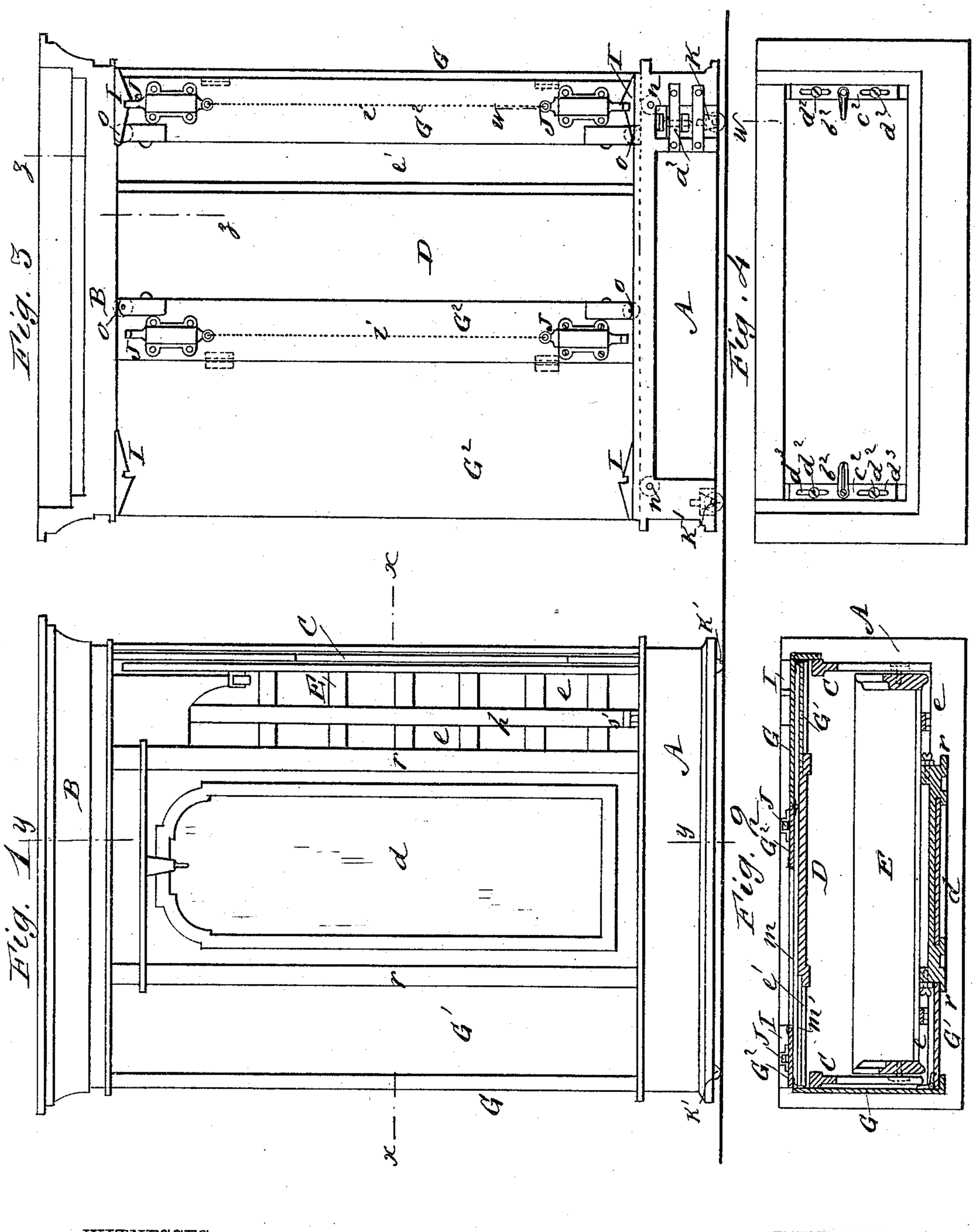
(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. H. McCLURE.

WARDROBE BED.

No. 298,873. Patented May 20, 1884.



