

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

D. J. POWERS.

FOLDING BED.

No. 321,912.

Patented July 7, 1885.

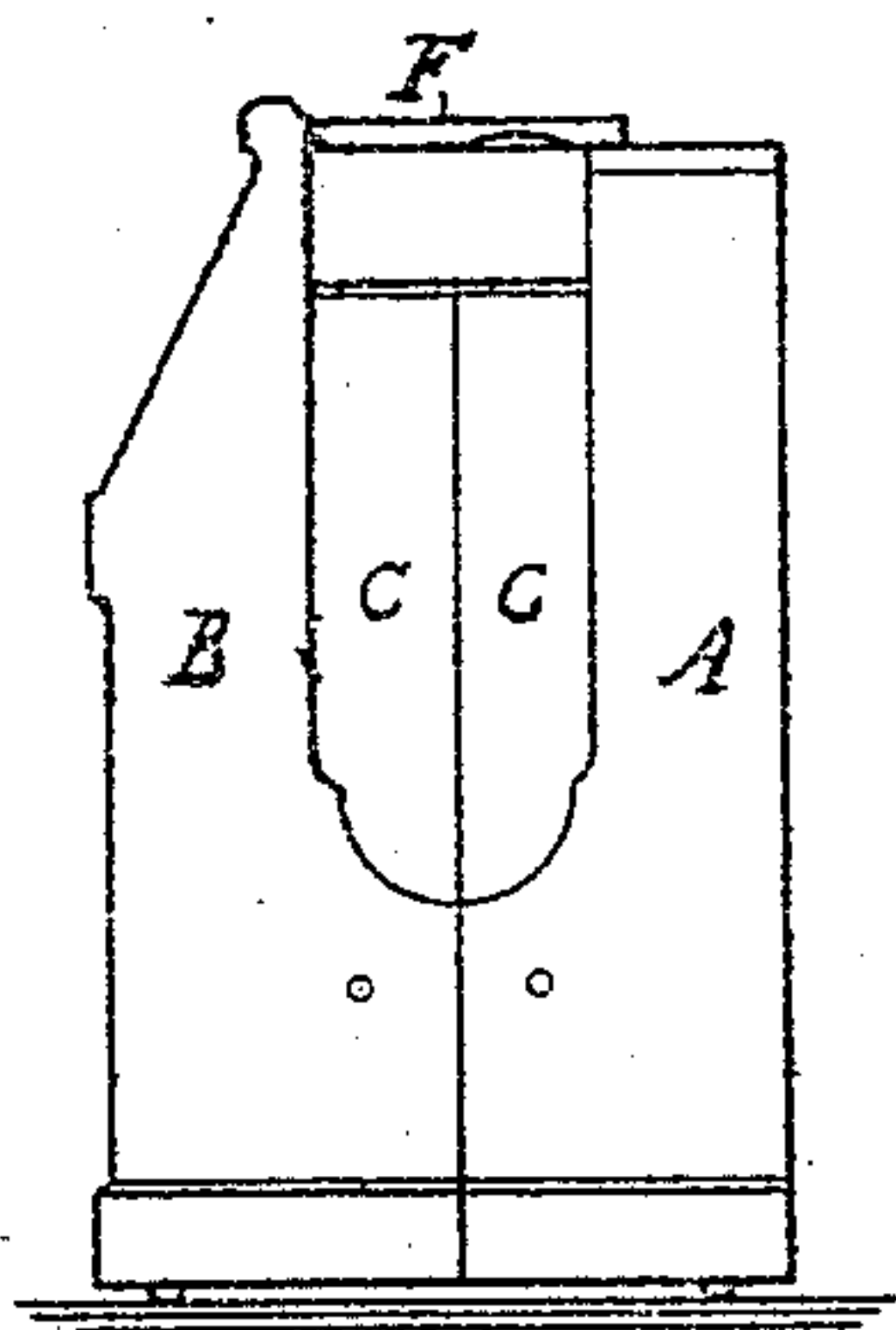


Fig. 1.

