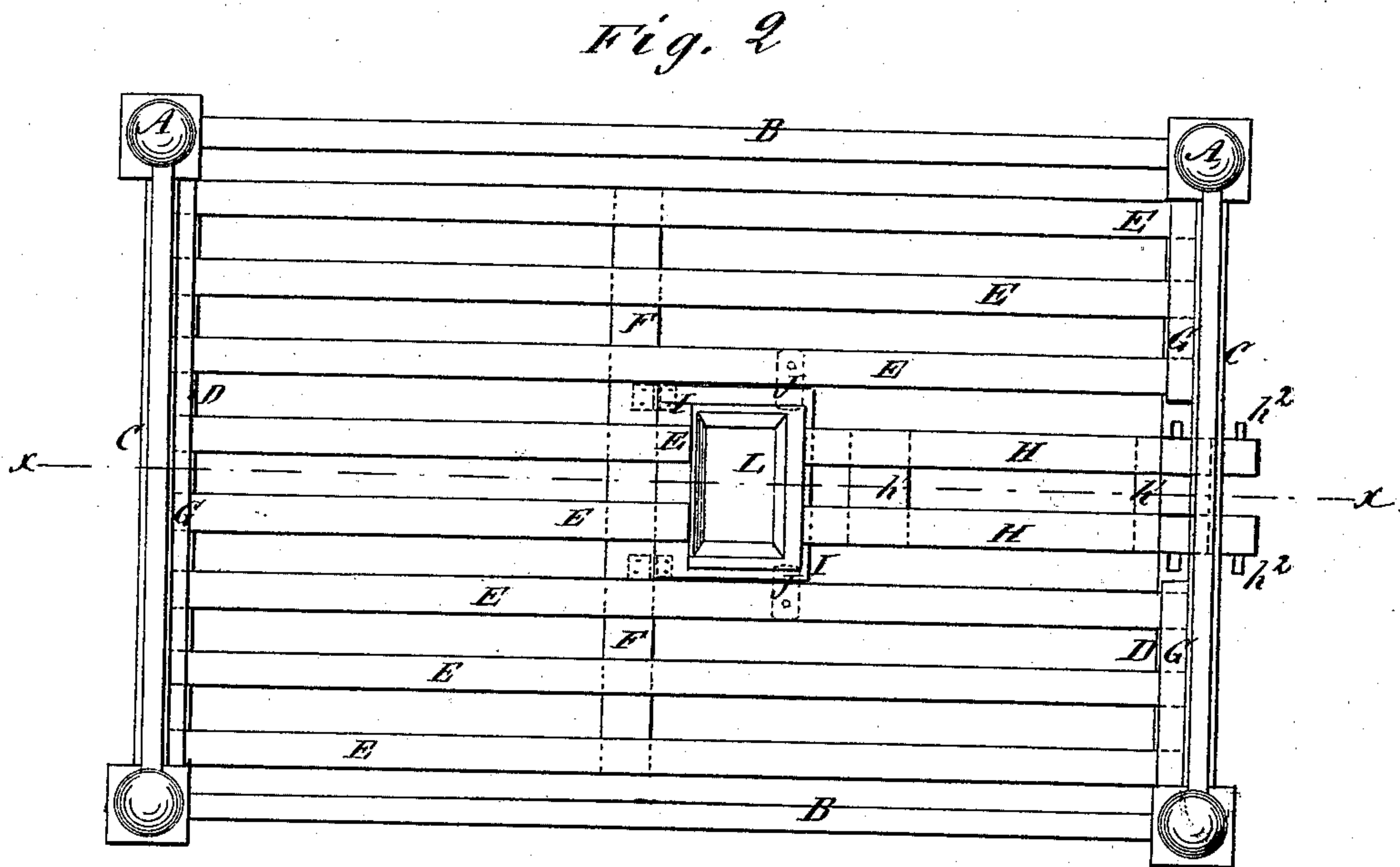
