

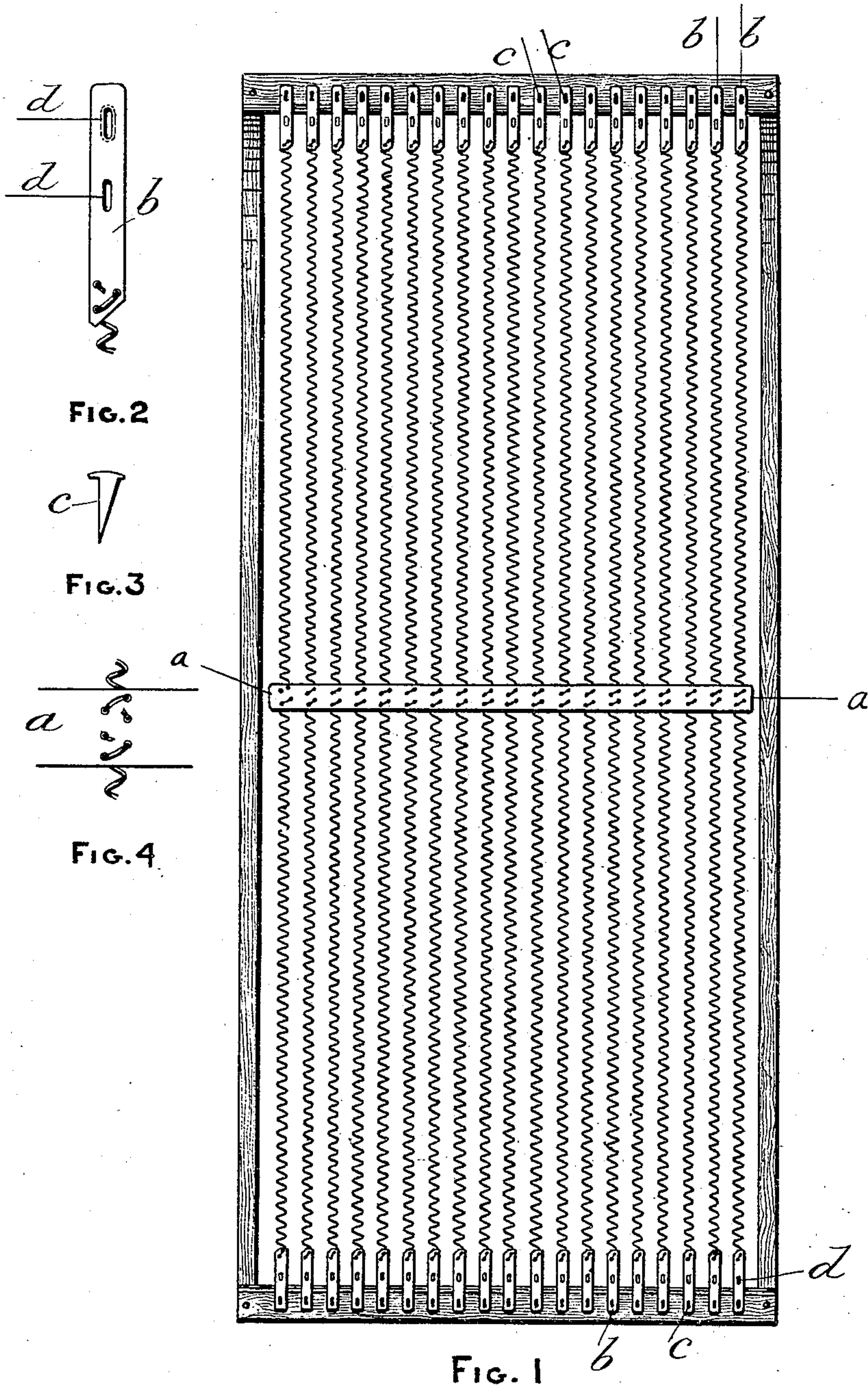
(No Model.)

W. BARTRAM.

BED BOTTOM.

No. 251,158.

Patented Dec. 20, 1881.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WHEELER BARTRAM, OF MADISON, OHIO.

BED-BOTTOM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 251,158, dated December 20, 1881.

Application filed August 19, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WHEELER BARTRAM, of Madison, in the county of Lake and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Bed-Bottom, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved bed-bottom when put together; Fig. 2, a plan view of one of the spring-straps to which the spiral portion of the spring is attached at the ends of the bed-bottom and by which it is attached to the frame by means of pins. Fig. 3 is one of the pins on which the spring-straps are hooked by means of the slot shown in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a plan view of a section of one of the flexible metallic supports which run crosswise of the bed-bottom, showing the manner in which the spiral parts are fastened.

a a is a flexible metallic support, which runs crosswise of the bed-bottom, and to which the spiral parts of the spring are attached, as shown in Fig. 4.

It is obvious that if the bed-bottom were constructed of a series of continuous spiral wires running the whole length of the bed each spiral wire would sag very much when brought into actual use, and would also tend to spread laterally. In my improved bed-bottom the spiral wires are not whole or continuous the entire length of the bottom, but are sectional. The portion attached to the spring-strap *b* at one end of the frame ends with and is fastened to the flexible metallic support *a*, which runs crosswise of the bottom. By this means the bed-bottom is divided into sections, according to the number of flexible metallic supports used, which may be one or more, according to the size of the bed. By this means the sagging and spreading of the spiral wires are prevented. The flexible metallic support *a* is made of thin band-iron, steel, or other metal, and, being flexible, accommodates itself with the spiral wires to the superimposed weight.

The straps *b* at the end of the bottom give a spring support to the whole bottom, and have

a tendency to take up any slack that may occur in the spiral wires. These straps are provided with slots *d d*, by means of which the entire bottom may be tightened, if necessary, by simply drawing the straps *b* up until they hook onto the pins *c*.

The spiral portion of the springs is made of steel wire, as are also the straps. As the strain upon each separate spiral wire is communicated to the supports, and by them in turn to all the rest of the series, the result is that the spiral wire, supports, and straps act together, strengthening and sustaining one another, forming a bed-bottom in whole and in all parts firmly elastic.

The bed-bottom may be attached to the frame of the bedstead, or it may be attached to a separate frame and adjusted to a bedstead.

The distinguishing advantages of my improved bed-bottom are, first, its perfect flexibility and adjustability; second, great strength and elasticity; third, simplicity and lightness; fourth, non-liability to become infested with vermin.

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

1. The combination, in a bed-bottom, of a series of metallic spring-straps provided with slots for adjusting the same to the frame or bedstead, with a series of spiral springs attached to the flexible metallic supports running crosswise of the same, constructed and united substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. In a bed-bottom, the combination, with spiral springs extending from end to end of the frame, of the transverse flexible metallic support *a* and slotted metallic spring-straps *b*, adjustably attached to the frame by means of pins *c*, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

WHEELER BARTRAM.

In presence of—

W. W. BRANCH, Jr.,
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