

No. 642,654.

Patented Feb. 6, 1900.

R. J. WELLES.
BED COUCH.

(Application filed June 27, 1899.)

(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

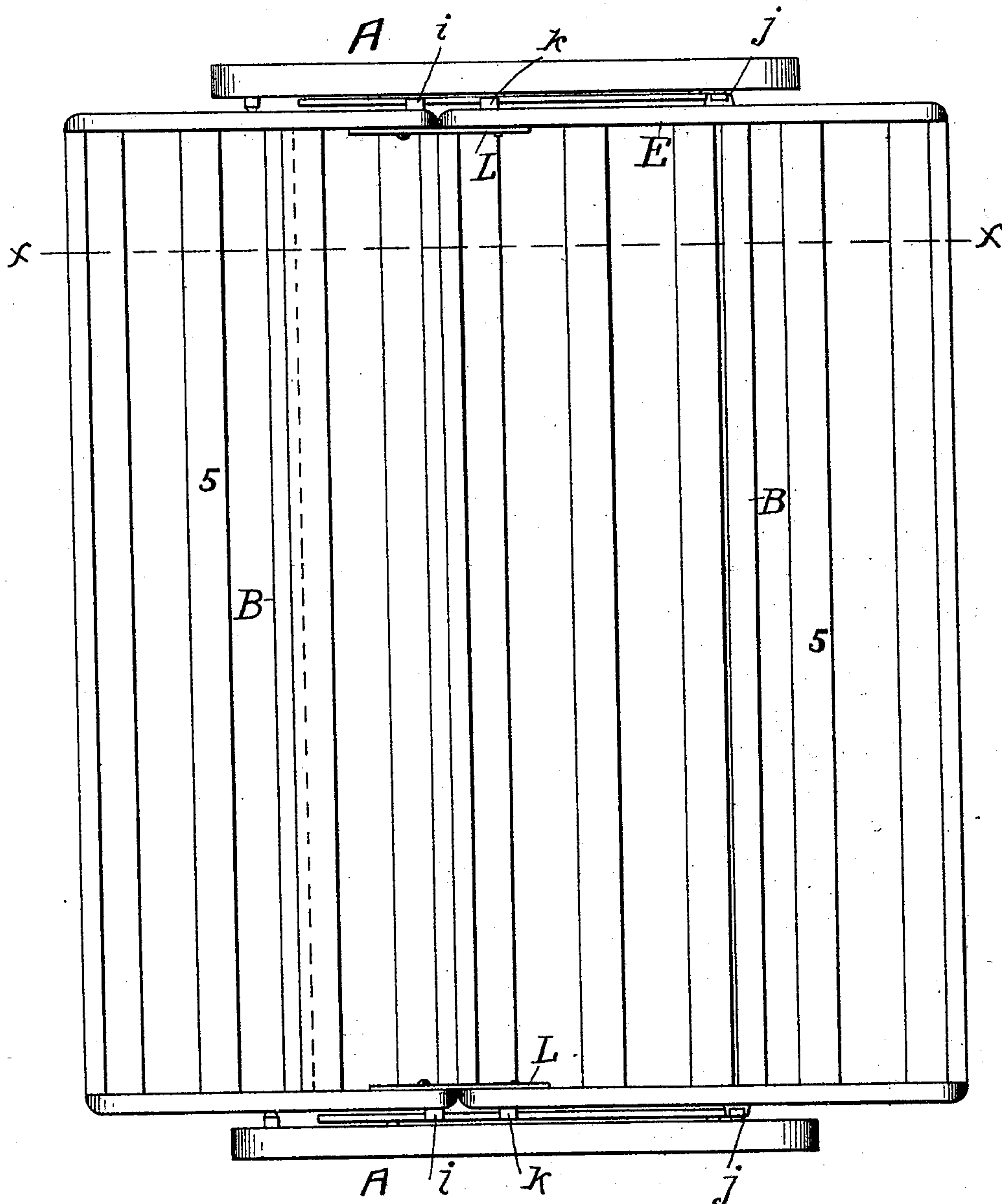


Fig. 1.

