(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

T. J. CHRISTY.

FOLDING BED.

No. 397,779. Patented Feb. 12, 1889.

Fig. 1.

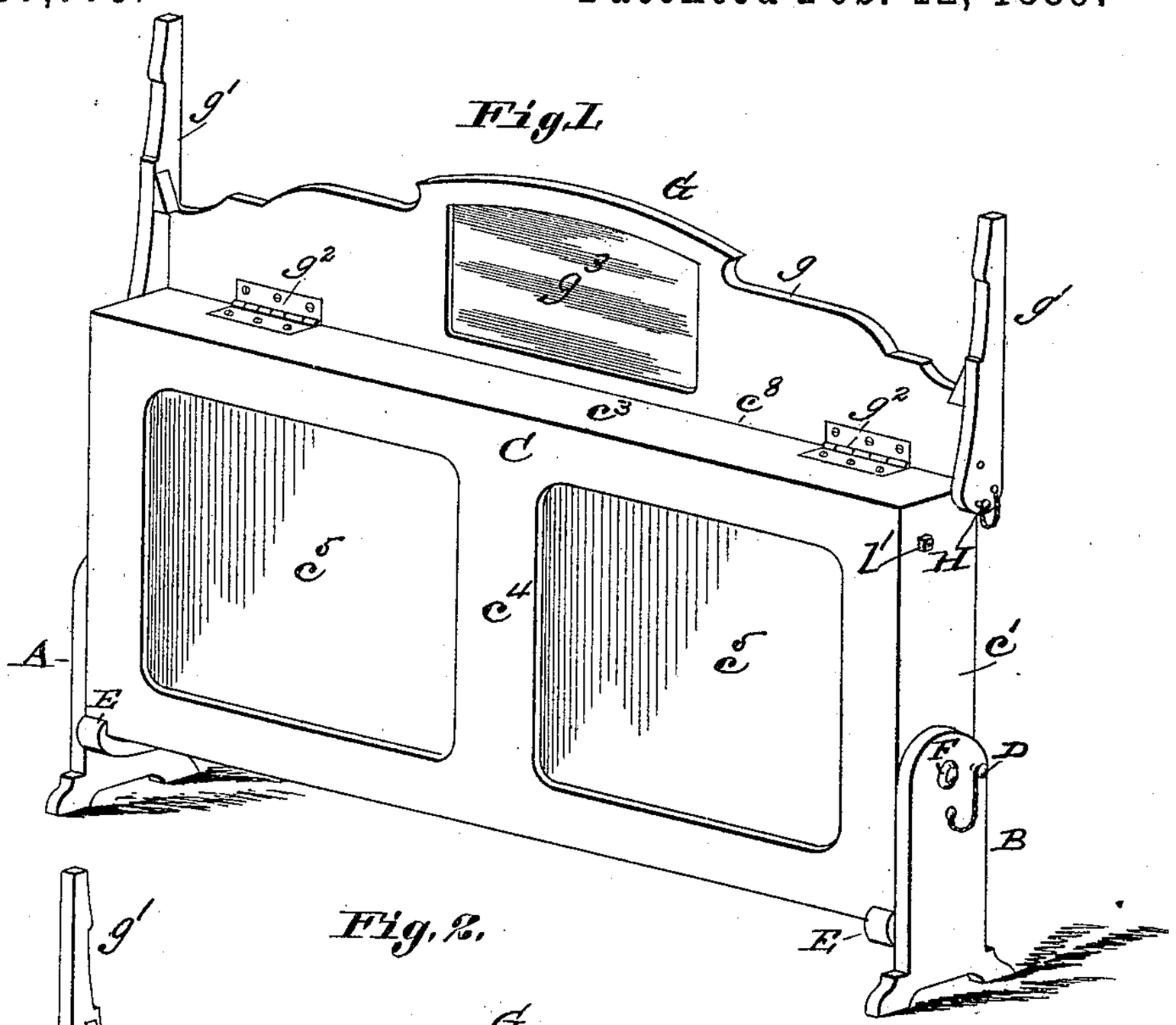