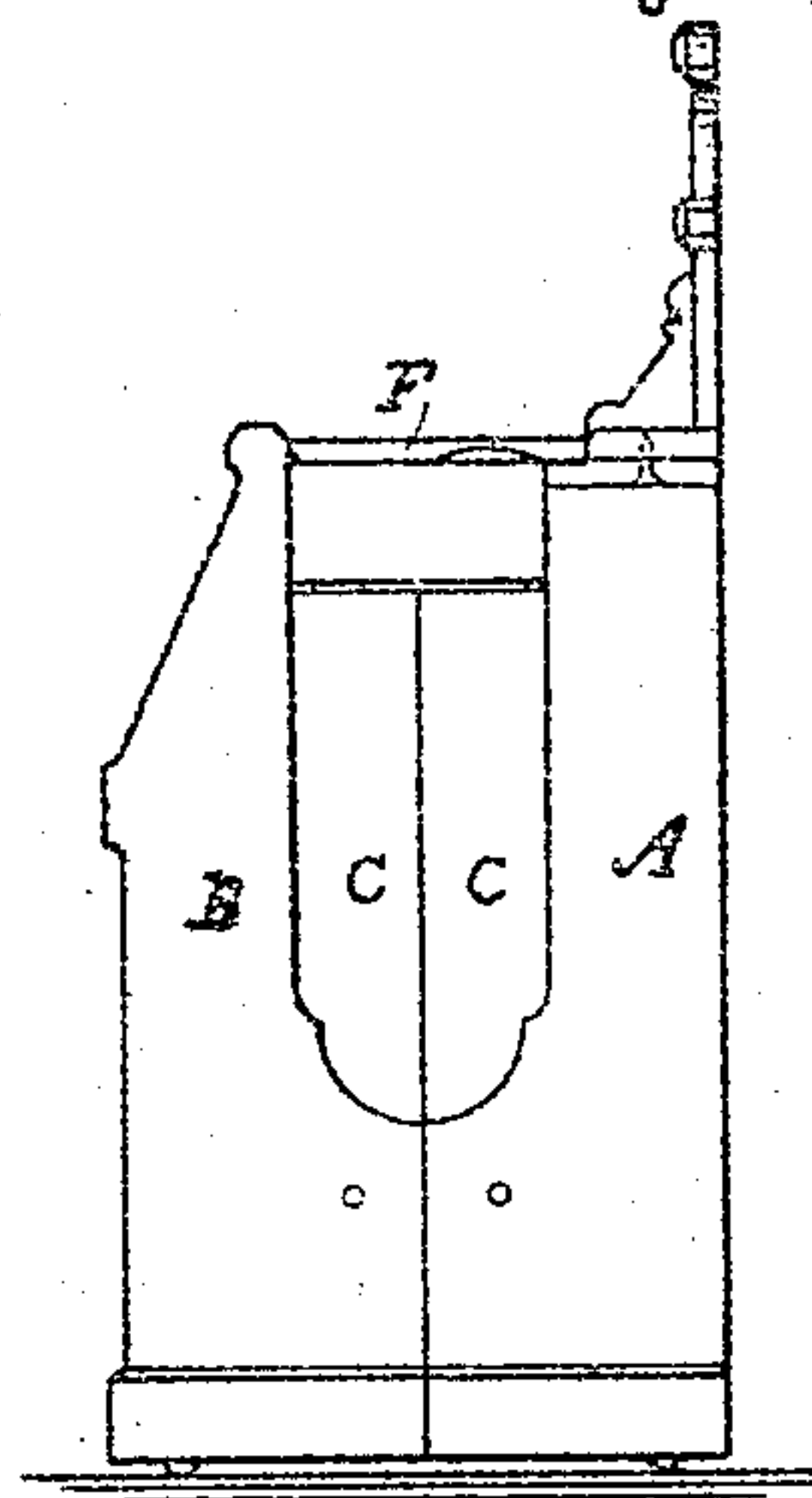


Fig. 2.