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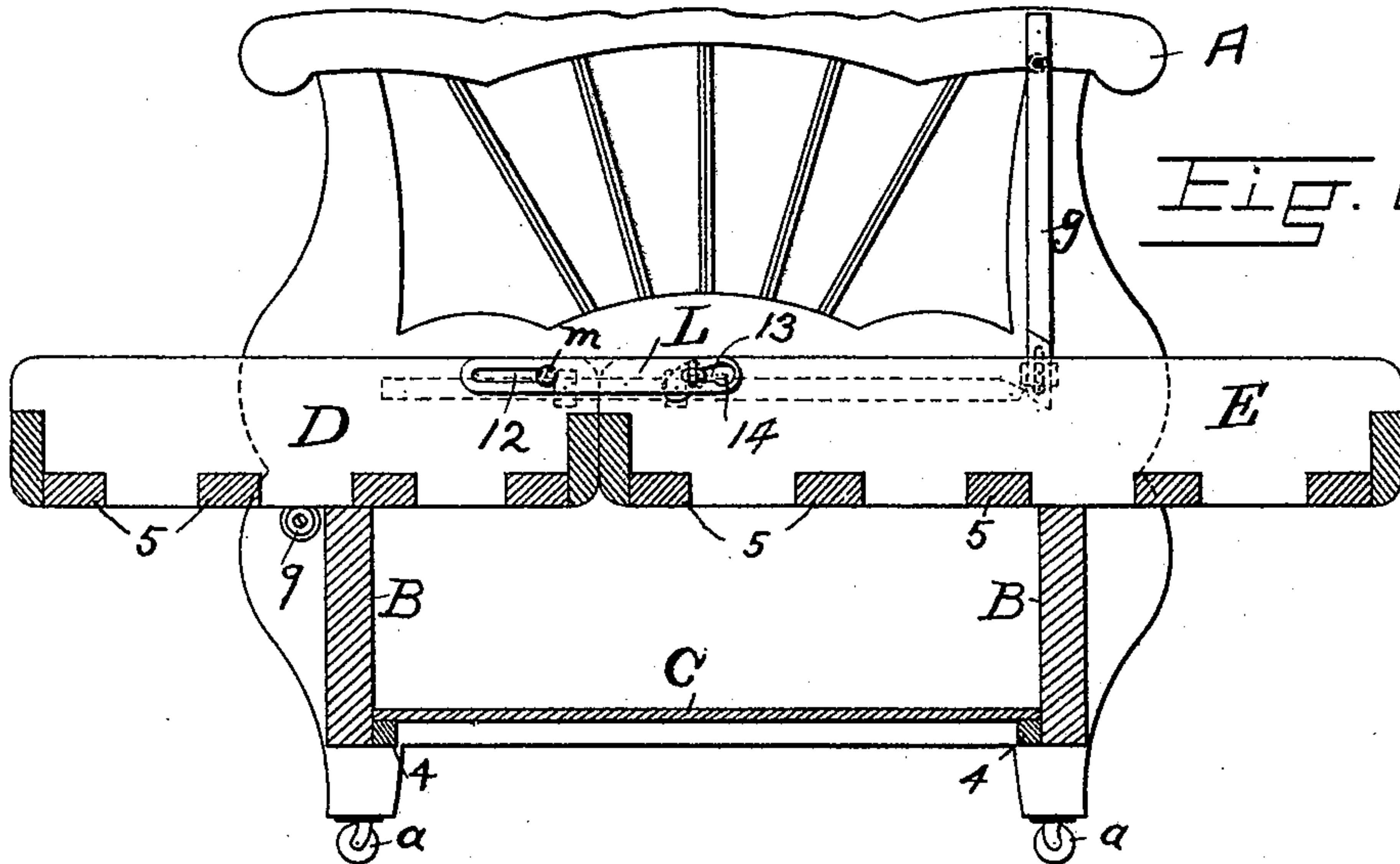


Fig. 2.

