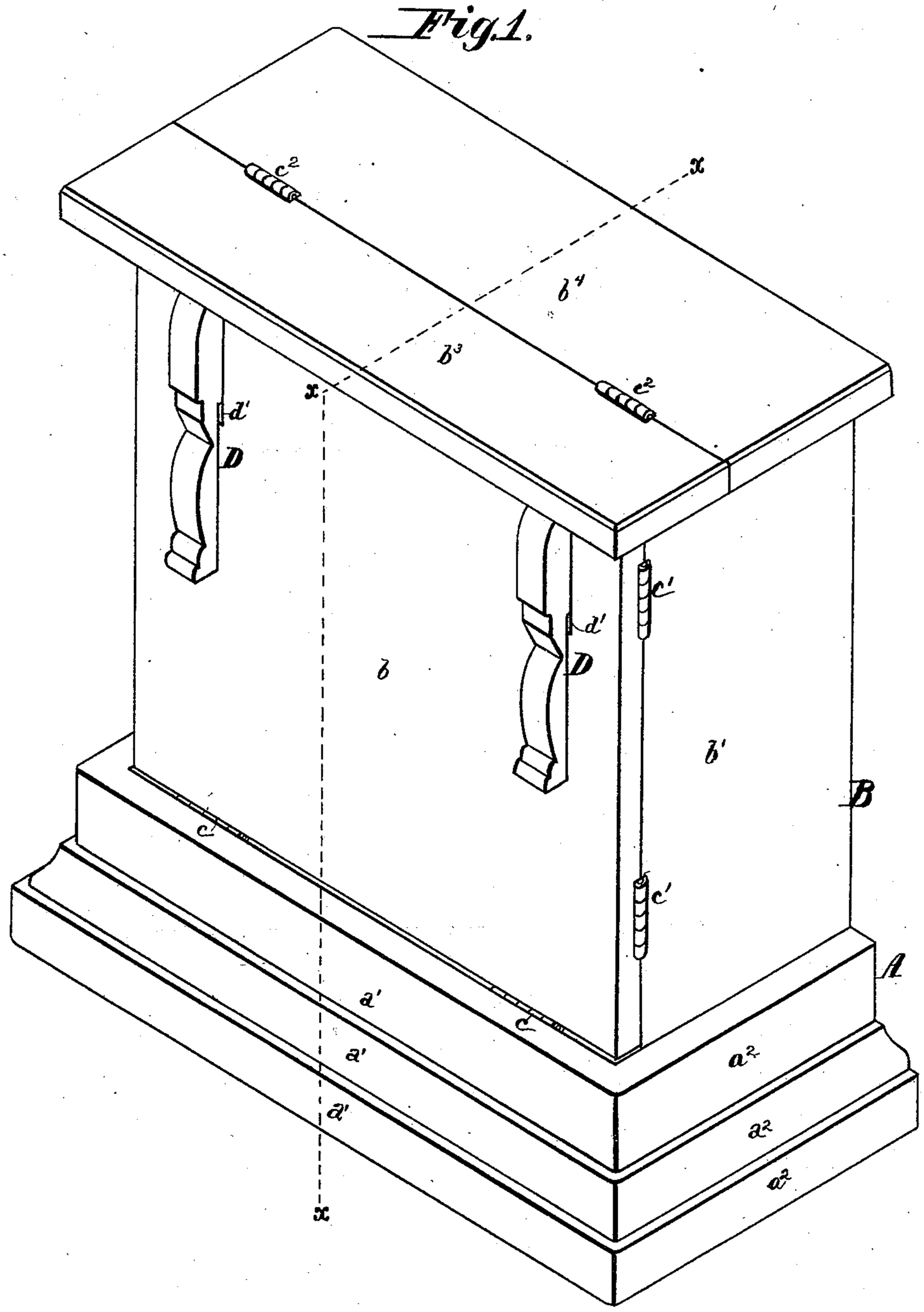
(No Model.) 4 Sheets—Sheet 1.

F. H. WALKER.

FOLDING BEDSTEAD.

