

(No Model.)

M. E. SMITH.

MATTRESS.

No. 278,055.

Patented May 22, 1883.

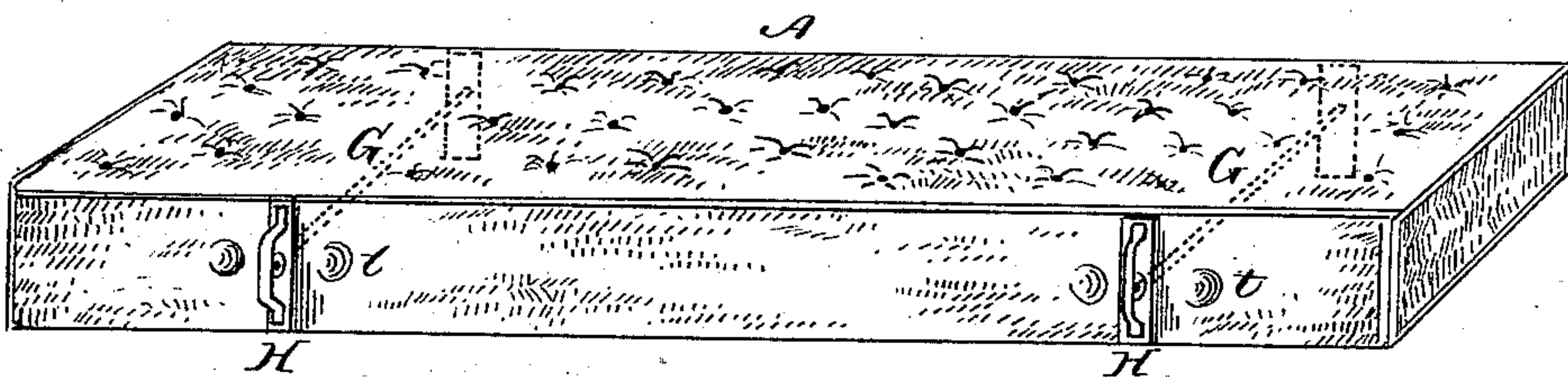


Fig. 3.

