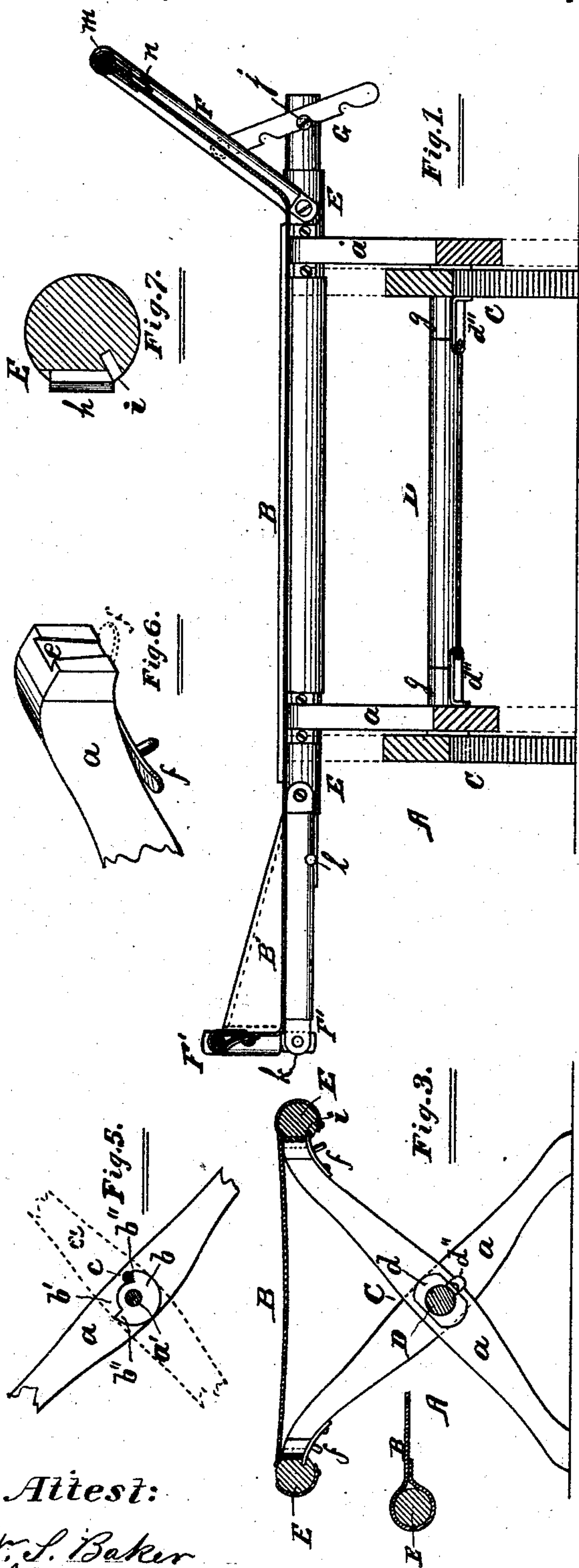


(No Model.)