No. 316,086. Patented Apr. 21, 1885.

Fig. 1.



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(No Model.) 4 Sheets—Sheet 2.

F. H. WALKER.

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Fig. 2.

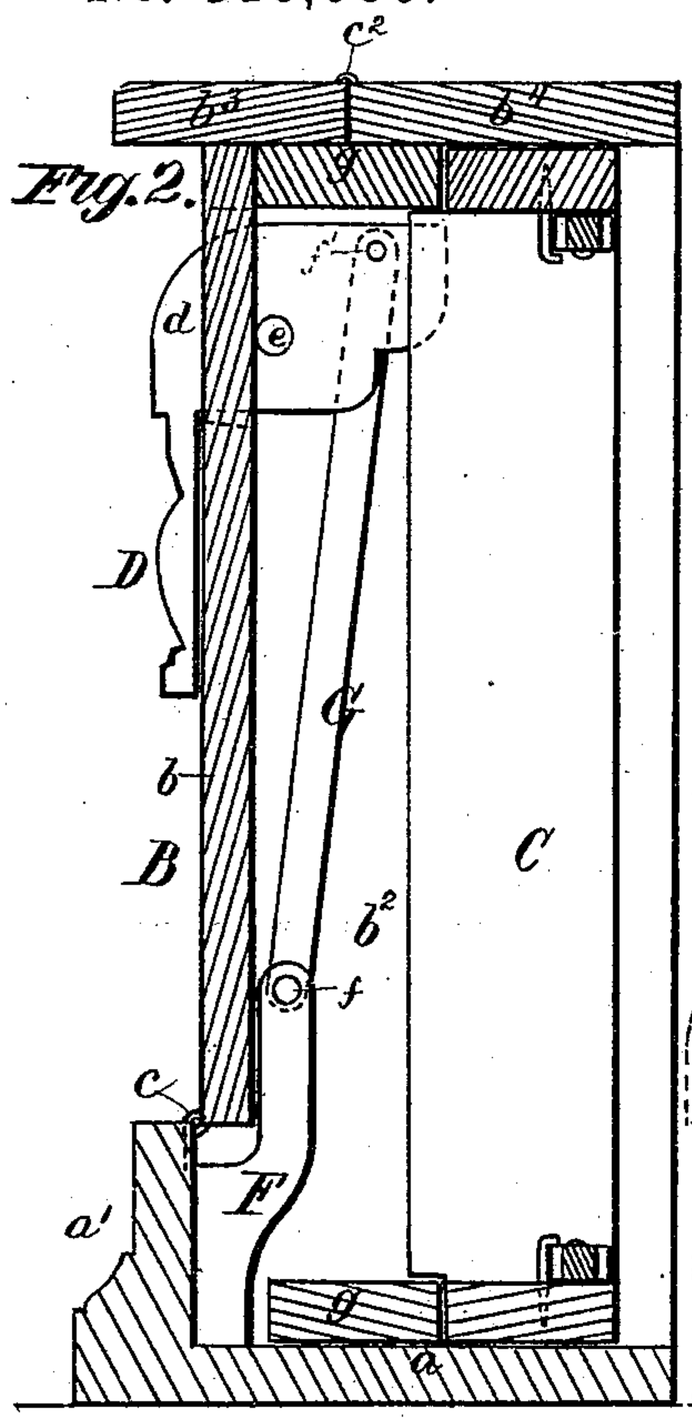


Fig. 5.

