

O. HOWE.
Cot-Bed.

No. 222,629.

Patented Dec. 16, 1879.

Fig. 1.

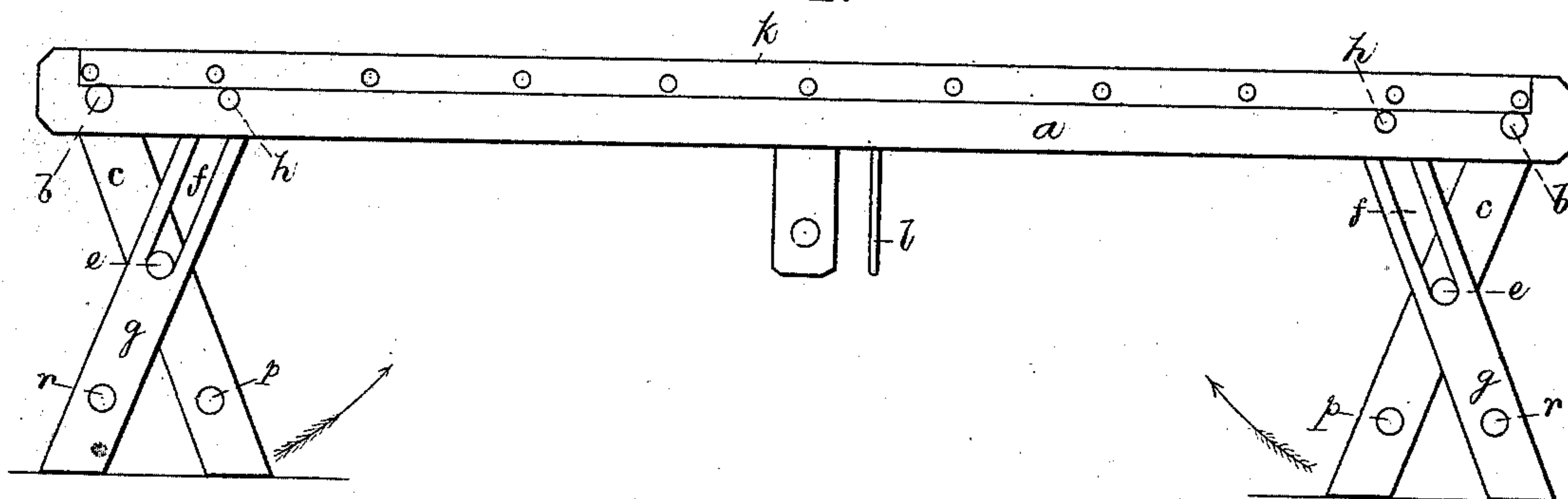
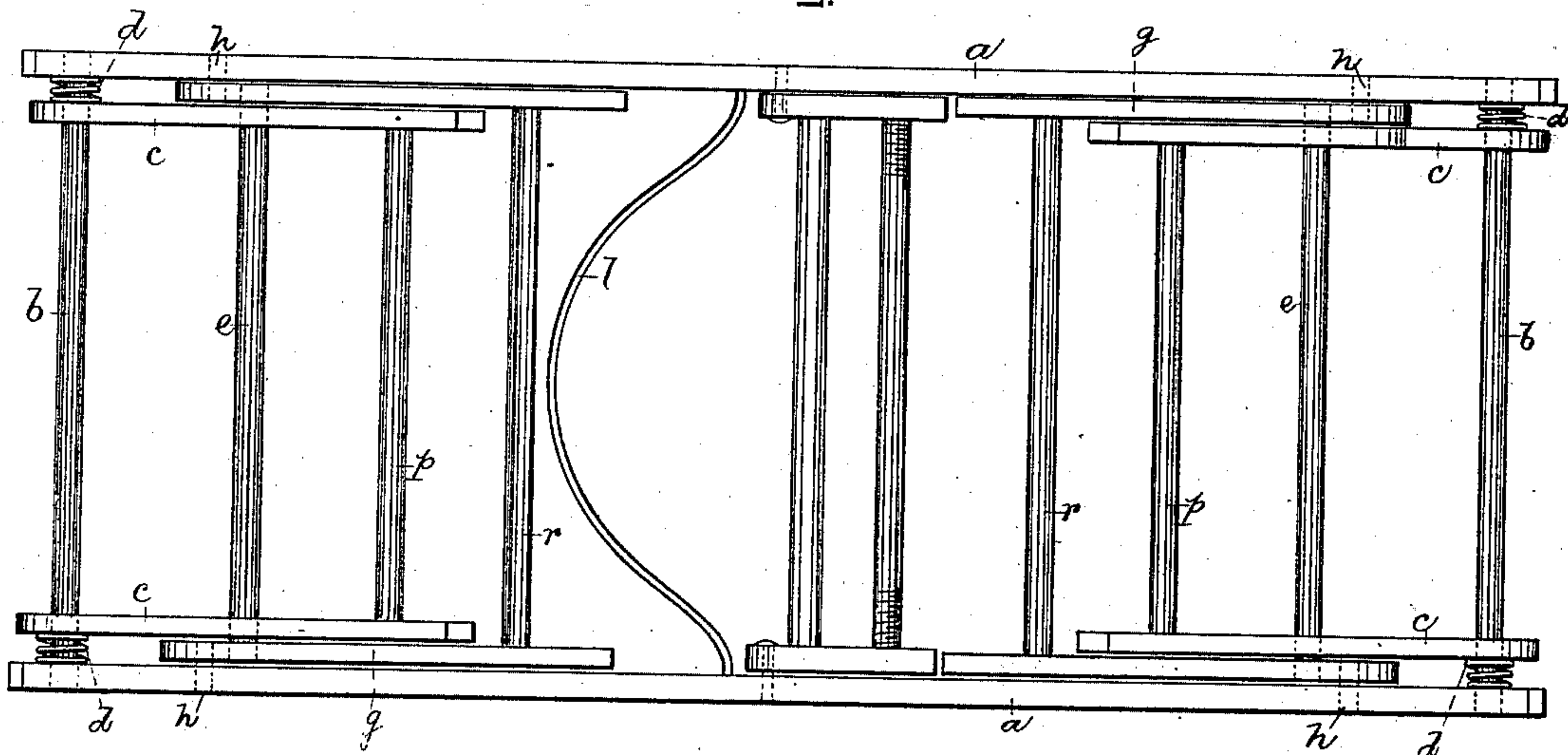


