

(No Model.)

W. D. SNYDER.
FOLDING BEDSTEAD.

No. 587,495.

Patented Aug. 3, 1897.

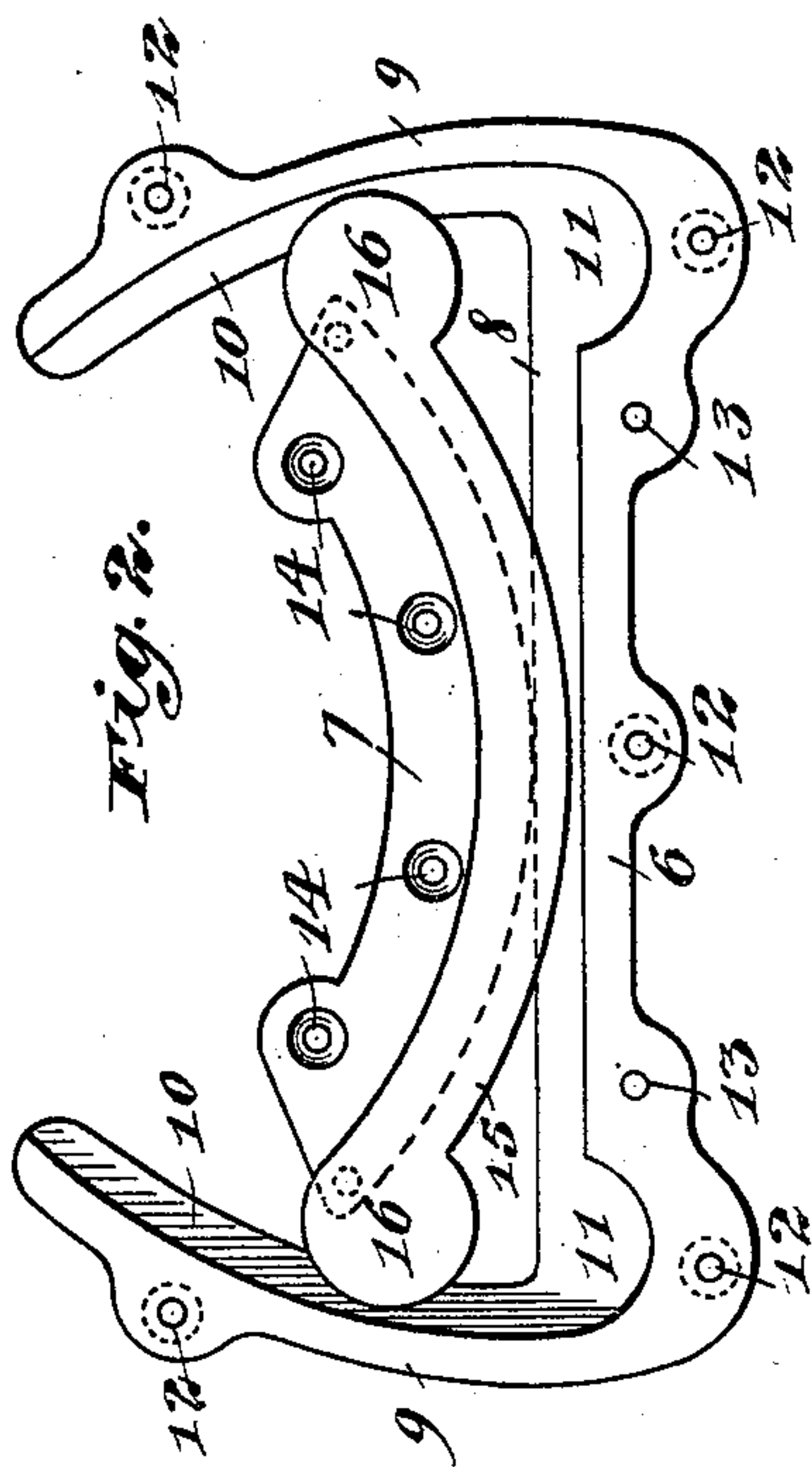
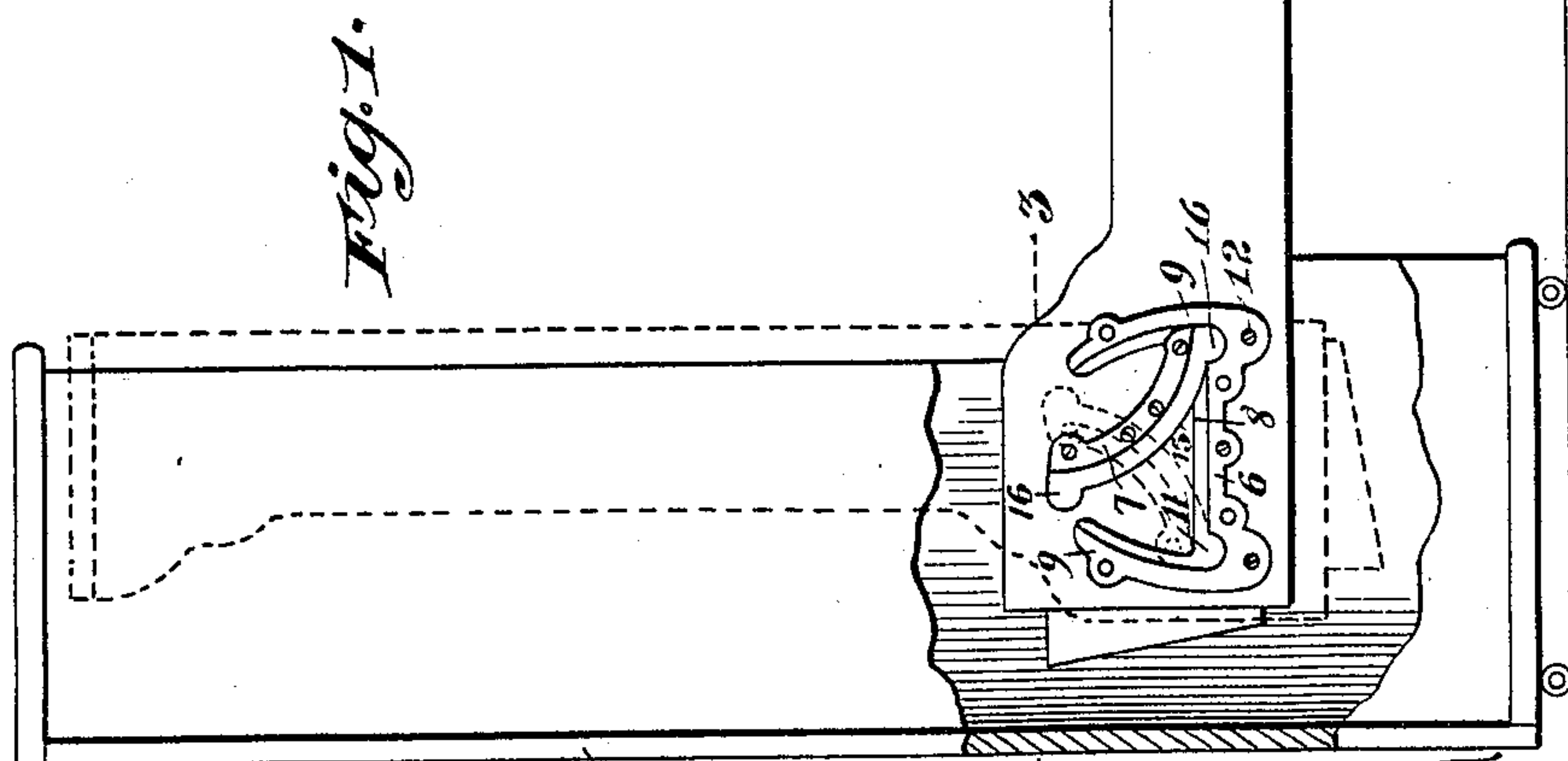
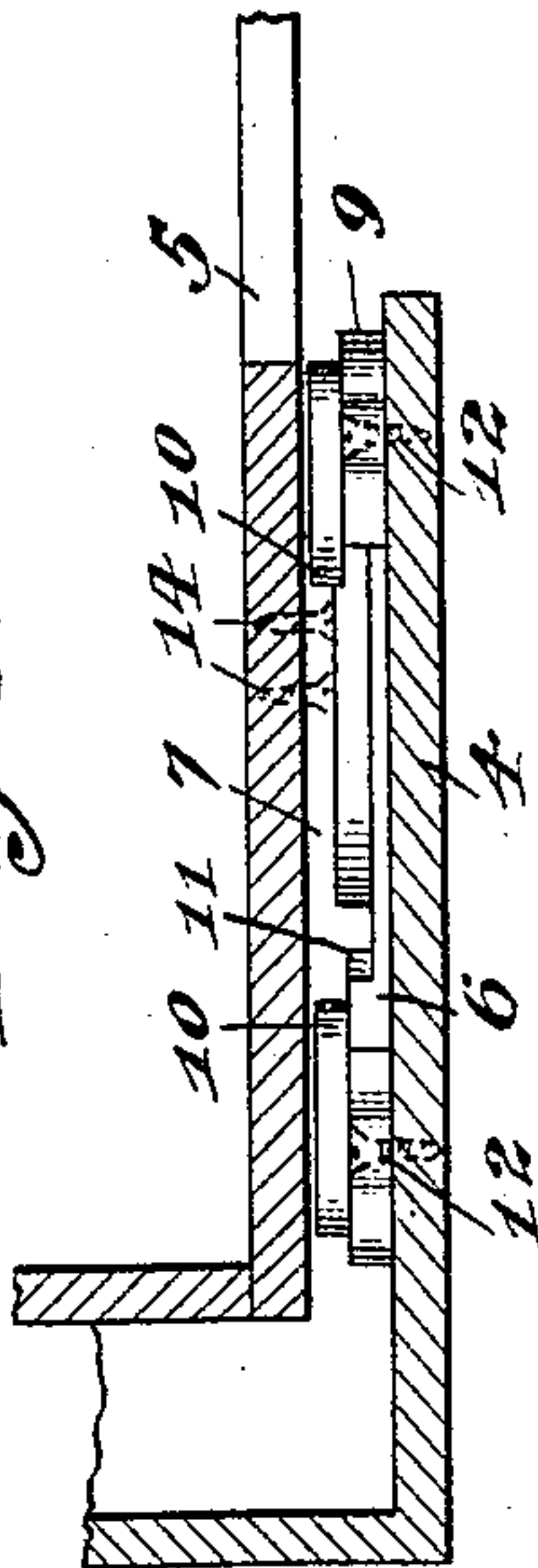