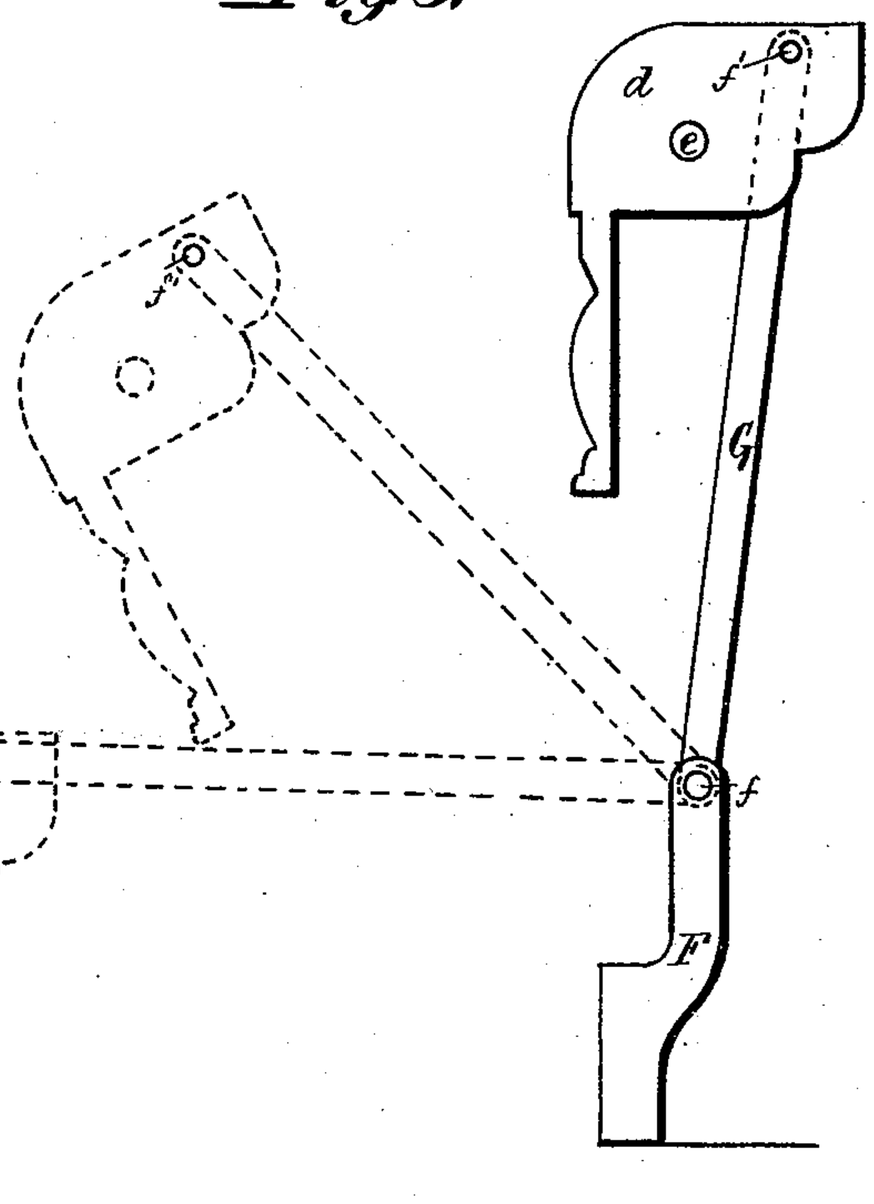
