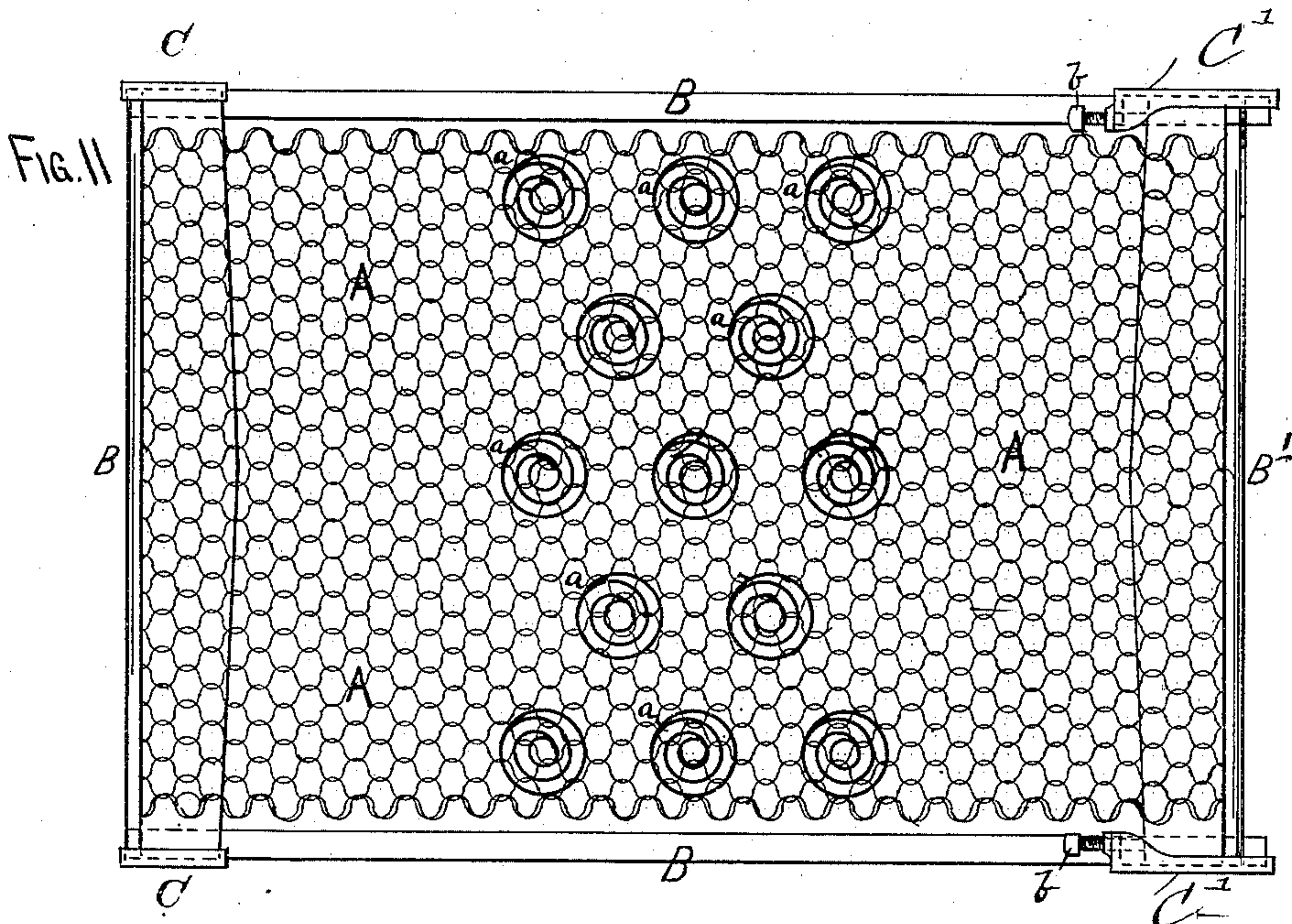
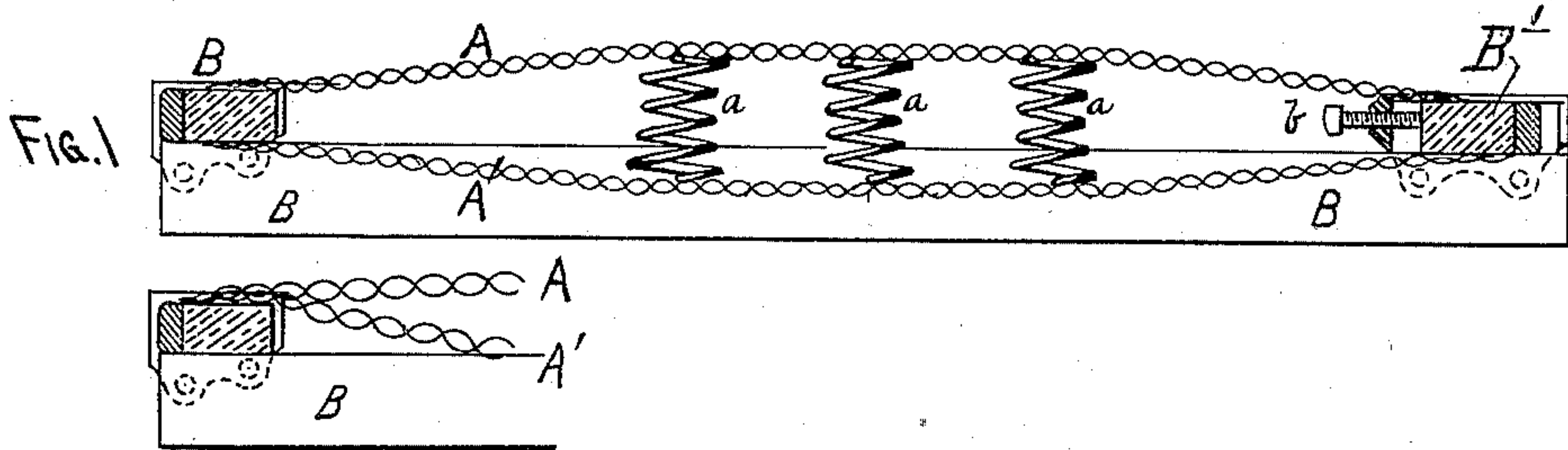