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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IMPROVEMENT IN COT-BEDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 222,629, dated December 16, 1879; application filed February 3, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OTIS HOWE, of Cambridgeport, county of Middlesex, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Cot-Beds, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

This invention relates to a cot or camp bed provided with crossed folding legs; and the invention consists in a cot-bed having crossed legs connected by a cross-bar extended through the legs, and permitting the folding of the legs within the bed-frame, and their extension for use, the legs being held in either position by a friction-spring or otherwise. At or near the center of the cot-bed is arranged to fold within said bed-frame an expansible brace, which prevents the side bars of the cot drawing together when weight is applied to the flexible top of the cot, the said brace being so constructed as not to interfere with the descent of the body of the person occupying the cot.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a cot constructed in accordance with my invention, and Fig. 2 is an under-side view of the same, with the legs and other parts folded within the side bars.

The side bars, *a a*, of the cot are, at their ends, held together by means of rigid bars, *b*, having their ends next the side bars reduced to form proper bearings for the end legs, *c*, to turn upon, suitable devices shown in this instance, as friction-springs *d*, being arranged, in connection with the legs, to hold the legs in either of their two main positions—namely, extended for use or folded for storage.

The legs *c* have cross-rods *e* at or near the center of their length, the projecting ends of which enter slots *f* in the legs *g*, which legs are pivoted to the side bars at *h*. These legs *c g*, which support each end of the cot, are so pivoted with relation each to the other, and the ends of the cross-rods *e* are of such length that the legs may be turned out from between the bars to support the cot, as in Fig. 1, when the said legs will cross each other; or the said legs may be moved together in the direction of the arrows, Fig. 1, and be made to occupy a position entirely within and between the

side bars *a*, when, as in Fig. 2, the said legs will be parallel. In this position the friction-springs, which are to this end sufficiently strong or rigid, hold the legs in place.

The flexible or canvas top *k* is attached to the bars *a b* by tacks, or in any usual way. To prevent this top from sagging to any uncomfortable extent when weight is applied upon it, as would be the case at or near the center of the length of the cot if the side bars were not prevented from approaching each other at that point, I have placed between the side bars an expanding brace, *l*, made, preferably, as a metal rod, curved as shown in Fig. 2. The ends of this brace are loosely held in the side bars.

The brace, by its spring-like action, forces the side bars apart, and when turned down into the position shown in Fig. 1, the said brace is so far removed below the top *k* that the top will never come in contact with it.

Instead of the metal brace *l* I may employ pivoted blocks connected with the side bars, the blocks being held together by a cross-rod, and these blocks may be forced against the inner side of the bars by a double-threaded screw-rod: (See Fig. 2.)

The cot, by reason of the compact folding of the legs, may be made to occupy a space only the thickness and width of the frame which supports the top *k*.

Each opposite leg *c* or *g* is connected with its mate by a round, *p*, or *r*.

I claim—

1. In a cot-bed, the pivoted legs *c g*, connected with the bars of the cot and with each other, as described, by means of a projection from one leg entering a slot in the other leg, combined with a friction-spring to hold the legs in either their opened or closed position, as described.

2. A cot-bed having a rectangular frame and crossed legs, the latter being constructed and arranged substantially as described, so as to be capable of being folded within the frame for storage, and extensible for use, and held in either position by frictional contact, all as specified.

3. The within-described cot-bed composed of the frame, the flexible bottom, the crossed

legs, adapted to be folded up within the frame, and the expansible brace arranged beneath the bottom between the sides of the frame, and so as to be folded up within said frame, the whole constructed to operate substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name

to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

OTIS HOWE.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,
N. E. WHITNEY.