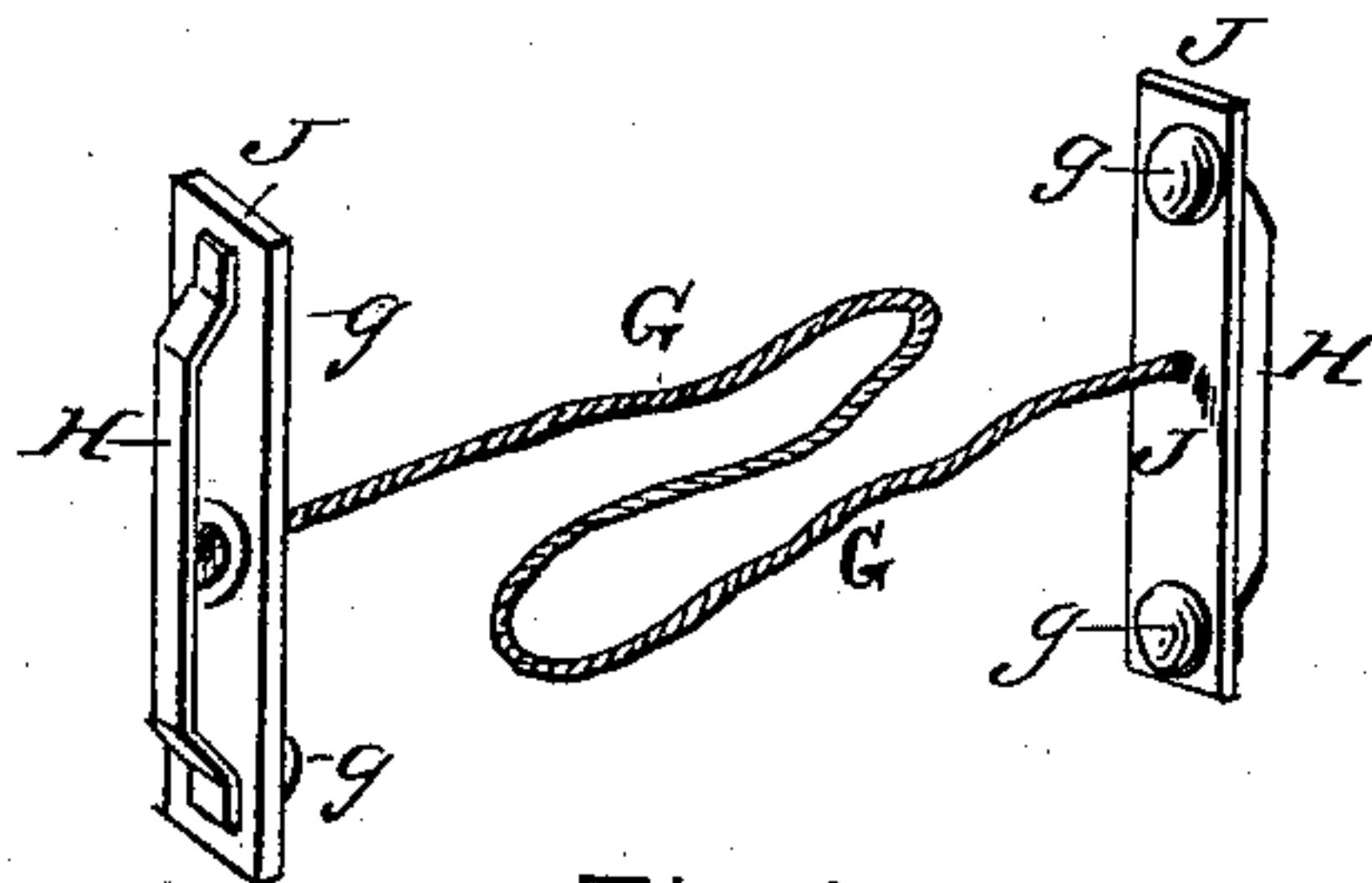


Fig. 4.

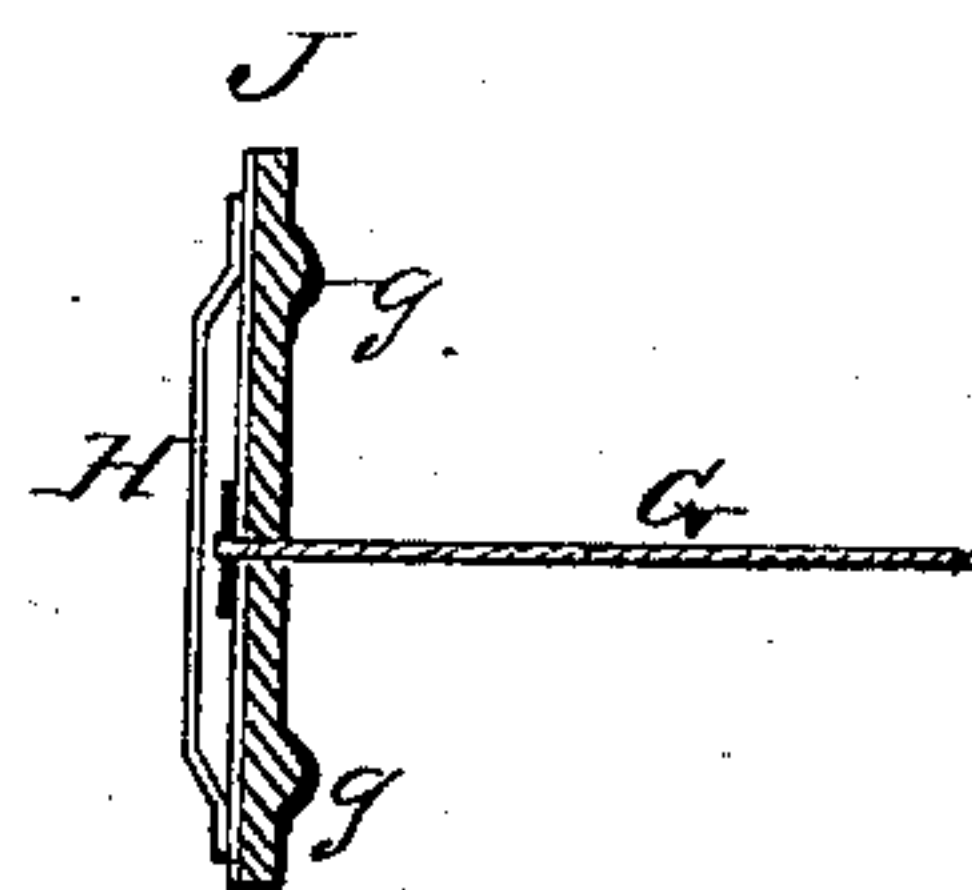


Fig. 5.