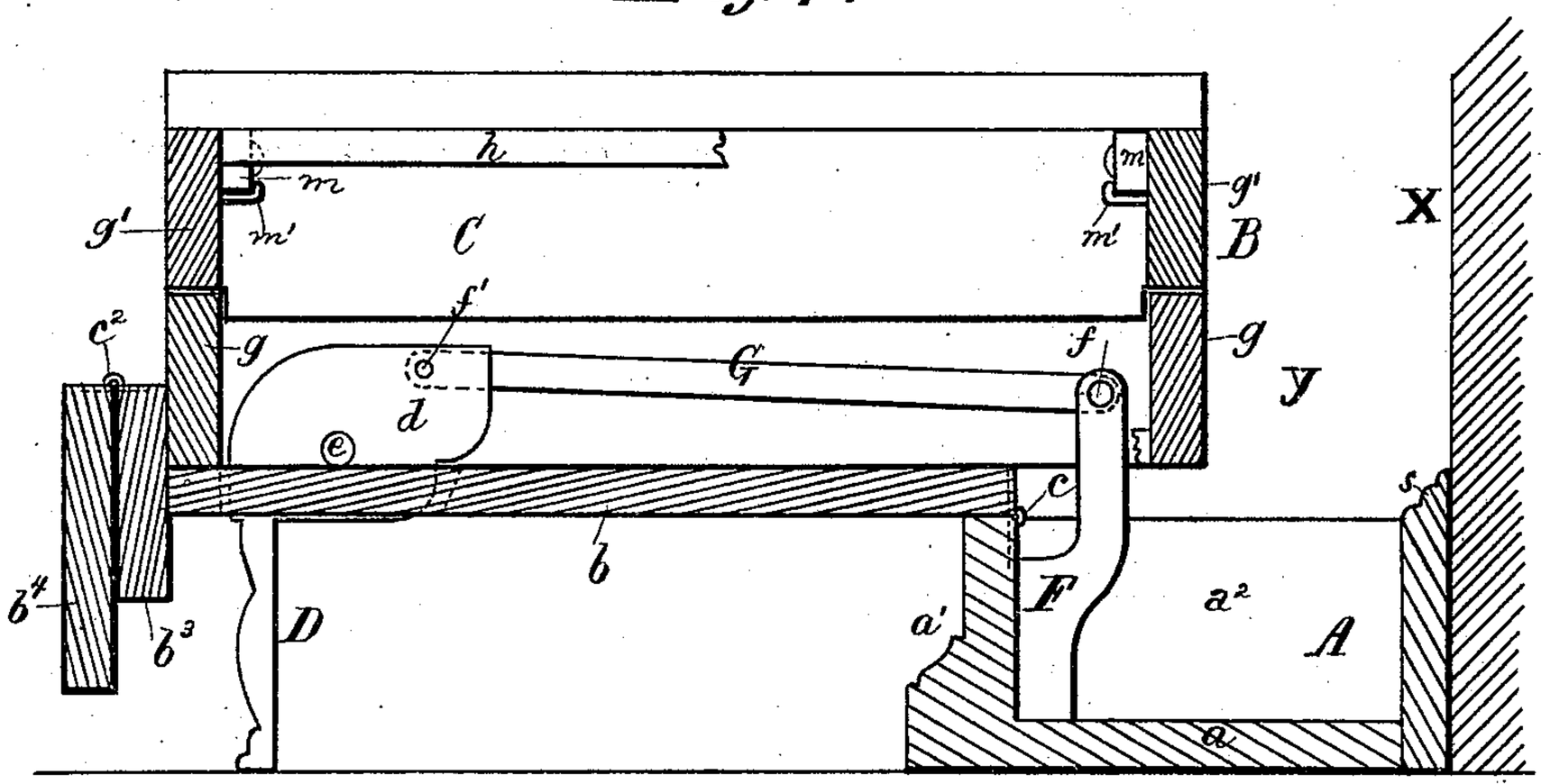