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(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 6

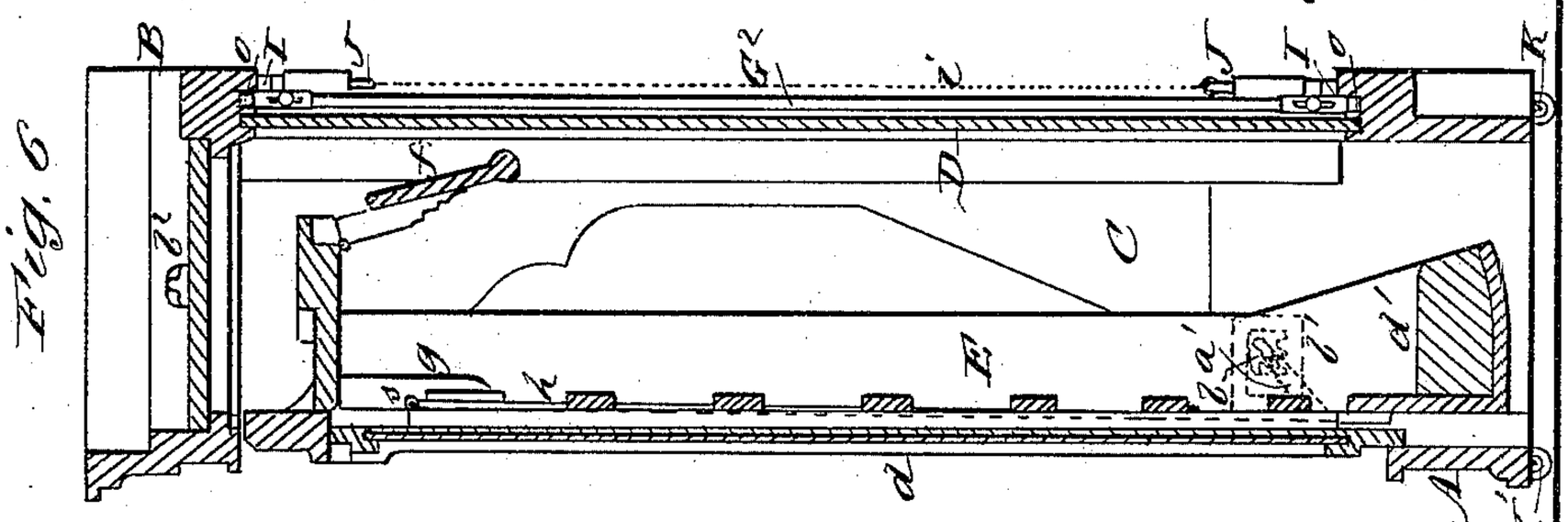


Fig. 5

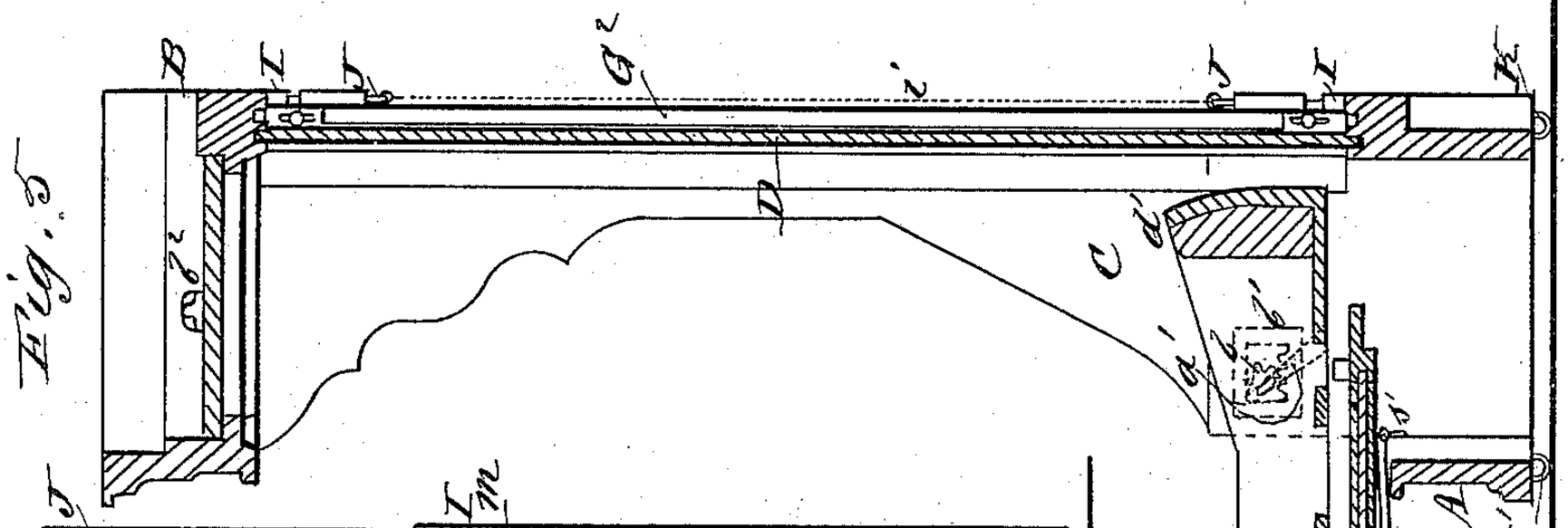


Fig. 7

Fig. 8

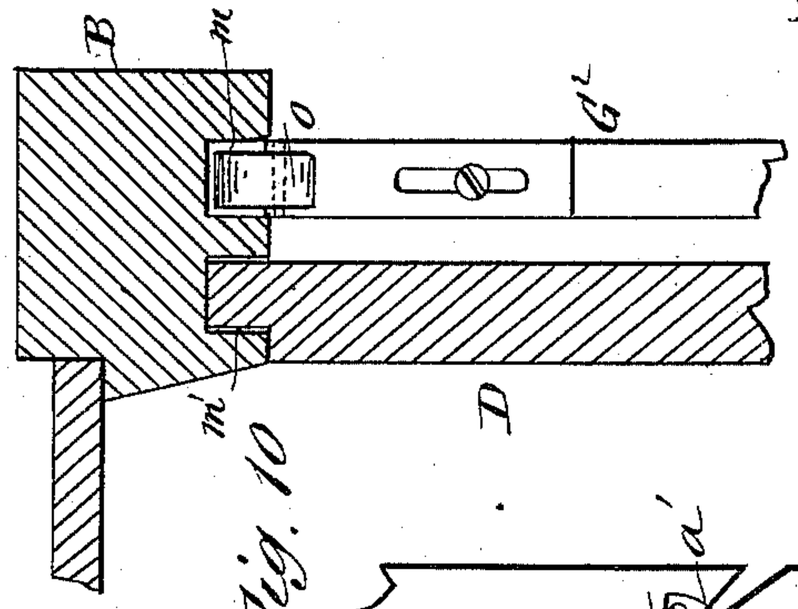