J. T. ELWELL.

SPRING BED.

No. 257,303.

Patented May 2, 1882.



James Talmadge Elwell,

WITNESSES.
C. H. Woodward.
J. M. Fowble.

INVENTOR, BY
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES T. ELWELL, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

SPRING-BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 257,303, dated May 2, 1882.

Application filed June 28, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES TALMADGE ELWELL, of Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Spring-Beds, which improvements are fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional side view of the mattress, the lower view representing a portion of the mattress broken away and one method of securing the webs to the end rails; and Fig. 2, a plan view.

My invention relates to wire mattresses; and it consists in the construction hereinafter particularly described, and then sought to be specifically defined by the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, the letters A A' indicate the top and bottom webs, which are both made of woven wire of the same flexibility, so as to give or yield alike, and thereby aid the other means, presently to be described, in preventing the mattress from sagging—or, in other words, from distending or stretching unequally. If the webs do not stretch or expand equally, one of them becomes longer than the other, and then sags or hangs in a baggy manner, which destroys the evenness of the mattress-surface and renders the mattress unsightly and uncomfortable. The webs A A' are suspended at their ends from the end rails, B B', and hang between the side rails, but not connected thereto. The webs may be connected to the end rails by having one web connected to the top of the rail and the other to the bottom thereof, as illustrated in the upper view of Fig. 1, or both webs may be passed over the top of the rail, as illustrated in the lower view of the same figure. The end rails fit in flanged caps C C', bolted or otherwise secured to the side rails, B, near their ends. The caps C' are flanged and long enough to allow the rail B' to slide therein in the direction of the length of the mattress, so that by sliding the rail outwardly the webs may be drawn taut after they have become loose by reason of the wires having stretched. By reason, however, of the two webs being of the same flexibility and their connection to the end rails, as described, they in use stretch

equally, and hence in being drawn taut are drawn equally, and there is no more strain on one than on the other when taut, as would be the case were the webs of different degrees of flexibility and they not secured as set forth. 55

The end rail, B', is moved by means of set-screws *b*, which pass through the ends of caps C' and bear against the edge of the movable end rail. The flanges of the caps C' guide the rail B', and the webs are more equally distended and the parts more securely held to their places and operated than they could if the rail were hinged and made necessary to throw back in order to make taut the webs. 60

Springs *a* are interposed between the webs near the middle of the mattress, and are secured at the top and bottom to the webs instead of to strips extended across either web. When strips are extended across either web and the springs connected to them the webs will not distend equally and will not be equally flexible, for the strips will stiffen the webs at parts and also prevent equal expansion. 65

I do not claim broadly a wire mattress suspended from end rails, nor a mattress composed of two webs with springs between, nor means for drawing taut the mattress-web, for I am aware that springs have been interposed between two wire webs, the springs resting upon rigid cross-pieces connected to one of the webs; and also that a hinged end rail worked by an extensible rod have been employed for tightening up the webs after they have sagged from use; but, 75

Having described my invention, what I claim is— 85

The woven-wire webs A A', of the same degree of elasticity, and having springs *a* interposed between them, suspended from end rails, B B', the rail B' sliding in the flanged plates C' and operated by screws *b*, whereby the several parts are adapted to operate as set forth. 90

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES TALMADGE ELWELL.

Witnesses:

C. N. WOODWARD,
LOUIS FEESER.