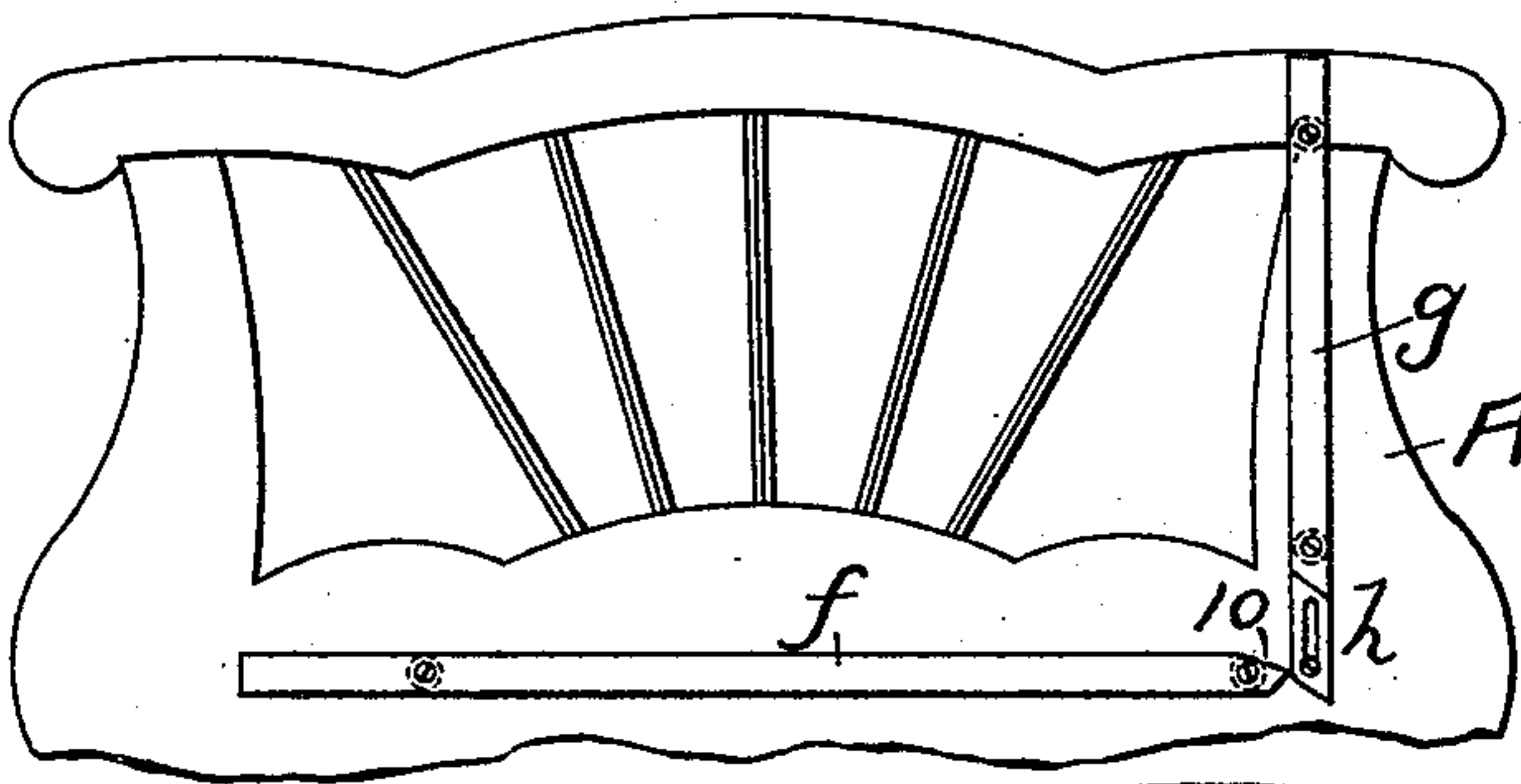


Fig. 4.