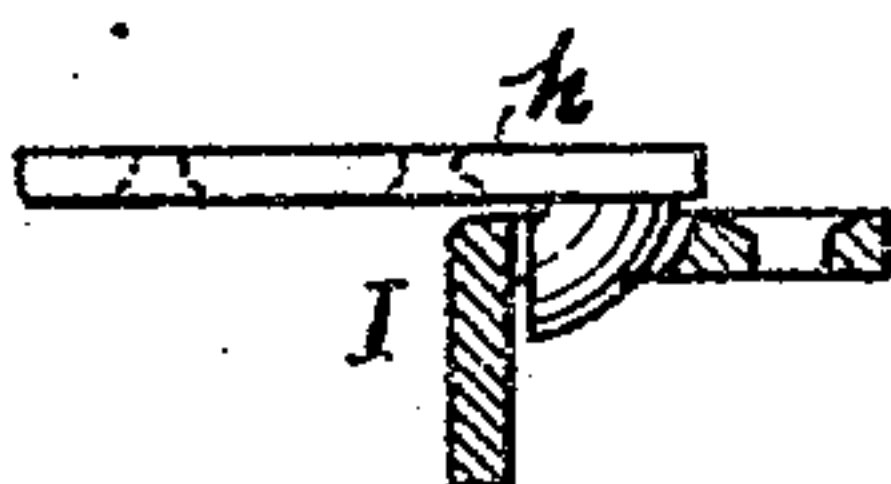


Fig. 3.

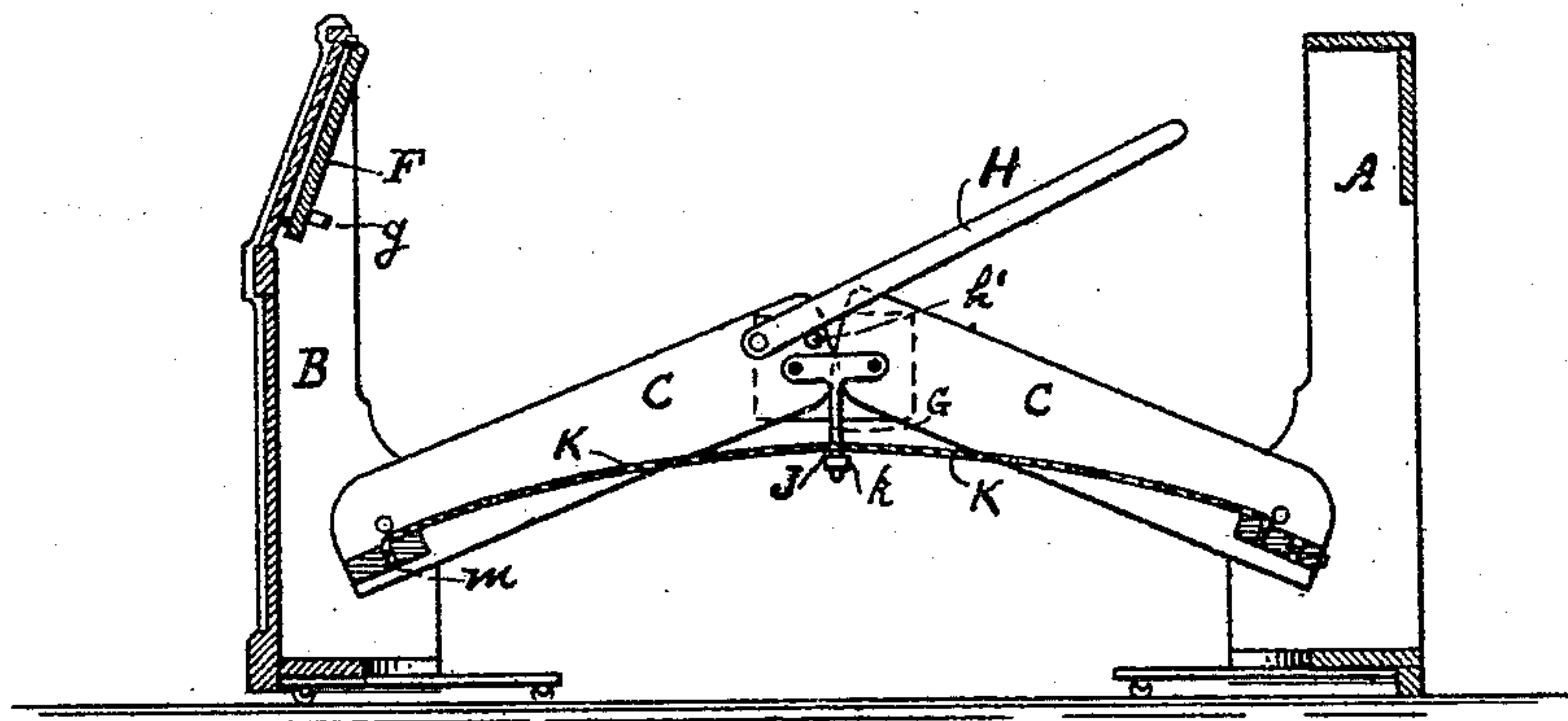


Fig. 4.