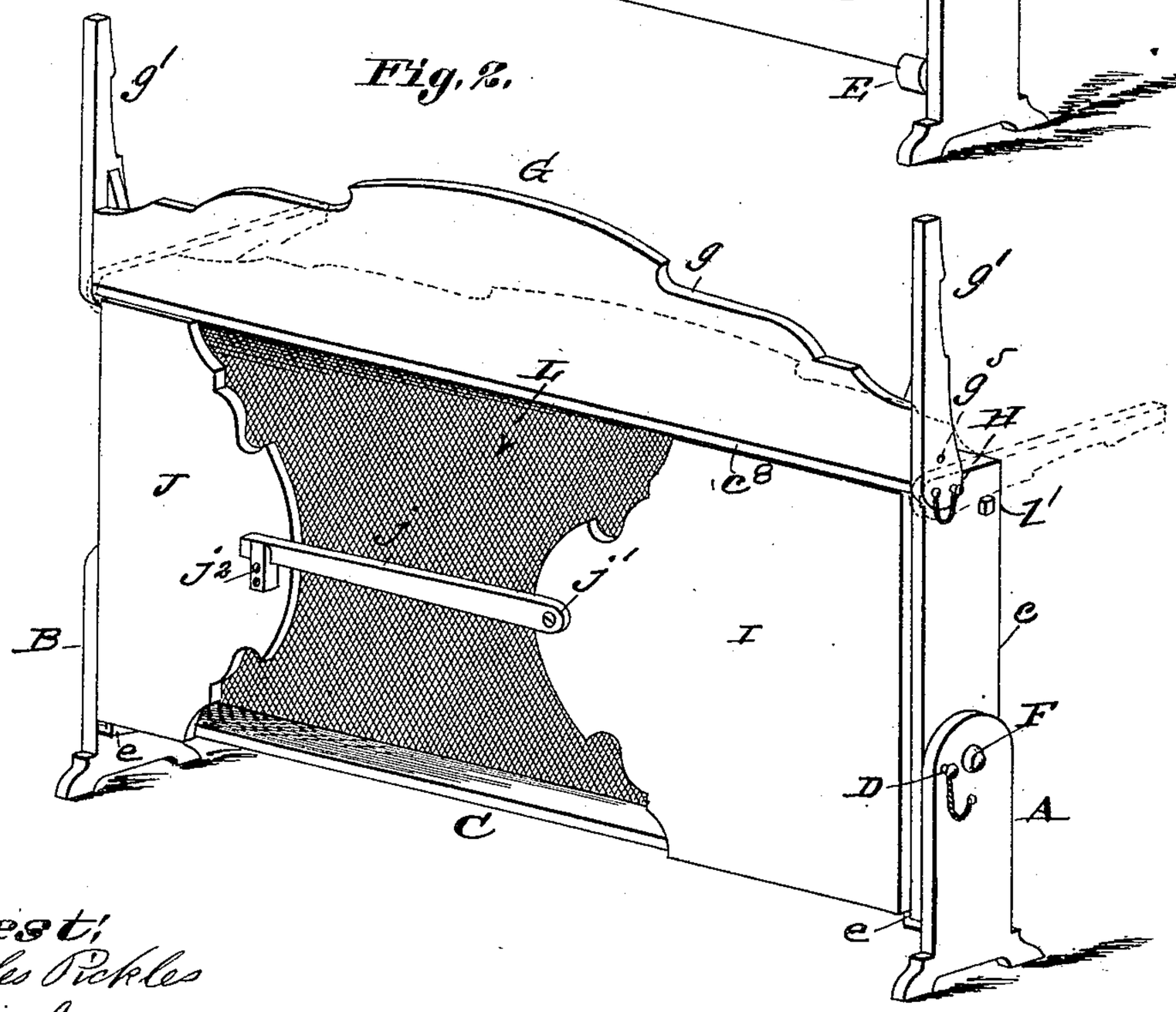


Fig. 2.



Attest;
Charles Pickles
G. S. Hinchman jr.

Inventor;
Thomas J. Christy
by Edmonds atty

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.