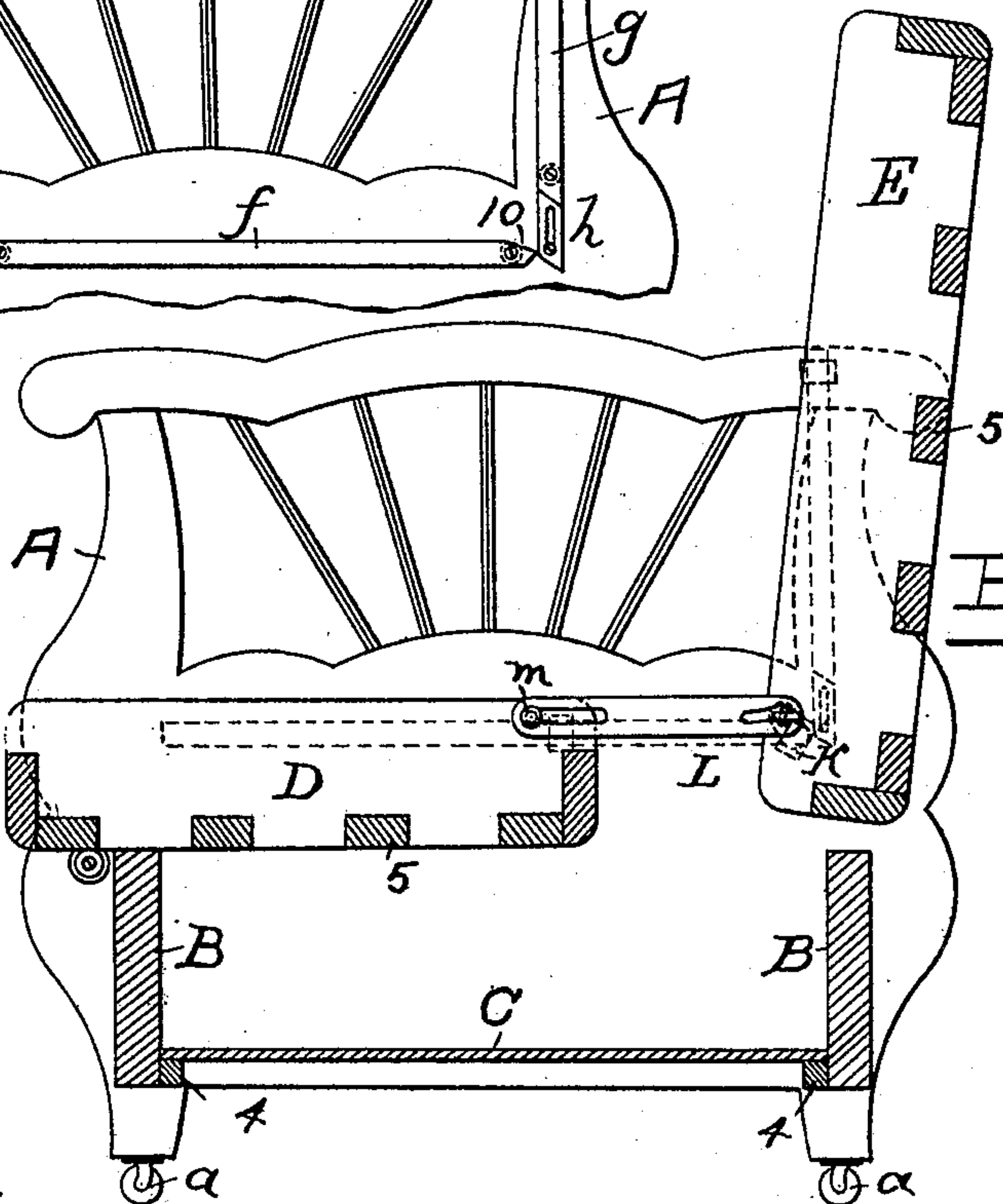


Fig. 3.