Fig. 4.



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(No Model.) 4 Sheets—Sheet 3.

F. H. WALKER.

FOLDING BEDSTEAD.

No. 316,086. Patented Apr. 21, 1885.

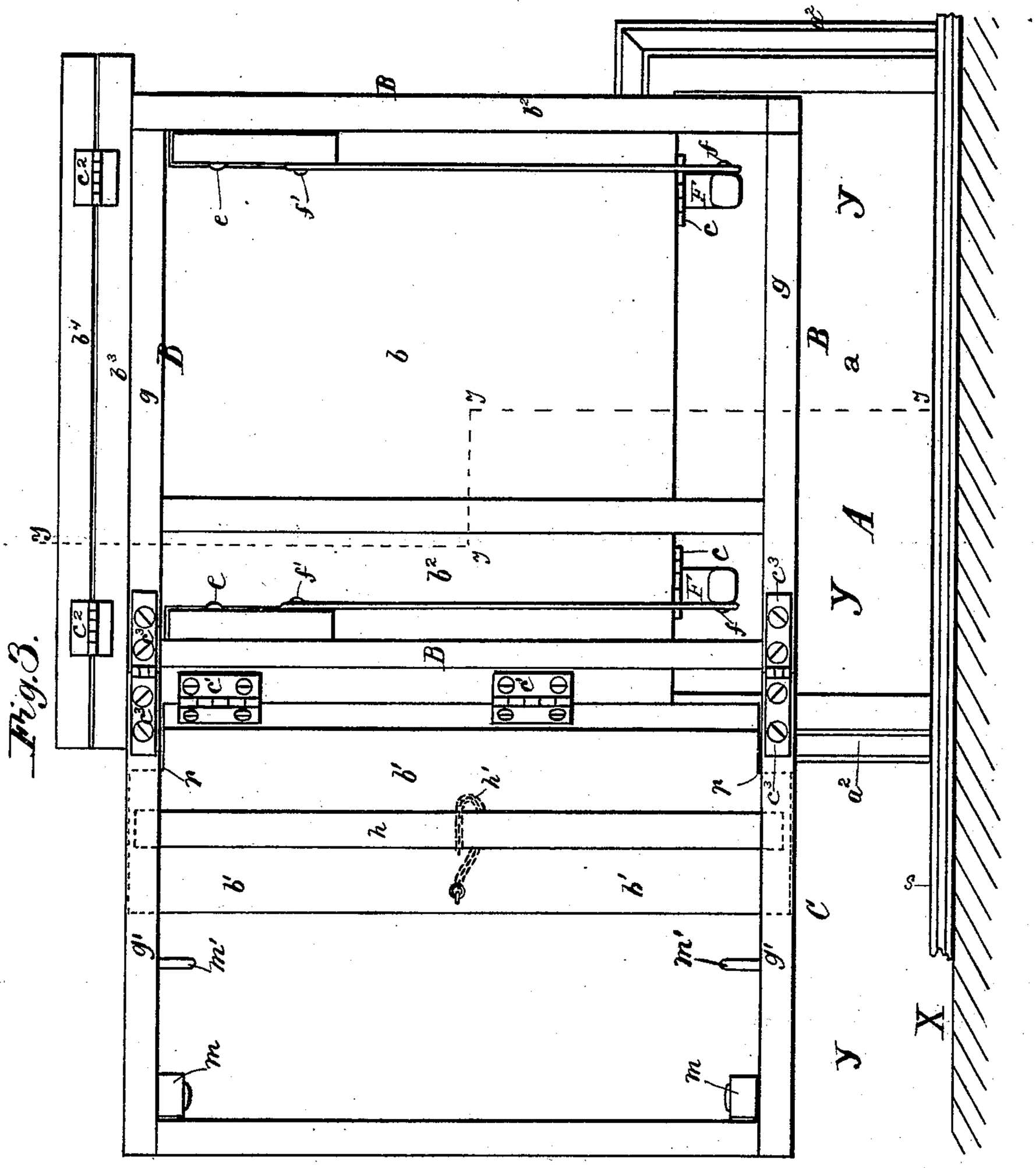

Fig. 3.

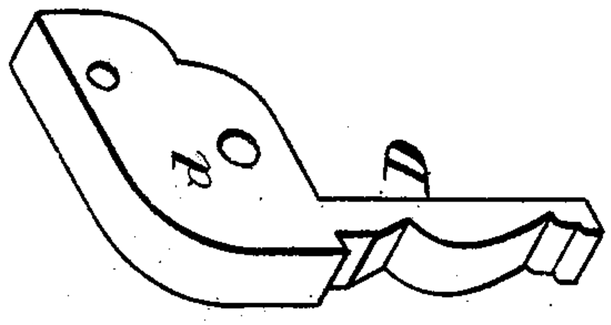

Fig. 6.

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(No Model.) 4 Sheets—Sheet 4.

F. H. WALKER.

FOLDING BEDSTEAD.