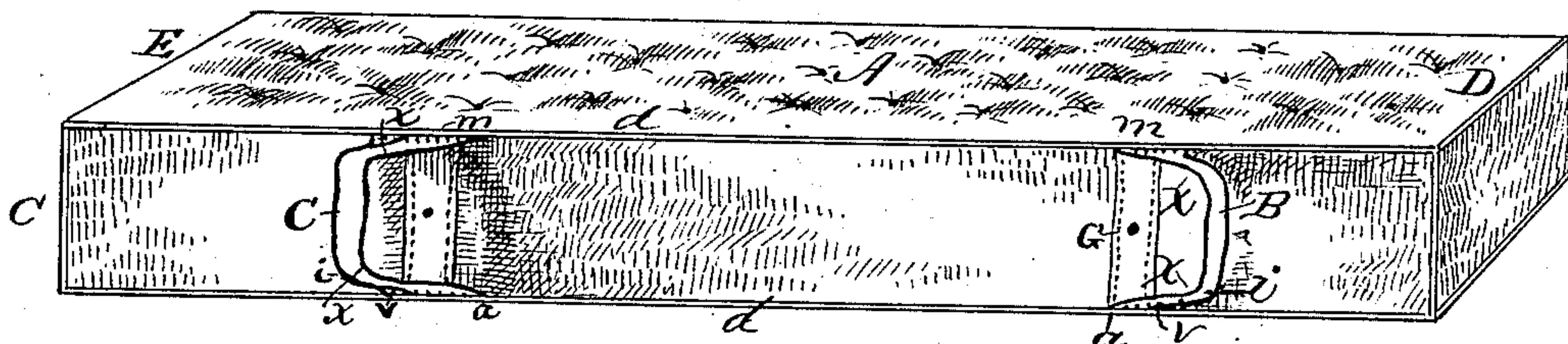


Fig. 1.

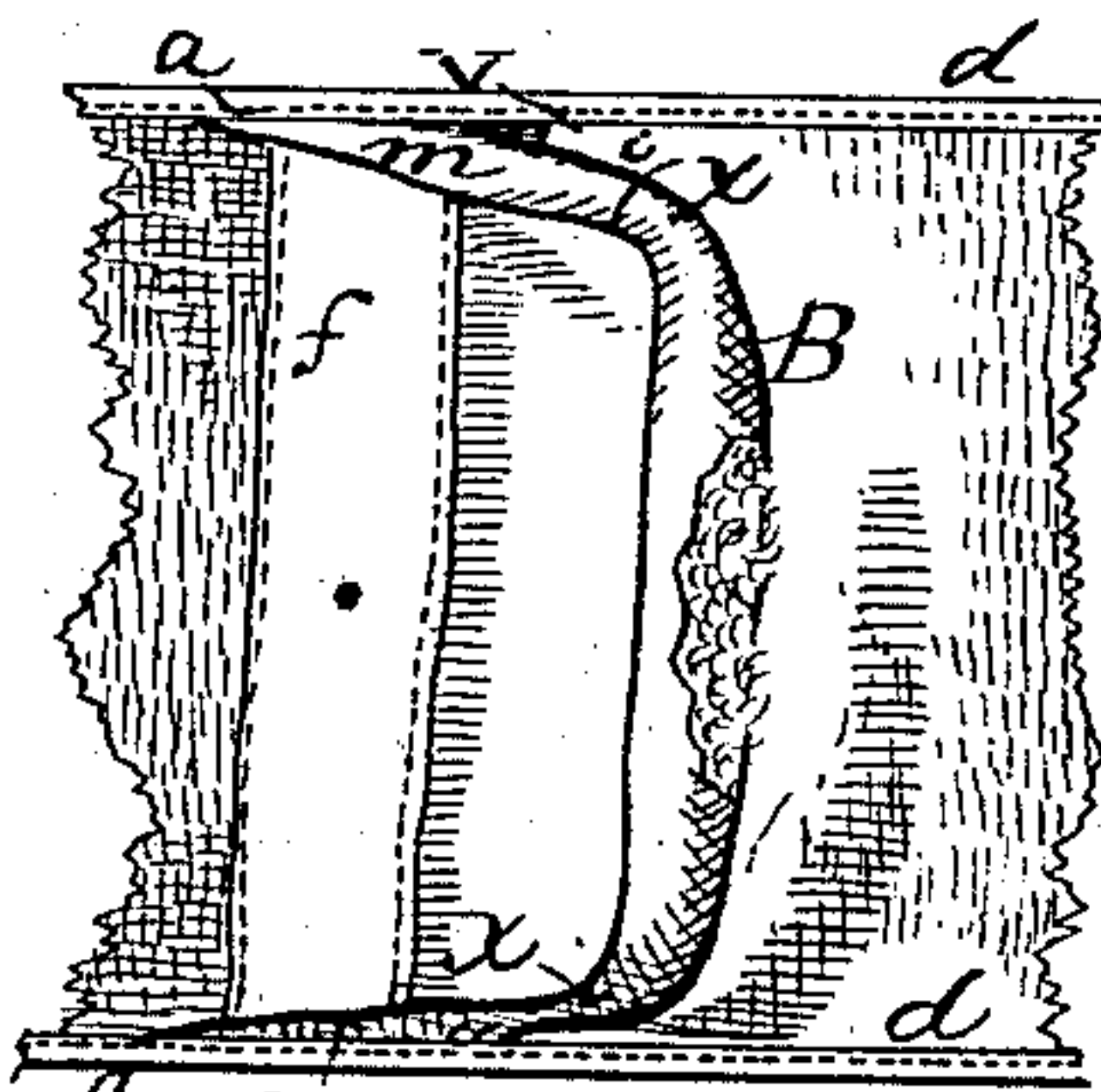


Fig. 2.