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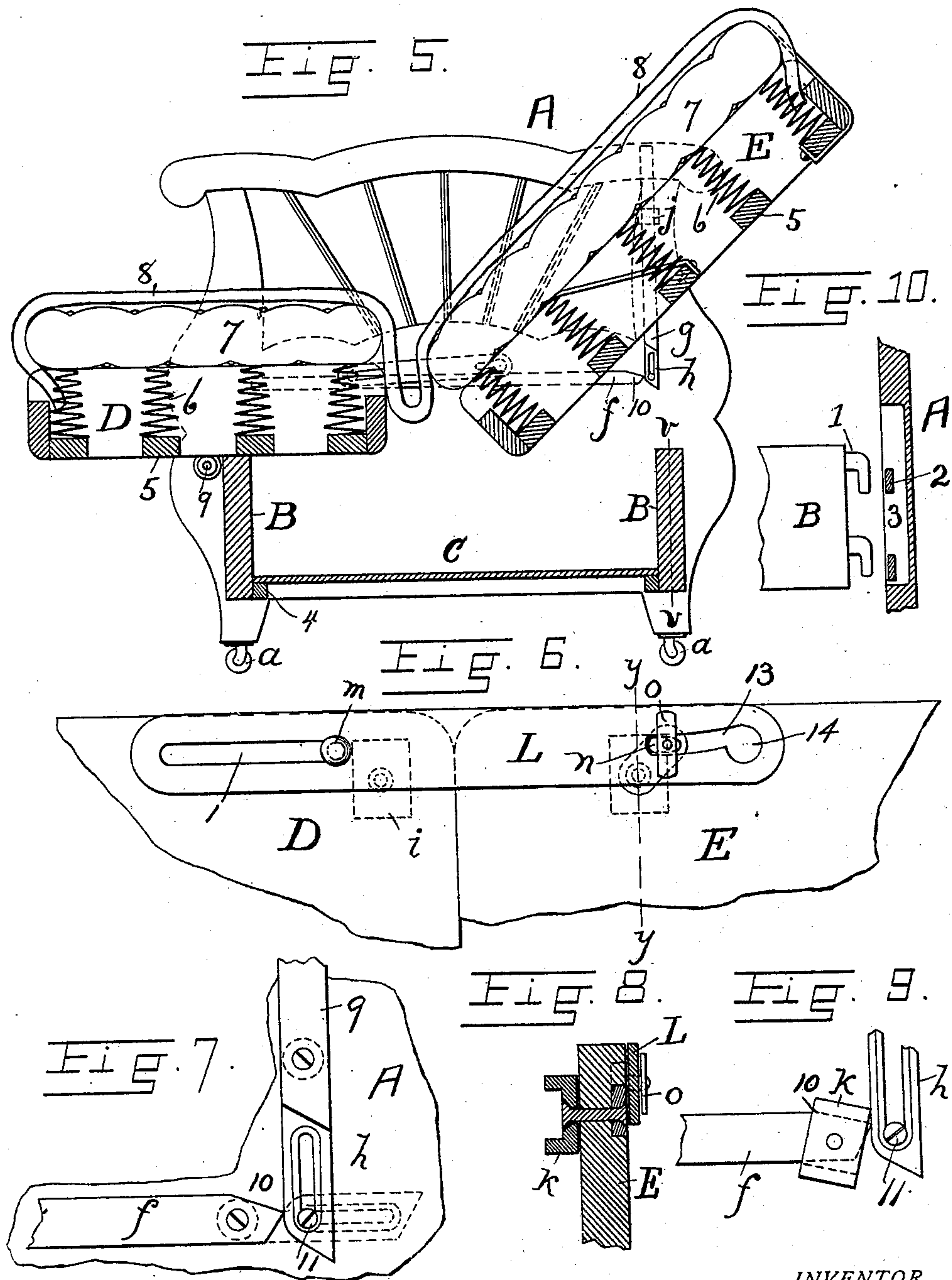
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3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD J. WELLES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO THE WELLES MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

BED-COUCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 642,654, dated February 6, 1900.