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Inventor:
David J. Powers

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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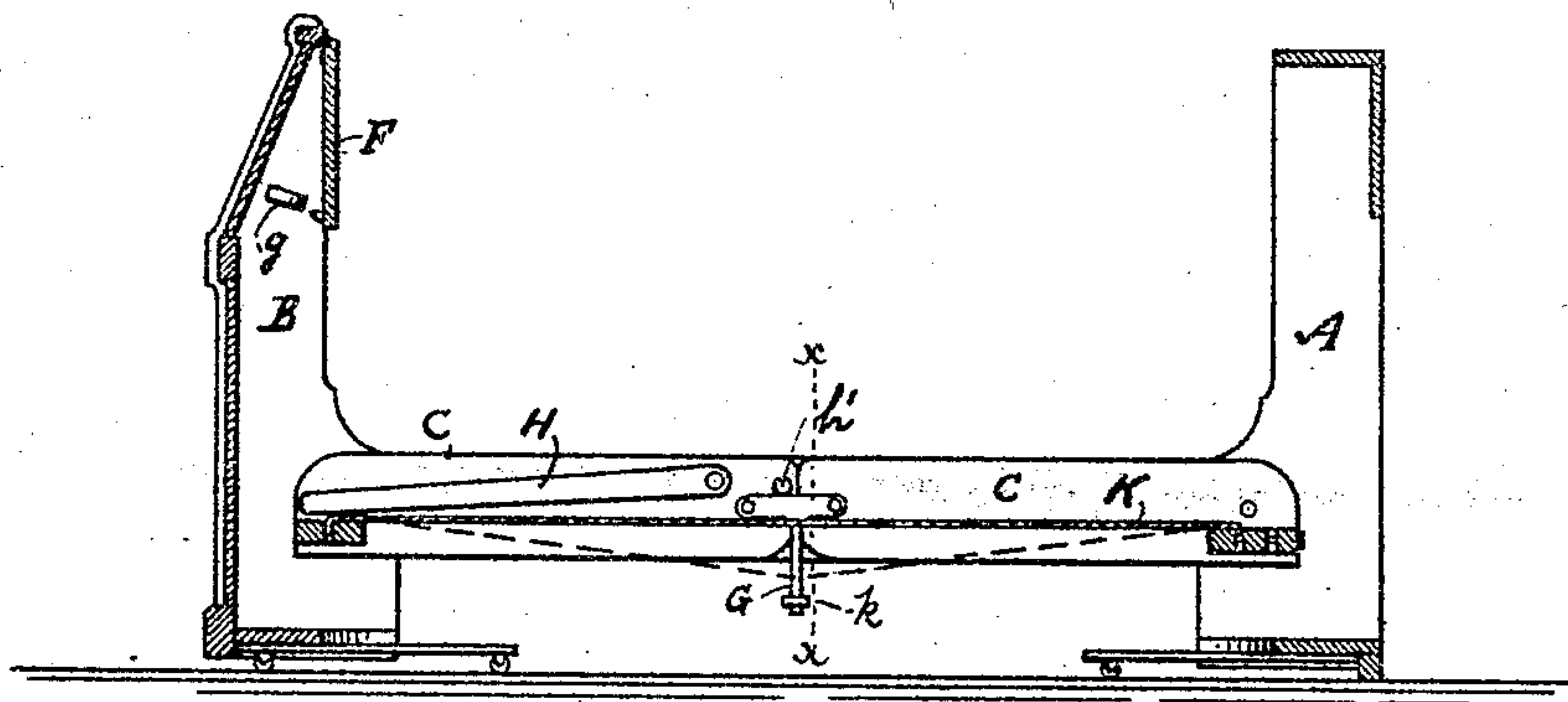


Fig. 5.

