(No Model.)

J. E. GIBBS.

QUILTING FRAME FOR SEWING MACHINES.

No. 454,520. Patented June 23, 1891.

Fig. 1

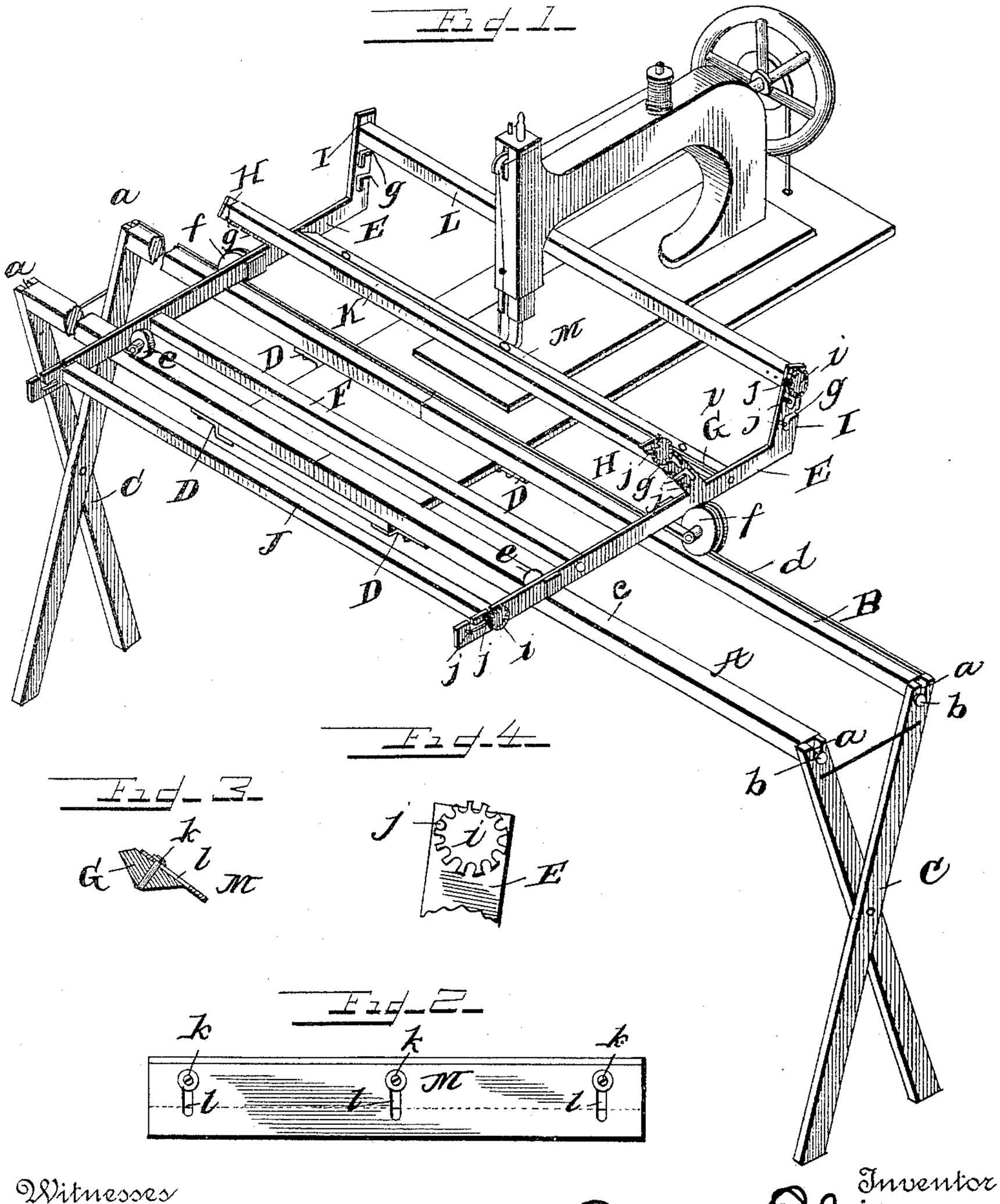

Fig. 4

Fig. 3

Fig. 2

Witnesses

G. A. Taubenschmidt.

J. D. Kingsbury.

Inventor

James E. Gibbs,

by Johnston Reinhold & Dyre.