Fig. 10

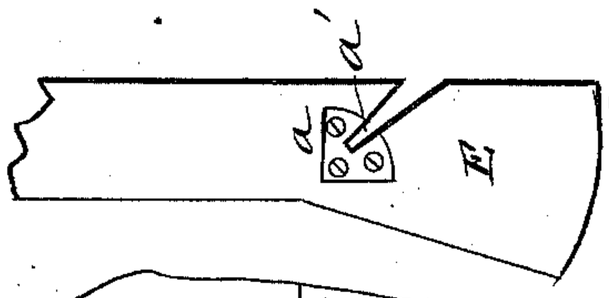
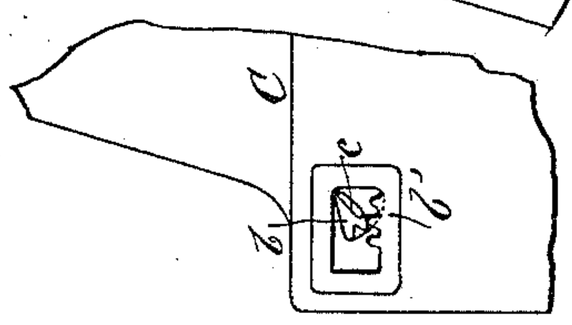


Fig. 9



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WARDROBE-BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 298,873, dated May 20, 1884.