Witnesses.

H. E. Metcalf  
H. E. Ripnick

Inventor.

Mary E. Smith,  
per C. A. Shaw



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY E. SMITH, OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

## MATTRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 278,055, dated May 22, 1883.

Application filed January 11, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARY E. SMITH, of Somerville, in the county of Middlesex, State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Mattresses, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which said invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an isometrical perspective view of a mattress provided with my improvement; Fig. 2, a view of the handle shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a perspective view, showing a modification of my improvement; Fig. 4, a view of the handle shown in Fig. 3 detached, and Fig. 5 a vertical section of the handle shown in Fig. 4.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

It is well known that mattresses as ordinarily constructed are very inconvenient to handle, rendering it difficult to turn them properly in making beds, or to move them from place to place, as required. It is also well known that when mattresses are constantly used, unless they are frequently turned, the hair or material with which they are stuffed will "cake" or become matted, and thus render them unfitted for use, or at least very uncomfortable.

My invention is designed to obviate these difficulties and objections; and to that end I make use of means which will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters from the following explanation, the extreme simplicity of the improvement rendering an elaborate description unnecessary.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the mattress, and B C the handles. The handles are preferably composed of ticking or of the same material as the covering of the body of the mattress, and stuffed or upholstered, as seen in Fig. 2, to prevent them from hurting the hands. The upholstering or stuffing does not, however, extend the entire length, but only to the points *x*, the ends of the handles consisting of ticking only. The handles are arranged and secured to the sides of the mat-

tress as best shown in Fig. 1, the handle B inclining toward the end D, and the handle C toward the end E, their unstuffed ends *m* being sewed into the side seams, *d*; but where handles are attached to the sides of the mattress, as described, it is important that they should be so arranged as not to interfere with the bed-clothing or with the side rails of the bedstead, or so that the body of the mattress may pass down between the side rails without difficulty. To provide for this requirement is the object of attaching the handles to the mattress as shown, the handles being inclined or laid flat on the surface of the mattress before its ends are sewed into the seam *d*, or so that when it is attached the distance from *x* to *a*, Fig. 1, will be considerably greater than from *i* to *v*, whereby the handle will be drawn down or back to its normal position by the "spring" of the mattress and the expansive action of the part between *x* and *a* as soon as it is released after being used. By inclining the handles as shown, or the handle B in the direction of the end D, and the handle C in the direction of the end E, they are more conveniently grasped by the hands of the person using them, as they will be raised from the side of the mattress in the act of lifting it, whereas if they inclined in the opposite direction the tendency would be to press against the mattress as it is lifted, and thus hurt the hands.

As the constant use of handles on the side of the mattress, as described, would tend to pull it out of shape, to prevent this contingency I employ a stay-line, G, extending laterally through the body A, thereby connecting each of the handles with a corresponding handle on the opposite side of the mattress, it being understood that each side of the mattress is provided with a pair of the handles. The ends of the lines may be secured to buttons, or in any other convenient and proper manner, and should be drawn taut, or so arranged that when the mattress is lifted by either pair of its handles the strain will be evenly distributed or exerted on both sides of the mattress at the same time. I also prefer to re-enforce the mattress at the ends of the lines, and for that purpose the stays *f* may be used, being com-



posed of ticking, leather, or any proper material, and secured in position to receive the strain on the cords.

In Fig. 3 a modification of my improvement is shown, the handles H, preferably composed of ticking or leather, being attached to plates J, and the plates, which are arranged vertically on either side of the mattress, connected by the cords G. The plates are also provided on their inner sides or faces with smooth spherical projections *g*, and when the mattress has been turned the plates are also turned down into a horizontal position, out of the way of the side rails of the bedstead, where they are held by the projections *g*, sinking into the side of the mattress, as shown at *t*.

It will be obvious that the upholstery of the handles B C, the cords G, stays *f*, and projections *g* may be omitted, if desired, also that the handles B C may be inclined inwardly instead of outwardly, and that the cord may be used with any handle adapted to assist in turning the mattress, without departing materially from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus explained my invention, what I claim is—

1. A mattress having a handle at either side, the handles being connected by a cord passing through the body of the mattress, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The mattress A, provided with the handles B C, arranged to incline, respectively, toward its ends, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. The plates J J, provided with the handles H and connected by the cord G, in combination with the mattress A, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. The plates J, provided with the projections *g*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

MARY E. SMITH.

Witnesses:

C. A. SHAW,

H. E. METCALF.