Application filed June 27, 1899. Serial No. 722,005. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD J. WELLES, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, county of New York, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bed-Couches, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which similar letters and figures of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to bed-couches; and it has for its object to provide a comfortable device of this character which can be conveniently employed either as a bed or couch or as a sofa or settee and in which the ordinary bedclothing—such as sheets, blankets, &c.—can be employed and will serve at all times whether the device is in use as a bed or as a sofa.

The invention will be hereinafter fully described; and specifically set forth in the annexed claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a top or plan view of my improved bed-couch when in adjusted position for use as a bed. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken on the line *xx*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view corresponding to Fig. 2, but showing the device in adjusted position for use as a sofa. Fig. 4 is an elevation showing the inner face of one of the end pieces. Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse sectional view illustrating the adjustment of the back-piece. Fig. 6 is a detail side view illustrating the connecting devices between the seat and back sections. Fig. 7 is a detail elevation illustrating the guide devices on the end pieces. Fig. 8 is a detail cross-section on the line *yy*, Fig. 6. Fig. 9 is a detail elevation illustrating the locking engagement of the lug upon the back-section with one of the guides, and Fig. 10 is a detail cross-section taken on the line *vv* of Fig. 5.

Referring to the drawings, A designates two end sections, which are preferably mounted upon casters *a* and are connected by longitudinal side pieces B, this connection being perfectly detachable by means of hooks 1 engaging cross-pieces 2 in recesses 3. A bottom C may rest upon shoulders 4 upon the side

pieces B, and this bottom, in connection with said sides, will form a locker or box, access being had to said locker or box by swinging the seat-section D of the structure upon the pivots of the supporting-lugs *i*. D designates the seat-section, and E the back-section, which sections may be respectively provided with slats 5, supporting springs 6, upon which is mounted a mattress 7, and the ordinary bed-clothing 8 may be arranged to cover both sections, as indicated in Fig. 5 of the drawings. Upon the inner face of the end pieces A at the front may be provided a roller 9 to facilitate sliding of the seat-section D. Upon said inner faces are provided horizontal guide rods or rails *f*, having a downwardly and rearwardly beveled rear edge, as at 10. Vertical guide-rails *g* are also provided at the rear of the inner faces of said end pieces A and terminate at their lower end in a pivoted arm *h*, slotted and moving upon a set-screw 11, said member *h* being adapted, when the screw is loosened, to be slid downwardly and turned rearwardly, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 7, to enable the seat and back sections to be slid horizontally, rearwardly, and out of connection with the end pieces A when desired. Normally the member *h* forms simply a continuation of the guide *b* and bears against the rear end of the guide *f*, as shown in Fig. 7.

The guide-rails *f* and *g* are bolted to the inner surfaces of the end sections A, thus obviating the necessity of cutting grooves in said sections and materially strengthening them and at the same time providing raised or extended means for engaging runners or lugs of the seat and back sections of the structure.

The seat-section D is provided with a lug *i*, embracing and sliding upon the guide *f*, and the back-section E is provided with a similar pivoted lug *j*, embracing and sliding upon the guide *b*, and also has a corresponding pivoted lug *k*, embracing and sliding upon the guide *f*, this latter lug *k* being adapted, when the back-section is in the elevated position shown in Fig. 3, to turn at the bevel end 10 of the guide *f* and operate as a lock to firmly retain the back-section in its upright position. (See Figs. 3 and 9.)