Application filed April 23, 1883. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. McCLURE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wardrobe-Beds, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to folding beds, or bedsteads having hinged bed-bottoms that shut up from the front, and with its parts organized so that the bedstead, when closed, resembles a cabinet or wardrobe in appearance; and it more particularly refers to an improved construction of such bedsteads possessing the following elements or features, viz: a head part or stationary portion having combined with it folding and sliding sides constructed and arranged to pack back or in rear of the bedstead, and, when extended, to inclose the sides and front lateral portions of the closed bed-bottom; a combination of said folding and sliding sides with the head part or stationary portion of the bedstead, and a bed-bottom hinged to said stationary portion, the whole being constructed to provide for the adjustment of said sides, as described, and arranged so that when the said sides are closed in front they unite with the bed-bottom to secure a close front to the bedstead and leave ventilating-openings in rear thereof; a combination, with the folding and sliding sides, of a base-piece and entablature, along the backs of which said sides are free to slide, a stationary back piece, and the hinged bed-bottom having an attached central panel-piece, whereby, accordingly as said sides are closed in front or in rear of the head part of the bedstead, ventilating-openings are left in front or in rear of the structure; a special construction of the folding or sliding sides with an intermediate section provided with a front projecting face-strip, a front section hinged to said intermediate section within or under cover of the face-strip, and a back section hinged to or near the opposite edge of such intermediate section, for operation in connection with the stationary or head part of the bedstead, and with the bed-bottom hinged to said head part; also, various other details of construction, including grooves or ways in the base-piece or entablature of the bedstead for the folding and sliding sides and overlapping face-strips on the opposite edges of the central panel-piece of the hinged bed-bottom for the forward sections of the hinged and folding sides to pass within. All or most of these features are or may be used in the improved bedstead hereinafter described; but separately considered they form no part of my invention, which consists in combinations, with them or certain of them, of movable or rolling fulcrums for the folding bed-bottom, whereby the sides of the cabinet-bedstead may be reduced in width; also, in a special construction of said movable fulcrums, in a combination of a vertically-adjustable caster applied to the head part of the bedstead to adapt the bedstead to uneven floors or surfaces, and in spring bolts or fastenings applied to the folding and sliding sides of the bedstead, and catches or keepers applied to the base and entablature of the bedstead, for arresting said sides in their outward movement, and for locking and holding them in an upright position. Flexible connections are also applied to said fastenings, arranged both above and below, for simultaneously releasing them when required, substantially as hereinafter described.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 represents a face view of my improved bedstead, mainly closed in front, but with one of the folding and sliding sides adjusted to occupy a rear position. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same on the line *x x* in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the bedstead with the parts in the same position as in Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 a top view of the bedstead closed. Figs. 5 and 6 are sectional elevations of the bedstead on the line *y y* in Fig. 1, the same showing, respectively, the bedstead when open and when closed. Fig. 7 is a vertical section upon an enlarged scale, on the line *w w* in Fig. 3, of the lower portion of the bedstead in part; and Fig. 8, a vertical section, also upon an enlarged scale, on the line *z z* in Fig. 3, of the upper portion of the bedstead in part. Figs. 9 and 10 are side views, upon an enlarged scale, of the interior of a lower portion of one of the fixed sides in part, and ex-

terior of the back part of one side of the folding bed-bottom, with means whereby said bottom is made to work upon a rolling and movable fulcrum.

A in the drawings indicates the hollow base-piece of the bedstead, and B its entablature or upper head-piece.

C C are the fixed sides, which unite said base-piece and entablature, and D is the stationary central back piece.

E is the folding bed-bottom, the sides of the frame of which are each provided externally near their rear ends with a plate, *a*, having an oblique slot, *a'*, in it, said slot, which inclines backwardly toward the bottom of the side piece of the frame of the bed-bottom, being continued to and through the lower edge of said side piece. These slotted plates *a* on opposite sides of the bed-bottom provide for the engagement of said bottom with rolling or movable toothed pivots or fulcrums *b*—that is, one in the front lower portion of each fixed side C within a plate, *b'*, countersunk in the inner surface of such side, and having teeth with which the rolling pivot or fulcrum *b* engages. These fulcrums have each a tongue, *c*, on their face, to provide for their engagement within the slots *a'* of the plates *a* of the bed-bottom E when the latter is fitted to its place. When the folding bed-bottom is lowered or extended, the toothed rolling fulcrums *b* roll or move in a forward direction along the toothed plates *b'*, as shown in Fig. 5; but when said bed-bottom is raised or closed the rolling fulcrums *b* move in a backward direction along the plate *b'*, as shown in Fig. 6. This forward and backward self-adjusting action of the bed-bottom E enables me to reduce the width of the sides of the cabinet-bedstead and to give said bedstead a lighter or more tasty and elegant appearance.

d is the central panel-piece of the folding bed-bottom, arranged to lie under the slats of said bottom when it is let down or extended, and concealing or covering said slats for the greater portion of their length when the bed-bottom is raised, thereby forming the central panel of the bedstead when closed.

d' is a removable weight arranged within a box in the back end of the folding bed-bottom to balance or hold said bottom in position when closed.

e is an opening left in the folding bed-bottom along or on each side of the front central panel, *d*.

f is the hinged foot-board, and *g* the hinged leg-supports, flexibly connected at *s s'* by strips or bars *h* with the base A, to provide for said leg-supports being extended into their supporting position when the bed-bottom is let down, and of being shut up when said bottom is raised or closed.