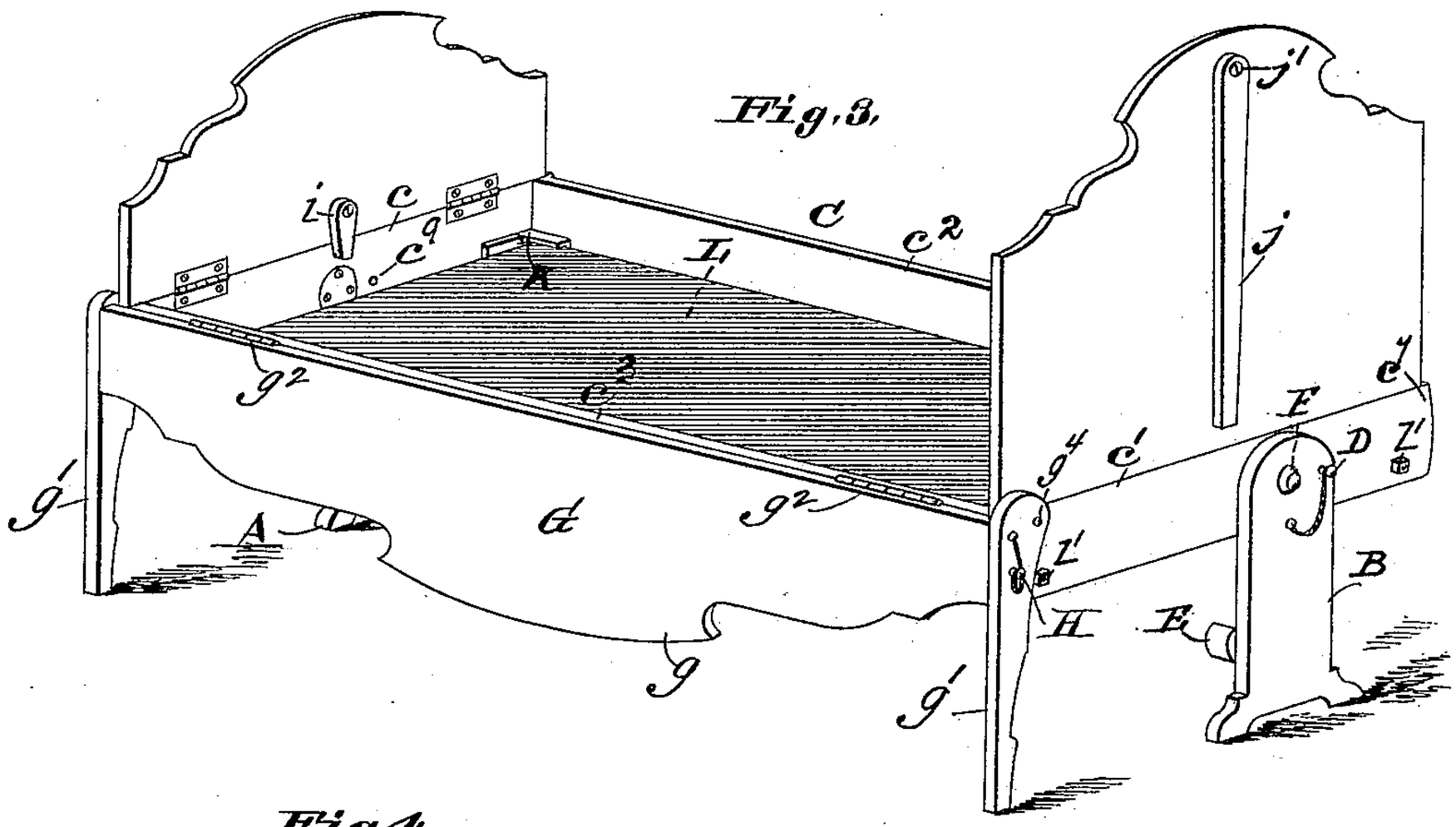


Fig. 4.