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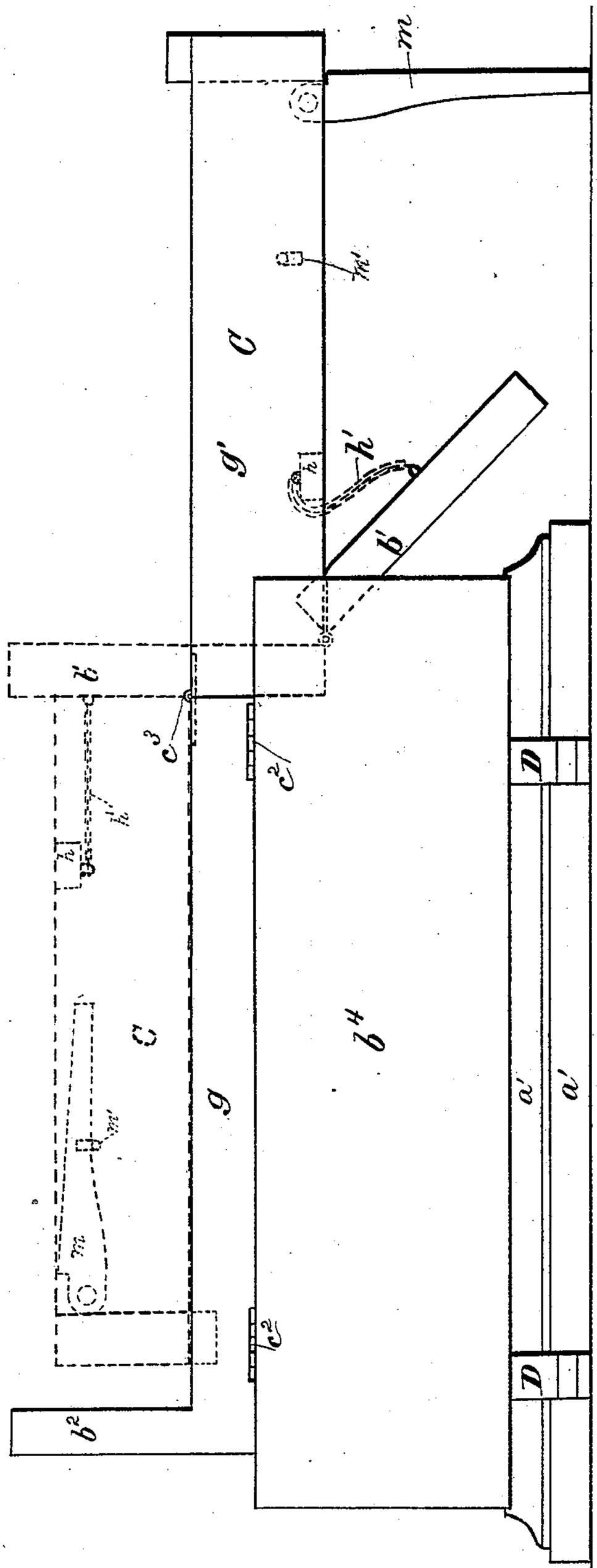
Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS H. WALKER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FOLDING BEDSTEAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 316,086, dated April 21, 1885.

Application filed December 8, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS H. WALKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Folding Bedstead, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is the production of a folding bedstead which shall economize room, be simple, ornamental in shape, and of convenient and reliable construction.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved folding bedstead, the same being represented as when folded up and not in use. Fig. 2 is a section of the same in the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the bedstead when fully unfolded. Fig. 4 is a section in the line *y y* of Fig. 3 before section C has been turned down, as in Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a detail view, showing positions assumed by the supporting-legs of the front side of the bedstead during the act of manipulating the bedstead from its closed position shown in Fig. 1 to its fully-opened position shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the supporting-legs of the front side of the bedstead. Fig. 7 is a side view of the bedstead fully unfolded for use.