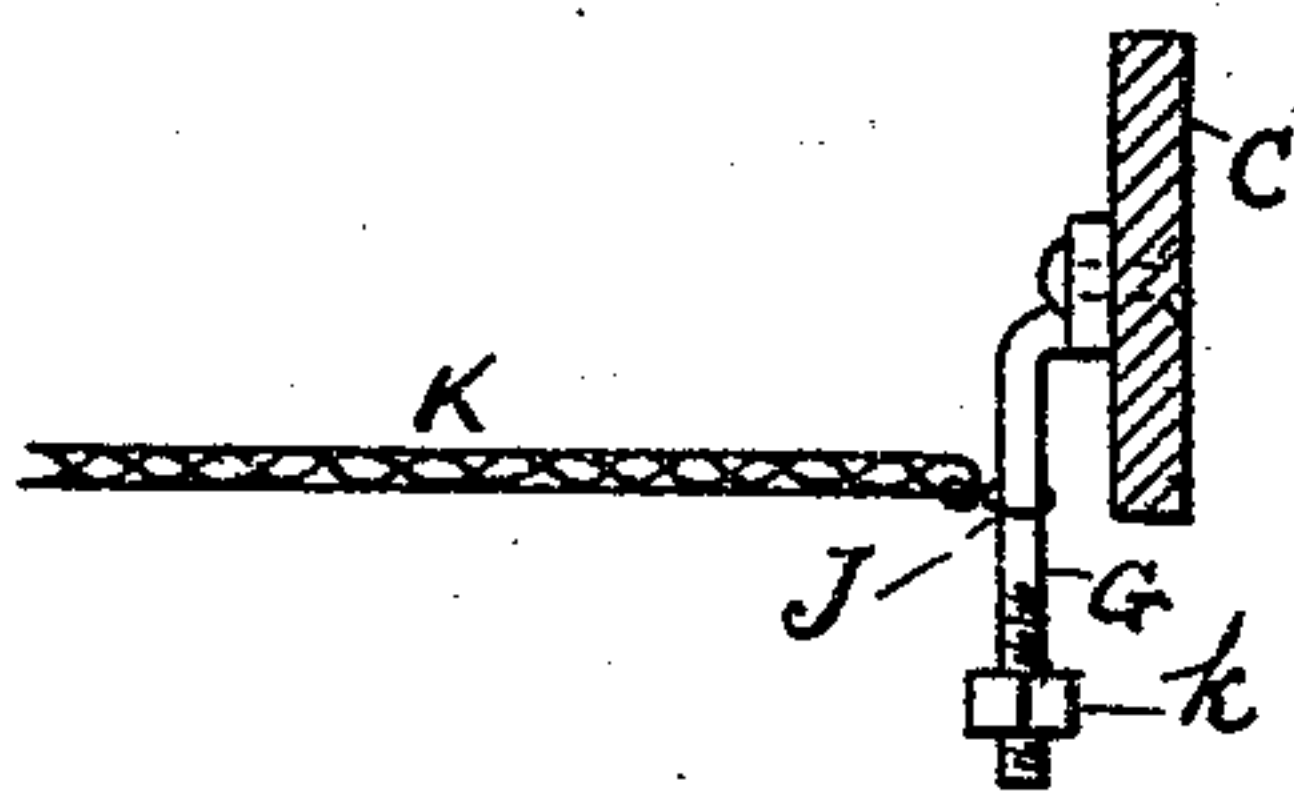


Fig. 6.

Witnesses:
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F. F. Warner.

Inventor:
Daniel J. Powers

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID J. POWERS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FOLDING BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 321,912, dated July 7, 1885.

Application filed January 8, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID J. POWERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Beds, which are fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

10 Figures 1 and 2 represent a folding bed embodying my improvements closed up, the first being represented without a top piece and the second with such piece applied to the head-section; Fig. 3, a detail section on an enlarged scale, showing the catch or locking device for fastening the two bed-sections together; Fig. 4, a longitudinal section on the same scale as the first figures, showing the head and foot sections separated and the lever 20 applied to the jointed side rails, the latter being nearly down in a horizontal position; Fig. 5, a similar view with the side rails brought down in horizontal and locking position; and Fig. 6, a detail section on an enlarged scale, taken on the line *x x*, Fig. 5.

My invention relates to that class of folding beds in which movable upright head and foot sections are employed connected by jointed folding side rails. This type of bed is shown 30 in Letters Patent No. 276,464, granted to me April 24, 1883, and my present invention may be regarded as an improvement upon the said patented structure.

I will proceed to describe in detail the construction and operation of a folding bed in which I have practically embodied my improvements in one way, and will then point out definitely in the claims the special improvements which I believe to be new and 40 wish to protect by Letters Patent.