C. J. SKAU.
Folding Cot.

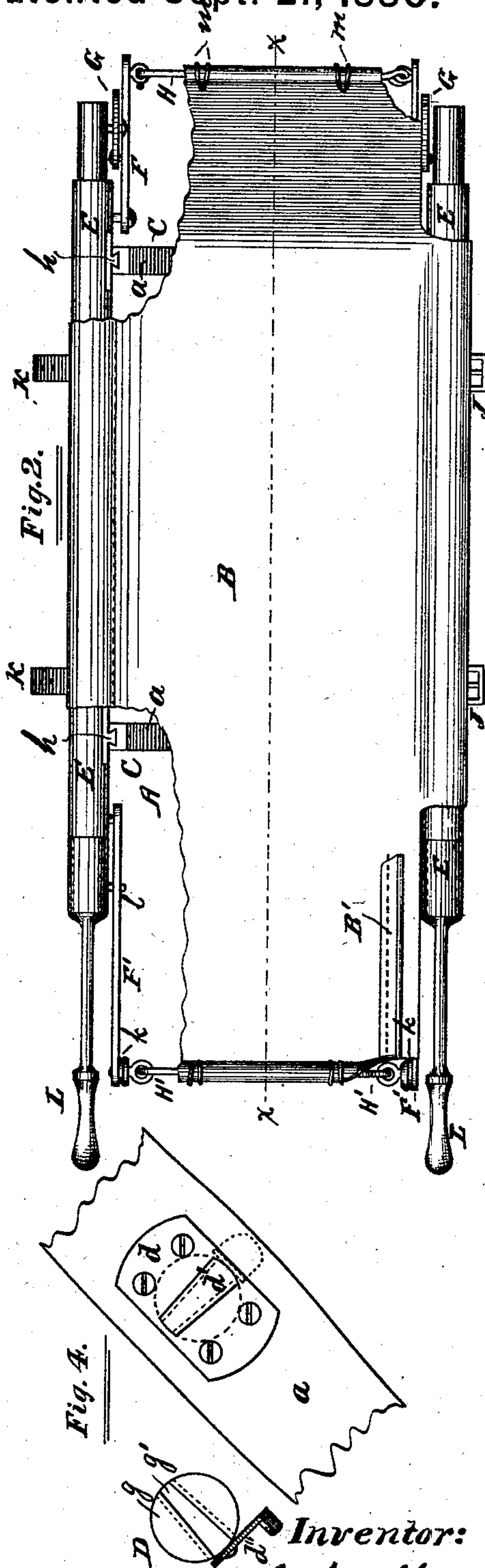
No. 232,418.

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Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL J. SKAŮ, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN.

FOLDING COT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 232,418, dated September 21, 1880.

Application filed April 15, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL J. SKAŮ, of Racine, in the county of Racine, in the State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Folding Cots, of which the following, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section on line *x x*, Figs. 2 and 3.
10 Fig. 2 is a top or plan view of a cot embodying my invention; Fig. 3, a vertical cross-section, and Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7 are details, showing certain features of construction separately.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.
15 The object of my invention is to improve the construction of portable folding cots in the several respects hereinafter specifically set forth.

A represents the frame of the cot, and B the
20 support for the bedding, which support may be made of canvas or other suitable material.

C C are the ends of the frame, which consist of folding X-shaped parts, each made of two bars, *a a*, connected pivotally at or near
25 their centers by means of a bolt, *a'*, held in place by means of a nut.

b is a washer rigidly applied to the inner face of one of the bars *a a*, the center of the said washer being coincident with the longitudinal or axial center of the said bolt.
30

b' is an elongated notch cut in the edge or perimeter of the washer *b*, forming therein the shoulders *b'' b''*.

c is a pin projecting from the inner face of
35 the other bar *a*, and so arranged as to move in the notch *b'* when the bars *a a* are turned on the bolt connecting them, and the pin *c*, in connection with the shoulders *b'' b''*, serve as a stop to restrict or limit the folding movement of the bars *a a*, allowing them, when unfolded, to stand in the position indicated or shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 5, but preventing them from standing farther apart at their ends, and permitting them to be folded up until their ends meet or nearly meet.
40 45

Both ends of the frame A should be provided with means for preventing the bars *a a* from being spread too far apart when unfolded, and the means described and employed for that
50 purpose is clearly represented in Fig. 5.

The lower halves or parts of the bars *a a*

serve as legs, and the upper parts as canvas-supports or supports for the side rails, hereinafter referred to, and to which the canvas is applied, as will hereinafter more fully appear. 55
The lower ends of the bars *a a* are beveled off to stand flatly on the floor when the cot is set up, as shown in Fig. 3, and their upper ends are cut to then present vertical faces, as is also represented in the figure last above referred to 60

d is a plate having thereon the tapering dovetail lug *d'*, and rigidly attached to the central part of the inner face of each inner bar, *a*, as indicated in Fig. 4, the narrowest end of the
65 said lug being uppermost.

e e are dovetail grooves in the upper ends of the bars *a a*, and *f* is a pivoted latch or lock bar, also applied to and projecting somewhat beyond the said ends when the free ends
70 of the said latches are in their highest positions, as indicated in Fig. 3 and by the broken lines in Fig. 6. The grooves *e e* are tapering, their broadest ends being uppermost.

D is the connecting-bar for connecting the
75 ends C C.

g g are ferrules on the ends of the bar D, and *g' g'* are tapering dovetail grooves in the ends of the said ferrules. These grooves *g' g'* are adapted and arranged to slide and rest
80 upon the lugs *d' d'*, and firmly engage the same when the parts are thus arranged together, and bind the ends C C firmly to the connecting-bar.

d'' is a pivoted latch on each end of the bar
85 D, and intended for the purpose hereinafter mentioned.