In the drawings, A indicates the base-support of the bedstead, the same being open in rear, as clearly indicated in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, and having a bottom portion, *a*, inclosed, as shown, except in rear, by a front wall, as *a'*, and side walls, as a^2. To this base-support, as at *c c*, is hinged a central section, B, of the bedstead, the same consisting of a front wall, *b*, a side wall, *b'*, connected to *b* by hinges *c'*, and an opposite permanent side wall, b^2. A permanent cap portion, b^3, is fixedly connected with the front wall, *b*, and side walls, *b'* b^2, as shown, while to the cap portion b^3 is connected a swinging cap portion, b^4, by hinges, as at c^2, and thus, when the bedstead is folded, as in Fig. 1, the parts b^3 b^4 can be utilized for the purpose of a mantel, which, if the same be covered with room ornaments, so as to conceal the hinges c^2, the two portions b^3 and b^4 will appear to be solid, and at the same form an appropriate place of deposit for the ornaments. I would here state that this central section, B, is made of a height sufficient to form the desired width of the bedstead when thrown from its position as in Figs. 1 and 2 into the position shown in Fig. 3. To this central section a section, C, is hinged, which in size nearly corresponds with the size of section B, and united to section B by hinges c^3 c^3, as shown in Fig. 3, whereby it may be folded down upon the section B when it is desirable to close the bedstead from its working position indicated in Fig. 3 to its closed position indicated in Figs. 1 and 2. In Fig. 3 the bedstead is represented as having been placed, for example, against one of the walls, X, of a room or apartment in which it is to be used, and that the section B has been turned down and out from the foundation-section A, as shown in the figure. In this condition the bedstead thus far has been opened at right angles with the wall X, and with the section C still folded in contact with the section B, as indicated in Fig. 4. The section C is now swung upon its hinges c^3 c^3 off from section B into its fully-extended position, as shown in Fig. 3, thereby forming the full effective length of the bedstead in a direction parallel with the wall X of the room, thus leaving between the bedstead and the wall a space, *y*, for ventilation and accessibility to the "back side" of the bed, while at the same time the bedstead itself is longitudinally parallel with the wall X of the apartment, and out of the way of the main available space of the apartment, which is not the case in that class of folding bedsteads whose whole length is at right angles with the wall when open for use.

By reference to Figs. 1, 2, and 4 it will be seen that my folding bedstead is provided with front supporting-legs, D D, having lever-acting shanks, as *d*, at right angles to the legs proper, and that the shanks *d* pass through proper openings *d'*, formed in the wall *b*, and are retained in position by pins *e*, which pass through the shanks and into contiguous parts of the section B. Thus when the section B of the bedstead is thrown from its position seen in Fig. 2 to its position in Figs. 3 and 4 the legs D will articulate upon the pins *e*. To accomplish this articulation I attach standards F F in any proper manner to the base-section A, as shown, and at the top of each standard pivotally apply a pitman or connecting bar, G, by a pin, *f*, at one end of the bar, while its opposite end is pivotally attached to the

shank *d*, as at *f'*. Thus, the bars G being at one end pivotally attached to posts or standards F, fixedly secured to the foundation section A, and at their opposite ends pivotally attached, as at *f'*, to the shanks *d*, which shanks move upon pins *e* as an axis of articulation, it will be seen that when the section B is drawn forward from its position as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 to its position as in Figs. 3 and 4 the legs D will be automatically thrown from their positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2 to their positions shown in Fig. 4, and that during this act the legs D will always maintain such vertical position as will enable them to act as front supporting-legs when the bedstead is unfolded, and as ornamental parts or brackets resting against the front wall, *b*, when the bedstead is closed up, as represented in Fig. 1.

Heretofore in this class of furniture cumbersome, ungainly, and expensive devices consisting in part either of toggle-joints or ratchets or cogs have been employed to move the supporting-legs; but all such appliances I dispense with simply by the use of the bar G, connected directly to the leg D and a post or standard fixed to the supporting-section A.

The exposed front surfaces of the legs D, as shown in the figures, I propose to ornament with carved work, and thus when the bedstead is closed up said legs will appear as brackets under the cap b^3, and greatly contribute to the artistic appearance of the bedstead, while from its general outward appearance it would be regarded by the casual observer either as a mantel-piece or bureau, or other chamber or ornamental furniture of like character.