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES EDWIN GIBBS, OF JONESBOROUGH, TENNESSEE.

QUILTING-FRAME FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 454,520, dated June 23, 1891.

Application filed March 23, 1891. Serial No. 386,098. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES E. GIBBS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jonesborough, in the county of Washington and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Quilting-Frames; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to quilting-frames, especially to that class adapted to be attached to a sewing-machine and to facilitate the art of making machine-stitched quilts.

The invention will be hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved frame as applied to a sewing-machine table; Fig. 2, a front elevation of a gage-plate for accommodating the machine to quilts of different thickness; Fig. 3, a section through said gage-plate and the bar to which it is adjustably attached, and Fig. 4, a face view of a ratchet for retaining the storing roller in any position with relation to sides of the frame.

Reference being had to the drawings and the letters thereon, A B represent tracks laid upon and crossing at right angles a sewing-machine table, each track being made in two sections abutting at the center of said table and secured beneath it by metallic clips, as shown in Fig. 1. Both tracks extend a suitable distance on either side of the table and their weight is partly sustained by folding props or supports C, notched, as at *a*, in their upper ends to receive pintles *b*, projecting from the extremities of said tracks, the upper ends of supports C being tied to prevent them spreading when in use. Track A presents a perfectly plain tread or upper surface *c*, while B is provided at its inner edge with a raised metallic rail *d*, intended for a grooved wheel.

Metallic spring-clips D, with serrated upturned ends, (not shown,) engaging the under side of the table, are secured to each section of tracks A B by screws entering the under side of the tracks and serving to embed the teeth at the opposite end of said clips in the table. Upon this structure is located the quilting-frame consisting in metallic sides E of flat spring-steel connected by ties or stay-rods F G, and mounted upon wheels *e f*, secured to the sides in such position that they engage tracks A B, upon which the frame is thus permitted to reciprocate. Wheels *f* differ from those marked *e* only in the fact that they are grooved so as to engage the raised track-rail *d*.

Metallic sides of the frame E are provided with two integral projections H I, each extending upward at an angle in opposite directions and provided with the several notches *g*, similar to those in the outer ends of said sides E. In these notches *g* are rollers J K L, which are a little shorter than the width between the sides E, and are journaled on pintles protruding from their ends, to the extremity of which latter are rigidly affixed ratchet-wheels *i*, one tooth of each of said wheels engaging pins or studs *j* on spring-frame E for the purpose of locking the rollers in any desired position with relation to said frame. Stay-rods F G are alike, except that G is provided with a vertically-adjustable metallic gage-plate M, secured to the rod by screws *k*, passing through elongated slots *l*, as shown in Fig. 3.

The operation of my improved quilter is as follows: Material intended to constitute the cover of a quilt is wound upon roller *k*, and that for the lining upon roller J. The free ends of both are then passed under the gage-plate M, the latter being adjusted to a predetermined height in the manner before described. Cotton-batting or analogous material is now inserted between cover and lining of the quilt from in front of the frame, and the stitching proceeds as in ordinary sewing. The material being held down by the gage-plate M upon the face-plate of the machine, the "feed" serves to advance the material to the needle in the usual manner, taking with it the frame rolling freely on tracks A B as it advances until the row of stitches is complete. The operator then releases all three ratchet-wheels *i* from contact with pins *j* by compressing sides E with relation to each other, rolls the stitched end of the quilt upon roller L, and the operation is repeated until the opposite end is reached, when the quilt is turned and similar rows of stitches run

throughout its length at right angles or any other angle to the first.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

In a quilting-frame, the combination of metallic spring sides, one of which is provided with laterally-projecting studs on its outer surface and joined by brace-rods and rollers, the latter being provided with ratchet-wheels engaging the studs on the frame.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES EDWIN GIBBS.

Witnesses:

ALVAH KEEN,

HENRY SMITH.