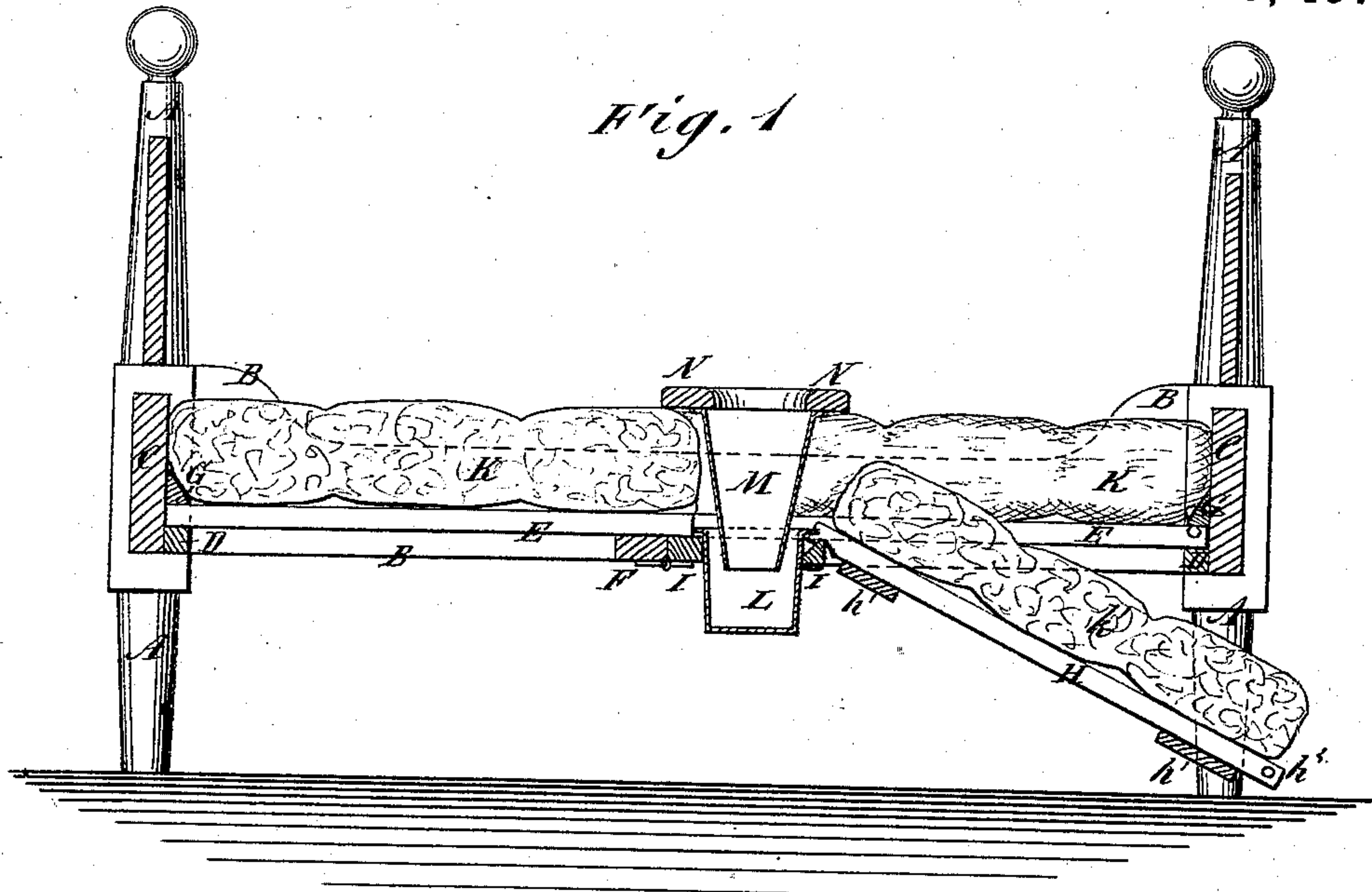