Fig. 3.



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FOLDING BEDSTEAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 587,495, dated August 3, 1897.

Application filed December 4, 1894. Serial No. 530,797. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM D. SNYDER, of Austin, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Bedsteads, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the hinge connections between the stationary and movable members of folding beds, and more particularly to that class of connections which employ a rolling or shifting fulcrum. In this class of devices it is desirable to provide in some practicable and simple manner against the separation of the parts which may be occasioned by the warping or springing of the stationary frames. It is further desirable to provide a connection which will afford a shifting fulcrum, so that as the folding member of the bed is lowered it is moved or thrust out or away from the stationary member, while in the act of folding it is moved inwardly or in the opposite direction. It is desirable to provide connections of this kind which shall operate without the employment of coacting or enmeshing teeth, because unless these teeth accurately enmesh or if they become displaced by the movement of the bed the parts are likely to separate, the members of the bed becoming thereby disjointed. My construction enables me to attain all of these desirable features, and in addition thereto the hinge members are of such form that the folding member of the bed can be lifted out and removed and put back again without detaching the hinge members.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in broken section, showing the folding member extended and the dotted lines indicating the position of the parts when the folding member is closed. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the casting constituting the hinge members detached. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan below the line 3 3 of Fig. 1, the section being taken through one of the side rails and through the end of the stationary member or case.