By constructing the bedstead in three sections, as A B C, the height of the same, as a whole, when closed up, as in Fig. 1, will accord with that average standard height desirable for a mantel or bureau furniture, while its general form and compactness, when closed, will assist in concealing the fact of its being a folding bedstead, and although it may be left entirely open at the back for purposes of ventilation while closed up, as in Fig. 1, that fact will remain unexposed to the observer, the bedstead being set against the mop-board of the apartment. When the section B is thrown into the horizontal position shown in Fig. 4, the hinged part b^4 is folded down, as shown in said figure, thus leaving the top of the side rails, *g g*, of said section as the upper level of the bedstead-frame, and so when the frame-section C is unfolded from the section B, as shown in Figs. 3 and 7, its rails *g' g'* practically become an extension of the rails *g g* of the section B, and thus the two sections together form a proper longitudinal bed-frame extending parallel to the wall X of the apartment when the bed-frame is completely unfolded for use. It will be seen by reference to Fig. 1 that the wall *b'* is hinged at *c' c'* to the front wall, *b*, of the bedstead, and that it properly serves as a side wall for the bedstead when in a closed condition. In operating the bedstead, if the section B is drawn down into its position shown in Fig. 4, the section C, connected therewith by hinges *c' c'*, will rest upon it, as will be manifest by inspecting section B in Fig. 2, and then supposing it to be drawn down into the position shown in Fig 4, after which the section C is lifted off from B and swung over into its position shown in Figs. 3 and 7, thus completing the full length of the bedstead. When in a closed state, the hinged wall *b'* covers in the section C, and thus the section C cannot be unfolded, as in Fig. 3, without turning down the wall *b'*, as indicated in Fig. 3, and this it does by pressing against the hinged wall *b'* in the act of unfolding. A cross-bar, *h*, connects the side bars, *g' g'*, of the section C, and a chain, *h'*, is attached to the cross-bar *h*, and also to the hinged wall *b'*, so that when the section C is folded up the hinged wall *b'* will be drawn back into position as a protecting end wall of the bedstead. Swinging legs *m m* are applied to the section C, as indicated in Fig. 3, and automatically swing down and form a support for this section. These legs, when the section C is in the act of being folded up, automatically fold up and rest upon pins *m' m'*, projecting from the side rails, *g' g'*, as shown. At *r r* (see Fig. 3) an inner portion of the thickness of the wall *b'* is cut away, so as to allow the side rails, *g' g'*, to assume a horizontal position, as indicated in the figure, when section C is unfolded.

It will be understood that in order to make the folding bedstead assume a longitudinal relation in respect to the wall X of a room against the mop-board *s* of which the bedstead is placed when in use, a hinged end wall, as *b'*, must be provided, as shown in Fig. 1, which will turn down out of the way of the section C when the section is being unfolded, and which also will serve, in connection with other parts, to inclose the sections B and C when the bedstead is folded up, as shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 7 shows the bedstead fully unfolded, the section C being shown in dotted lines as occupying a position upon the section B, as signified in Fig. 4, before said section C is unfolded, as signified in solid lines in Fig. 7. Thus fully unfolded it will be seen that the side wall b^2, opposite to the hinged side wall *b'*, assumes the position and subserves the purpose of a head-board to the bedstead.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of section B, comprising walls *b b'* b^2 and side portions, *g*, with low base A and section C, the portions being connected by hinges, as at *c c'* c^3, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of the low base A, section B, comprising walls *b b'* b^2 and side portions, *g*, a cap covering portion attached to section B, and the section C, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The combination of the low base A, section B, comprising walls *b b'* b^2 and side por-

tions, *g*, cap-piece b^3, with piece b^4 hinged to it, and section C, substantially as and for the purpose described.

4. The combination, with the base A and section B, having the projecting cover, of the bracket-like supporting-legs D, having shanks which are extended through the perforations *d'* in the front wall of section B, and pivoted at *e*, standard F, attached to the base A, and connecting-bar G, pivoted to the said standards and legs D, substantially as and for the purpose described.

5. The combination, with the low base A, of the section B, comprising walls *b b'* b^2 and portions *g*, hinged thereto, section C, hinged to section B, and chain *h'*, connecting the hinged wall *b'* and section C, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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