W. HUNTRESS.
INVALID-BEDSTEAD.

No. 169,705.

Patented Nov. 9, 1875.



WITNESSES:

C. Novaux
A. J. Perry

INVENTOR:

William Huntress
BY
Munn & Co.
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HUNTRESS, OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN INVALID-BEDSTEADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **169,705**, dated November 9, 1875; application filed September 17, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HUNTRESS, of Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Invalid-Beds, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of my improved bed, taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a top view of the bedstead, the mattress being removed.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved bed, which shall be so constructed that it may be readily arranged for the invalid to make his evacuations without being removed from the bed, and without any danger of soiling the mattress, which may also be used as an ordinary bed for sleeping purposes, and which shall be simple in construction, and conveniently adjusted for either use.

The invention consists in the hinged drop-frame and the drop-slats, provided with the connecting-cleats and the guard-pins, in combination with the long slats, the cross-slat, and the frame of the bedstead; in the mattress, having the middle portion of its foot part cut away and replaced by a separate piece, to correspond with the drop-frame and the drop-slats of the bed-bottom; and in the combination of the vessel, the chute, and the seat with the hinged drop-frame, and with the prongs of the mattress, as hereinafter fully described.

A represents the posts, B the side rails, and C the end rails, of a bedstead, about the construction of which parts there is nothing new. To the lower part of the inner sides of the end rails C are attached cleats D, the upper edges of which are notched to receive the ends of the slats E, which are placed longitudinally with the bedstead, and the middle parts of which are attached to a cross-bar, F. To the end rails C, above the ends of the slats E, are attached triangular cleats G, to prevent the said ends of the slats E from being raised by the action of the cross-bar F when the whole weight rests upon one side of the bed. The two middle slats E are cut off at or near the cross-slat F, and the cut-off parts H are connected by short cross-strips *h*¹. To the outer

edges of the foot-ends of the slats H are attached pins *h*², which enter notches in the upper edge of the cleat D, to keep the said ends of the slats H from slipping out of their places when their other ends are dropped to the floor. The other ends of the drop-slats H are supported, when raised into a horizontal position, by a small frame, I, which is hinged to the cross-slat F, and is secured, when raised, by two buttons, J, pivoted to the adjacent slats E, so that they may be turned beneath the side bars of the said drop-frame I. The inner edge of the free bar of the frame I is beveled off to enter a notch formed in the lower sides of the ends of the slats H, to prevent the said ends from slipping off when the foot end of said slats is dropped to the floor. K is the mattress, the middle portion of the foot part of which, above the drop-slats H and the drop-frame I, is cut out, and made in a separate piece, *k*¹, so that it can be dropped with the slats H, or removed, when desired. L is a vessel, made of such a size as to fit into the drop-frame I, and has outwardly-projecting flanges formed around its upper edge to rest upon the said frame I. M is a chute of such a size as to pass down through the space between the prongs of the mattress K, and of such a length that its lower end may enter the vessel L, while its upper edge is upon a level with the upper surface of the said mattress K. The upper end of the chute M is attached to a board or plate, N, of such a length as to rest upon the prongs of the mattress, and support the chute M and the invalid when using the device.

The invalid is first turned to one side, the hinged frame I unlatched, and thus both the frame H and its superposed part K of the mattress are allowed to fall, the latter being slid down on the former, so as to allow the vessel L, together with the chute M, to be applied, and the vessel to pass through the re-latched frame I.

By this arrangement the invalid can evacuate without rising or leaving the bed, and a reversal of proceeding places the whole bed in its normal condition.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The hinged drop-frame I and the drop-

slats H, provided with the connecting-cleats h^1 and the guard-pins h^2 , in combination with the long slats E, the cross-slat F, and the frame of the bedstead, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The mattress K, having the middle portion of its foot part cut away, and replaced by a separate piece, k' , to correspond with the drop-frame I and the drop-slats H of the bed-bottom, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. The combination of the vessel L and the chute M with the hinged drop-frame I and the mattress K, substantially as herein shown and described.

WILLIAM HUNTRESS.

Witnesses:

MUNROE L. SPOTSWOOD,

HENRY A. WISE.