In the drawings, A and B represent, respectively, the upright head and foot sections which form the head and foot supports of the bed, and which are made independent of each other, 45 but separable by moving either one or both of them bodily in a horizontal direction. These sections are connected together by side rails C, which are hinged at their ends to the respective sections A and B, and are jointed or 50 hinged together about midway of their length, so that they may be folded upward, thereby permitting the head and foot sections to

be brought together, or may be unfolded and brought into a horizontal position when these sections are separated for the purpose of forming a bed. The head-section A is preferably 55 provided with a removable top, which may be made of different forms representing different pieces of furniture, such as a mirror, book-case, or any other like article, and these 60 bodies may be interchangeable, so as to vary the appearance of the bed when closed up.

The cover F is hinged to the front or foot section, B, instead of the head-section, as in my former patent, which arrangement brings 65 the cover more conveniently in reach of a person standing at the foot of the bed to raise it up when closing up the bed, and when the latter is opened this cover falls down of its own weight into the position shown in Fig. 4 70 of the drawings, where it is retained by a spring, *g*, which engages with the cover. When the sections are brought together for the purpose of closing up the bed, the cover, being released, is lifted up, and, resting on the 75 side rails as the latter are raised, will be carried into place over the top of the head-section, which is provided with an aperture, I, into which the catch *h* on the cover drops, thereby securing the two sections together. 80

In order to support the side edges of the fabric, I attach to the side rails, C, at their inner ends where the hinged joint occurs, pendants G, constructed substantially as shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6 of the drawings. Each pendant is 85 pivoted to the two sections of the side rail to which it is attached in such a manner as to remain substantially vertical, whatever the position of the side rail may be, and is screw-threaded at its lower end to receive a nut, *k*, 90 for the purposes hereinafter described. The fabric is provided with a loop, J, at its edge, which fits upon the vertical portion of the pendant, being of sufficient size to move freely upon the pendant and small enough to prevent 95 its passing over the nut *k*. It will be seen that the fabric K, being attached to one of these pendants G at each side, will be prevented from sagging in the middle when any weight is placed upon it, while at the same time it is 100 capable of moving freely up and down at this point as well as at all intermediate points between its middle and ends. The nut *k* will limit the downward motion of the fabric when

the bed is in use to prevent its descending too low, and will carry the fabric up with it when the bed is folded up, as indicated in Fig. 4 of the drawings.

5 The fabric K, employed in beds of this character, is elastic, and in the operation of preparing the bedstead for use by unfolding it this fabric is stretched, owing to the separation of the head and foot sections, and consequently offers a certain amount of resistance. 10 In order to overcome this resistance and render the operation of unfolding the bed as easy as possible, I attach to one of the side rails, C, a lever, H, which is pivoted to the side rail, 15 so as to be capable of being swung back in the position shown in Fig 5 of the drawings when not in use, or to be swung over into the position shown in Fig. 4, when it bears against a stop or projection, *h'*, on the side rail, so that 20 any downward pressure applied to the outer end of the lever will operate upon the side rail in an obvious manner to force it down into position. After the rails are down in place the lever may be swung back, as shown in Fig. 5, 25 where it will be out of the way and concealed from view.

From the above description the operation of my improved bedstead will be readily understood without further description. It is 30 obvious that various mechanical modifications in the details of construction may be made without departing from the principle of my invention, and I therefore do not wish to be understood as limiting myself strictly to the 35 precise details shown and described.

In an earlier application for patent, Serial No. 94,802, filed May 10, 1883, I have shown and described somewhat different devices for 40 holding out the side edges of the fabric, and have claimed somewhat broadly this general

improvement in suspended bed-bottoms. I do not wish to be understood, therefore, as in the present case claiming this improvement broadly, but herein I claim only the special means for accomplishing this result, as set 45 forth in my claims.

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

1. The combination, with the head and foot 50 sections and jointed side rails connecting the same, of the pendants pivoted to the side rails, and the elastic fabric having its side edges connected to the pendants, substantially as and for the purposes specified. 55

2. The combination, with the head and foot sections and the jointed side rails connecting the same, of the pendants G, pivoted to the side rails and provided with nuts *k* on their 60 threaded lower ends, and the elastic fabric K, provided with loops *j*, through which the pendants pass, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

3. The combination, with the head and foot sections and the jointed side rails connecting 65 the same, of a lever attached to one of the side rails to aid in forcing them down into position, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

4. The combination, with the head and foot 70 sections and the jointed side rails connecting the same, of the lever H, pivoted to one of the side rails, and the stop or projection *h'* on said side rail, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

DAVID J. POWERS.

Witnesses:

FRANK A. POWERS,
ABE. L. GRIFFETH.