In the drawings, 4 represents the stationary and 5 the folding frame. These parts are connected by means of the devices illustrated in Fig. 2 and comprising a track member 6 and a rocker member 7. The track member is substantially stirrup-shaped and has a horizontal

track 8 and curved sides 9. These sides are provided with a continuous rabbet 10, extending along the sides and along the side of the horizontal track 8. They are depended into pockets or recesses 11 at the lower corners, and the track member has apertures 12 in its flanges, through which screws are passed to secure it to the end of the stationary case. There are also preferably provided dowel-pins 13, which enter suitable seats in the end board of the case. The rocker member 7 is perforated, as at 14, for the passage of fastenings whereby it is secured to the side rails of the folding frame 5, and it has a projecting flange 15 extending beyond the plane of the rocker and curved in a corresponding arc through the major portion of its length. This flange terminates at its ends in parti-circular lugs 16, which are adapted, respectively, to enter the curved seats or recesses 11 of the track member when the folding member of the bed reaches the respective limits of its movement in folding and unfolding, as shown by the full lines and dotted lines, respectively, of Fig. 1.

In the operation of extending or closing the folding member of the bed the rocker 7 travels in rolling contact with the track 8, the flange 15 and the parti-circular lugs 16 riding in contact with the flanges 10, so as to prevent the lateral separation of the parts. As the folding member of the bed attains one of its extreme positions one of the parti-circular lugs 16 will enter one of the recesses 11 and by reason of this engagement will prevent the spreading or separation of the folding member from the stationary case.

If it be desired to lift the folding member out of engagement with the case and to separate it therefrom for any purpose, this is readily accomplished by lifting the inner end of the folding member while in the position shown in Fig. 1, and it may be as readily replaced without disconnecting the hinge members from the respective bed members.

It will be observed by reference to Fig. 1 that when the folding member of the bed is at one of its extreme positions one end of the rocker will be free or clear of the side of the track.

It is further to be observed that in the opening or closing movement the hinge members,

while prevented from separation in the direction of their movement or at right angles thereto, are in rolling contact, so that the operation of folding or unfolding can be performed with slight labor.

It is further to be observed that there are no intermeshing teeth or gears or shifting fulcra or fulcra-seats requiring nicety of adjustment and subject to wear, whereby the original adjustment would be destroyed. On the contrary, with my construction the parts are but very slightly subject to wear, and such wear as results from long-continued use does not impair the efficiency of the connection. It is further to be observed that these parts will work without noise. The construction is also such that the parts of the bed will not be disconnected, no matter in what position they may be placed. For example, in shipment the bed is frequently laid down upon its back or turned over and over; but the interlocking flanges of my hinge members cannot be separated in any manner except by direct lift upon the head of the folding member when the latter is in its extended position.

I claim—

1. A connection for the frames of a folding

bed, comprising in combination a track member to be secured to the stationary frame and having a horizontal track and curved sides rising therefrom, a continuous rabbet along said track and sides and a rocker member to be secured to the folding frame having a curved rocker and a projecting flange adapted to said track and rabbet, substantially as described.

2. A connection for the frames of a folding bed, comprising in combination a member to be secured to the stationary frame and having a horizontal track and curved sides rising therefrom, a continuous rabbet along said track and sides, said rabbet being deeper at the junction of the sides and horizontal track to provide curved depressed seats or recesses and a member to be secured to the folding frame and having a curved rocker and a flange adapted to said track and rabbet and said flange having integral parti-circular lugs at its extremities adapted to said curved or depressed seats, substantially as described.

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