G G' G² are the sections of which each of the folding and sliding sides of the bedstead are composed, and which, when adjusted as shown at the right hand of Figs. 1 and 2, and the folding bed-bottom is raised or closed, leave the openings *e* exposed for ventilating the bed from the front, but which, when adjusted as shown at the left hand of Figs. 1 and 2, assist in holding the bed-bottom in its raised position by the section G' entering within an overlapping strip, *r*, along either side of the central panel-piece, *d*, and leaving a ventilating-opening, *e'*, on each side of the central stationary back piece, D, for ventilating the bed from the back. These folding and sliding sides are constructed and operate substantially as in the other folding bedstead to which I have hereinbefore referred, the same being arranged to work outside of the fixed sides C C, and to slide within grooves or ways *m m'* in the upper edge of the back of the base A, and similar grooves or ways in the lower edge of the back of the entablature B; but to facilitate the sliding movement of these sides the grooved portions *m* of the base A are fitted with rollers *n* for the sections G G² of the sliding sides to run upon, and the sections G² are each fitted above and below with vertically-adjustable rollers *o*, for travel within the grooves *m* of the base A and entablature B. This secures a free and easy action of the sides, the sections G G' G² of which are hinged to each other, and constructed, as in the improved bedstead hereinbefore referred to, to admit of the adjustments shown for them at the right and left hands, respectively, of Fig. 2, the section G' of either side shutting or folding within the section G when it is required to open the front of the bedstead, as shown at the left hand of Fig. 2. To close the bedstead in front by these folding and sliding sides, said sides are drawn outward along the ways *m m'* till arrested by suitable stops. The stops in this improvement consist, in part, of bevel-nosed catches or keepers I on the upper side of the back of the base A and under side of the back of the entablature B, and in part of upper and lower spring-bolts, J, on the outer surface of the sections G² of the folding and sliding sides. The said upper and lower spring-bolts of each section G² may be connected by a cord, *i*, to provide for their being simultaneously disengaged from the catches or keepers I, by pulling outward on said cord for the purpose, when it is required to open the bedstead in front, and to adjust the folding and sliding sides, as shown at the right hand of Fig. 2. In the reverse action or adjustment, however, of said sides—that is, when said sides are drawn outward to close the bedstead in front—the bolts J are shot by their springs into engagement with the keepers or catches I, thus preventing said sides from being drawn too far outward, and, furthermore, serving to keep the folding and sliding sides in an upright position, and preventing them from sliding back until the bolts are purposely released from the catches, thereby serving a double purpose. Furthermore, as in cabinet-like bedsteads of this description it is very desirable or important that the floor or surface on which the bedstead rests should be even or level, I combine with the folding and sliding sides and

folding bed-bottom casters K K′, applied to the bottom of the base A, one, K, of which is made vertically adjustable by means of a screw, a^2, whereby the cabinet-bedstead may be made to conform to an uneven floor.

The fixed portions of the bedstead may be secured together by hook and other fastenings, to give increased convenience for moving it from one apartment or house to another, and so that the bedstead can be taken apart as easily as an ordinary bedstead and without the aid of a screw-driver or other tool. The entablature or upper head-piece, B, it is proposed also to make readily detachable from the fixed side pieces, C C, and adjustable back and forth to suit different levels and secure said entablature being brought close up against the wall by means of buttons b^2, overlapping the base-board of the entablature, and pivoted to strips c^2. These strips are mounted on the upper ends of the fixed sides C, and secured to said sides by screws d^2, passing through slots d^3 in the strips c^2, to provide for the forward and backward adjustment of said strips to conform to the back or forward adjustment of the entablature.

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

1. In a cabinet-bedstead, the combination, with the fixed head or stationary part and its sides, provided in their lower portions with the recesses and toothed frames, of the rolling fulcrum-plates, provided with teeth and tongues, as described, and the folding bed-bottom having its sides provided with oblique slots, said fulcrum-plates engaging the toothed frames, and their tongues engaging the oblique slots, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a cabinet-bedstead, the combination, with the base and entablature, of the sliding sides composed of hinged-together sections provided with rolls, and adapted to move or slide in grooves in the entablature and base, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a cabinet-bedstead, the combination of the entablature and base provided with stops having double-inclined surfaces and central notches, of the sliding sides composed of hinged-together sections provided with rolls, and adapted to move in grooves in the entablature and base, and the spring-bolts having operating-cords, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

WILLIAM H. McCLURE.

Witnesses:
C. SEDGWICK,
EDV. M. CLARK.