be situated in the block and rocker nearest to the treadle, as in Figs. 1 and 2, or in the block and rocker at the opposite end of the cradle, as in Figs. 3 and 4. By simply inserting the pins *I I'* in the apertures *i i'* and *J J'*, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, all oscillation of the cradle is effectually prevented, and it can then be employed as a crib or bed for children.

In order that the cradle may be rocked by foot a treadle, *I*, may be arranged as follows: Secured to one end of the base *D* is a bracket, *K*, having an outwardly-projecting stud-shaft, *k*, which serves as a pivot for the treadle *L*, to whose toe *l* is coupled one end of a connecting rod or pitman, *M*, whose other end is attached at *m* to the cradle-body *A*. The frame or board *d* may have a drawer, *N*, applied to it for the purpose of containing bed-clothes, &c.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of the rockers *B B'*, having pins *b b'* and lugs *F F'*, the sills *C C'* having excavations *c c'*, and the plates *E E'* having slots *e e'*, all as herein set forth, for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of the pins *I I'*, the rockers *E E'* having apertures *J J'*, and the plates *E E'* having apertures *i i*, all operating as herein set forth, for the purpose specified.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

HENREY H. WIGGERS.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. WRIGHT,
JAMES H. LAYMAN.