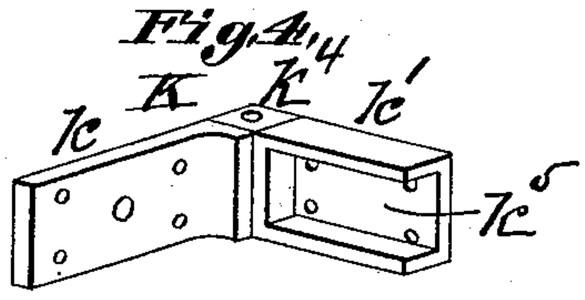


Fig. 5.

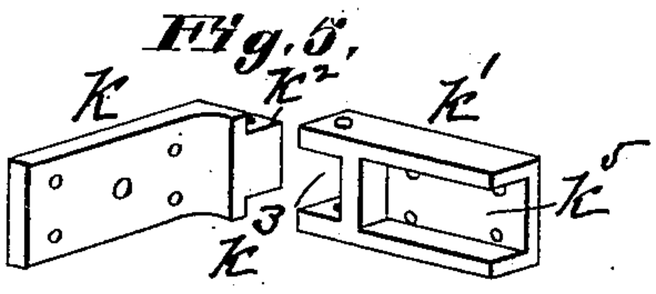


Fig. 6.

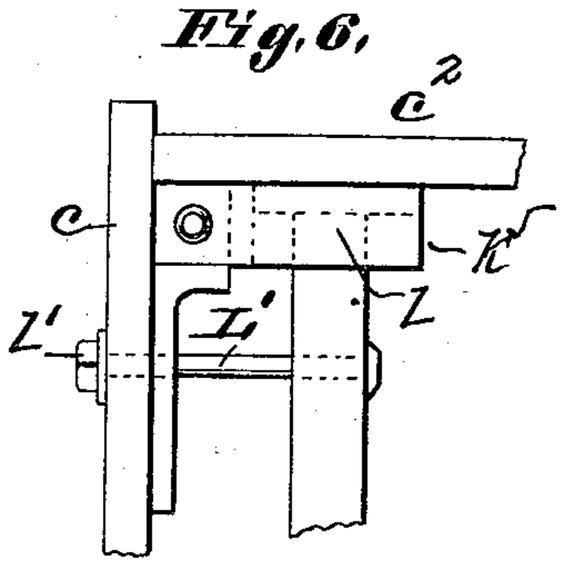


Fig. 7.

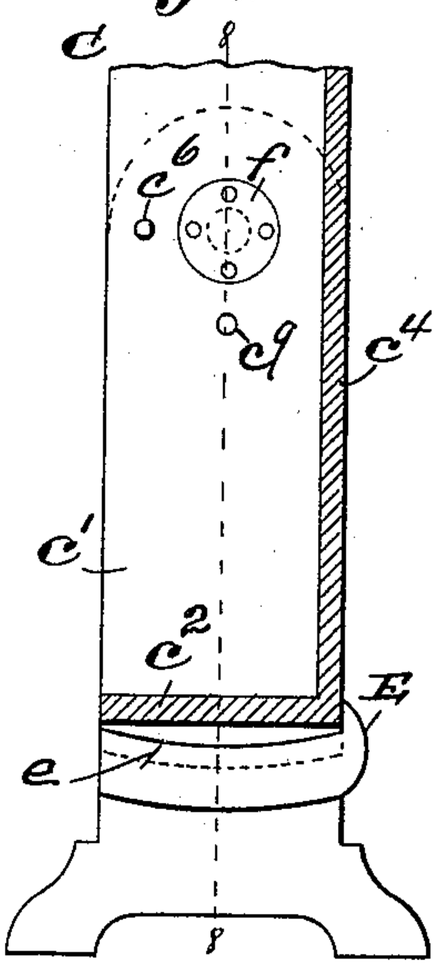
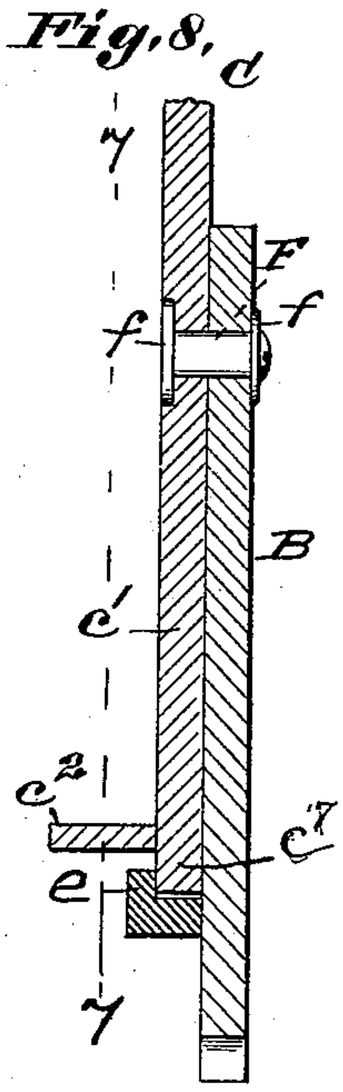