The sections D and E are connected at the inner faces of their end pieces at the side opposite from the lugs in a pivotal manner by plates *l*, having a slot 12 engaging a pin or stud *m* upon the seat-section D at their front ends. Said plates have a rearwardly and upwardly curved guide-slot 13 at their rear ends terminating in an eccentric enlargement 14, which slot engages an eccentric pin or stud *n* upon the section E, the relative construction and arrangement being such that when the said section E is turned upwardly (see Figs. 5 and 3) the eccentric stud *m* will turn in the eccentric enlargement 14 and lock the back-section against down motion, and the slack of the bedclothes 8 centrally is received down between the sections D and E and in the base locker or box, as indicated in Fig. 5.

The operation and advantages of my invention will be readily understood.

By reason of the improved general construction and relative arrangement of parts, as above described, a knockdown device of this class is provided in which the various parts may be readily disconnected or separated as desired. In this connection to enable the separation of the back-section E from the seat-section D the head of the eccentric stud *n* is formed by a pivoted plate *o*, which may be turned into alinement with the slot 13 to enable removal of the section E from the stud and its consequent disconnection from the plate *L* and the section D. (See Fig. 6.)

When the device is in use as a bed or couch, the seat and back sections are in the normal horizontal position (indicated in Figs. 2 and 1) resting upon the longitudinal side pieces B and with their adjoining edges abutting, as shown. To transform the device into a sofa or lounge, it is only necessary to pull rearwardly upon and elevate the back-section E, as indicated in Fig. 5, when the eccentric stud *m* will lock in the eccentric enlargement 14 of the slot 13 and operate to retain the back-section in inclined elevated position while the slack of the bedclothes 8 is being arranged between the sections, and when the back-section E is further elevated to the limit of its upright position, as indicated in Fig. 3, the pivoted lug *k* will engage the bevel edge 10 of the guide *f*, and thus firmly lock the section E in its upright position. The said back-section may be lifted to disengage the lug *k* from the beveled edge 10 and then slid downwardly to its normal horizontal position to again adjust the device for use as a bed or couch.

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

1. A bed-couch, comprising end pieces hav-

ing horizontal and vertical guides, a seat-section slidably engaging said horizontal guides, a back-section having pivotal lugs engaging said horizontal and vertical guides, said sections being adapted to permanently carry bedclothes in their adjustment into divers positions, an eccentric pin or stud upon the back-section, and a connecting-plate pivotally connected to the seat-section and having a slot provided with an eccentric enlargement adapted to be engaged by said eccentric stud; substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A bed-couch, comprising end pieces, having horizontal and vertical guides, said horizontal guides having a beveled or inclined terminal edge, a seat-section slidably operating upon the horizontal guides, a back-section having pivotal lugs engaging said horizontal and vertical guides, one of said lugs being adapted to turn into a locking engagement with the beveled edge of the horizontal guide, and means pivotally connecting said sections, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A bed-couch, comprising end pieces having horizontal and vertical guides, said vertical guides respectively embodying a stationary and a pivoted section, the pivoted section adapted to be swung outwardly from the plane of the guide, a seat-section having lugs slidably engaging said horizontal guides, a back-section having pivotal lugs slidably engaging the horizontal and vertical guides, and means pivotally connecting said seat and back sections, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A bed-couch, comprising the end pieces having horizontal and vertical guides, said horizontal guides being provided with the beveled terminal edge, the seat-section slidably engaging said horizontal guides, the back-section having pivotal lugs slidably engaging the horizontal and vertical guides, said seat and back sections being adapted to permanently carry bedclothing in their divers adjustment into and from positive position, an eccentric pin or stud upon the back-section, and a connecting-plate pivotally secured to the seat-section and having a slot with an eccentric enlargement adapted to be engaged by said eccentric stud, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 24th day of June, 1899.

RICHARD J. WELLES.

Witnesses:

M. G. MACLEAN,
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