The detail views in Fig. 4 are intended to show those features of construction relating to the means employed for detachably connecting the ends C C to the bar D. 90

E E are the side bars or rails, and *h h* are tapering dovetail lugs thereon. The lugs *h h* are adapted and arranged to enter and engage the grooves *e e*, the broader ends of the said
95 lugs being upward.

i i are slots or recesses in the rails E E, and are arranged just underneath the lugs *h h*, as shown in Figs. 3 and 7, and so as to receive the projecting ends of the latches *f f*, which
100 will then lock the bars E E detachably to the ends C C.

F F' are bars pivoted at their inner ends to the inner sides of faces of the bars E E, a little way back from the ends of the latter.

G G are notched or serrated bars, pivoted at their inner ends to the bars F F', and *j j* are pins extending from the bars E E.

H is a connecting bar or hook linked to the outer end of one of the bars F F', and hooked into an eye on the outer end of the other of the said bars, as indicated in Fig. 2.

The bars F' F' are jointed, as indicated at *k*, Fig. 1, and the outer sections thereof stand vertically, and have their upper ends connected by means of a hook, H'.

l l are pins for supporting the bars F' F'.

B, as before stated, is the canvas. I stitch the canvas together around the bars E E and around the bars F and F', and fold it over the hooks H and H'; and to confine about the hooks temporarily I employ the loops *m m* and buttons *n n*.

To support the outer ends or sections of the bars F' F' vertically I employ the canvas tie-pieces B' B'.

J J are buckles, and K K are straps attached, respectively, to the opposite longitudinal edges of the canvas I.

To set up the cot I proceed as follows: I take the end pieces, C C, and spread them apart as far as the stops thereon will permit. I then take the connecting-bar D, and attach it to the ends C C by setting the grooved ends thereof down upon the lugs *d' d'* and turning the latches *f f* underneath the broad ends of the said lugs, thus temporarily locking these parts together. I then take the bars E E and the parts connected thereto, as described, and apply and temporarily lock the said bars to the upper ends of the bars *a a* of the end pieces, C C, in like manner as the bar D was connected and locked to the said end pieces. I then unfold the bars F and F' and place the hooks H and H' in their respective eyes. I then set the bars G G so that the pins *j j* will engage the notches therein and support the bars F F' at the inclination desired. The bars F F' will be supported on the pins *l l*. I then fold the ends of the canvas over the hooks H and H', and pass the loops *m m* about the buttons *n n*. The cot is now ready for use.

To take apart and fold up the parts constituting the cot I proceed in about the reverse of the manner described for setting it up, though, as will be perceived, the mode of setting up and taking down and folding the cot may be varied.

After I have detached the top from the frame the end pieces and their connecting-bar may be folded or rolled up within the canvas, and confined there by means of the buckles J J and straps K K, making the whole very compact.

Removable handles L L may be applied to the ends of the bars E E.

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

1. The combination, in a portable folding cot, of the X-shaped ends C C, the tapering dovetail lugs *d' d'*, having their narrower ends upward and centrally and rigidly applied to the inner sides of the said end pieces, the removable center bar, D, having on its ends the ferrules *g g*, containing the tapering dovetail grooves *g' g'*, adapted and arranged to receive the lugs *d' d'*, and the pivoted latches *d'' d''*, arranged on the bar D, as shown and described with relation to the said lugs, whereby the said bar is rendered capable of being easily applied, removed, and locked to the ends C C, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, in a portable folding cot, of the X-shaped ends C C, each consisting of the bars *a a*, having in their upper ends the tapering dovetail grooves *e e*, having their broader ends upward, the removable side rails, E E, having near each end a tapering dovetail lug, *h*, adapted and arranged to enter the grooves *e e*, and also having therein the slots or recesses *i i*, and the pivoted latches *f f*, applied to the bars *a a*, and adapted and arranged to cover the lower ends of the grooves *e e* and to enter the slots or recesses *i i*, whereby the side rails are rendered capable of being easily applied, removed, and locked to the upper ends of the bars *a a*.

CARL J. SKAU.

Witnesses:

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CHAS. H. TALLMADGE.