Fig. 8.



Attest;
Charles Pickles
G. S. Hinchman jr.

Inventor;
Thomas J. Christy
by Connoody & Bby

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. CHRISTY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO THE ECONOMY FOLDING BED COMPANY, OF EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS.

FOLDING BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,779, dated February 12, 1889.

Application filed April 23, 1888. Serial No. 271,560. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. CHRISTY, of St. Louis, Missouri, have made a new and useful Improvement in Folding Beds, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The novelty in the present instance consists in the construction of the several parts and in the combination of the same, all substantially as presently set forth and claimed, aided by a reference to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective showing the improved bed folded into an upright position; Fig. 2, a view in perspective showing the bed in an upright position, but presenting the opposite side to that of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a view in perspective showing the bed unfolded into a horizontal position, as when used as a bed; Fig. 4, a view in perspective showing one of the four irons used, respectively, at the corners of the bed-frame for uniting the side and end rails and for supporting the bed; Fig. 5, a view in perspective showing the parts of the bed-iron detached from each other; Fig. 6, a plan of a corner of the bed-frame, including the end rail of the bed; Fig. 7, a vertical section on the line 7 7 of Fig. 8, showing the lower (when folded) portion of the bed-frame and its support; and Fig. 8, a vertical section on the line 8 8 of Fig. 7.

The views are upon various scales.

The same letters of reference denote the same parts.

A B, Figs. 1 and 2, represent the legs, which furnish the pivotal support for the upper portion of the structure. The bed-frame C, saving as it may be modified or supplemented by the improvement under consideration, is of a familiar form, consisting, mainly, of the end rails, c c', the side rails, c^2 c^3, and the bottom c^4. When the bed-frame is in an upright position, the bottom c^4 becomes the front of the structure, and it may be variously shaped and ornamented. As represented in Fig. 1, it is paneled at c^5, and, if desired, the panels may be occupied by mirrors.

To steady the bed-frame in either of its positions, the following means are adopted: When the bed-frame is upturned, a pin, D, is passed through a perforation in the leg B and into a perforation, c^6, in the end rail of the bed-frame. To insure the bed-frame in upturning it from swinging too far, the legs A B are each provided with a stop, E, Figs. 1, 3, and 7, against which the bed-frame strikes when brought into its proper upright position. The pivots upon which the bed-frame swings are shown at F. They are suitably constructed with head flanges or washers f to confine the bed-frame longitudinally to the legs A B; but to efficiently steady the structure when the bed-frame is upturned, and at the same time obviate the need of a frame to inclose the bed-frame, the bed-frame is extended to form or is provided with a projection, c^7, Figs. 3 and 8, which, when the bed-frame is upturned, comes snugly between the legs A B and a lip, e. The bed-frame and leg are thus, for the time being, locked endwise together at two points—at the point of the pivot and at the lower corner of the bed-frame. The lip e is conveniently made in one piece with the stop E.

When it is desired to use the structure as a bed, the pin D is withdrawn from its position in the bed-frame, and then the bed-frame is turned upon its pivots F in the reverse direction to that in which it was turned in folding it and brought into the position of Fig. 3. The legs A B cannot now be relied upon as the sole support of the bed-frame, especially in view of the fact that the bed-frame is usually not pivoted at its center to the legs but nearer to its side.

G represents the head-piece. It is composed of the horizontal part g and the leg-shaped ends g' g'. It is hinged at g^2 to the side rail c^3 at the upper edge, c^8, thereof, substantially as shown, and it is thereby adapted to be turned upward and downward, as indicated by its two positions shown, respectively, in Figs. 1 and 3. The head-piece in its position of Fig. 1 serves to ornament the structure, and to that end it may have any desirable configuration consistent with the other office which it performs; but for useful purposes the head-piece forms, in conjunction with the side rail c^3, a mantel suitable for supporting such things as are commonly placed upon mantels. It may also have a mirror, g^3, inserted in it.

When the head-piece is turned down, as in Fig. 3, it becomes a leg to uphold the bed-frame, the hinges g^2 becoming the means for connecting the two parts. The pin D is again brought into use by passing it through the leg B and into another perforation, c^9, in the end rail, c'. An analogous means may also be employed for fixing the head-piece in its two positions respectively. H represents a pin which may be passed through the end g' and into the bed-frame, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, and for that purpose the end g' is perforated at two points, g^4 g^5, to suit the different positions of the end g' with relation to the bed-frame. The pin H in its position of Fig. 3 also materially supplements the hinges g^2 in connecting the head-piece G with the bed-frame as a support thereof.

The bed-frame is provided with a head-board, I, and a foot-board, J, which are hinged thereto to enable them to be opened out into an upright position, Fig. 3, or to be folded parallel with the bed-frame, as in Fig. 2. When unfolded, the button i may serve to support them. When folded, they may be used to keep the bedclothes from falling out of the bed-frame, and, to secure the head and foot boards so that they may not unfold when the bed-frame is folded, one of them—say the head-board—is provided with an arm or bar, j, which may be turned around on its pivot j', Fig. 2, and made to engage with the catch j^2 upon the foot-board, as shown.

The bed C is supported in the bed-frame by means of the irons K, Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5. These irons are in two parts, k and k'. The part k is fastened to the end rail of the bed-frame, and the part k' to the side rail. The tenon k^2 of the part k is received in the mortise k^3 of the part k', and then by inserting a bolt, k^4, the parts k k' are united, and the end rail and side rail at that corner of the bed-frame thereby secured together. A similar iron is used at each corner of the bed-frame. By removing the bolts k^4 the bed-frame may be disjointed. The parts k' are slotted at k^5 to receive the projections l of the bed, by which means the bed is upheld. The slots k^5 permit of the bed projections l being moved in them, by which means the bed-bottom, when it is desired to stretch it, can be drawn in the direction of the end rails. This in turn is accomplished by the bolts L′ and nuts l', such as shown in Figs. 5, 1, and 2, the bolts passing through the end rail, f', of the bed and the end rail of the bed-frame.

I am aware that a swinging and folding bed is not broadly new, and that such beds having hinged sides or paneled bottom are not new.

I claim—

1. The combination of the legs A B and the bed-frame C, made as described, and having bottom c^4, said legs having stops E, provided with the lips e, and said bed-frame being pivoted at F to said legs and having the projections c^7, which engage the stops E between the lips e and the sides of the leg, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a swinging and folding bed, the bed-frame C, having the end rails perforated at c^6, combined with the perforated legs A and B, having stops E, and pin D, adapted to engage the perforation in the leg and bed to hold the bed in an unfolded position, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. The combination of the bed-frame, the irons K, each of said irons made in two parts, k k', the part k fastened to end rail and the part k' to the side rail, the tenon of one part secured in the mortise of the other by bolt k^4, and the bed-bottom, said bottom having projections l, which engage in slots in said irons, whereby said bottom is adjustably connected with the end rails of said frame, substantially as described.

THOMAS J. CHRISTY.

Witnesses:
C. D. MOODY,
F. G. STEWART.