

No. 723,171.

PATENTED MAR. 17, 1903.

J. MAHER.
SOFA BED.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 14, 1902.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

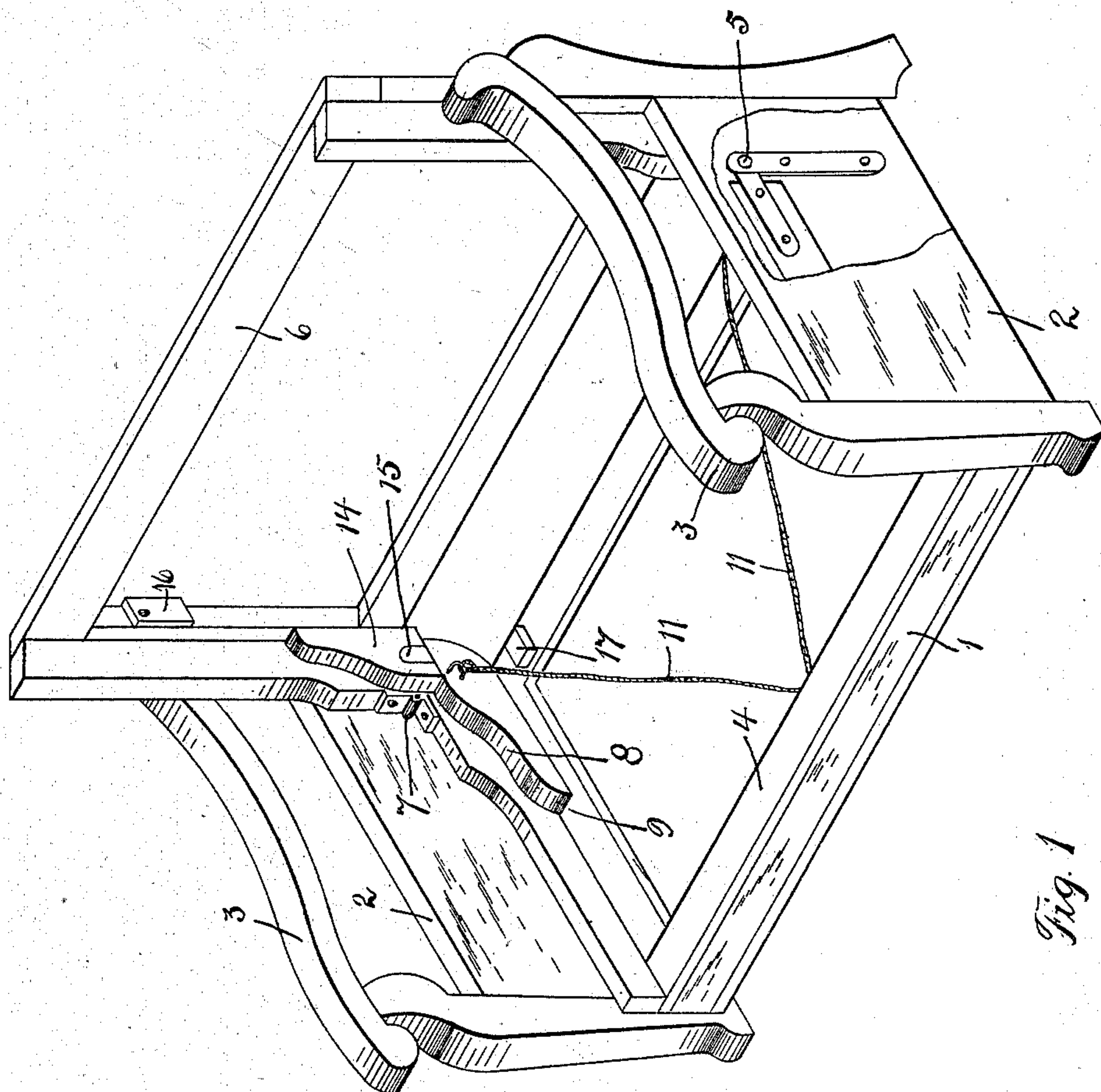


Fig. 1

WITNESSES
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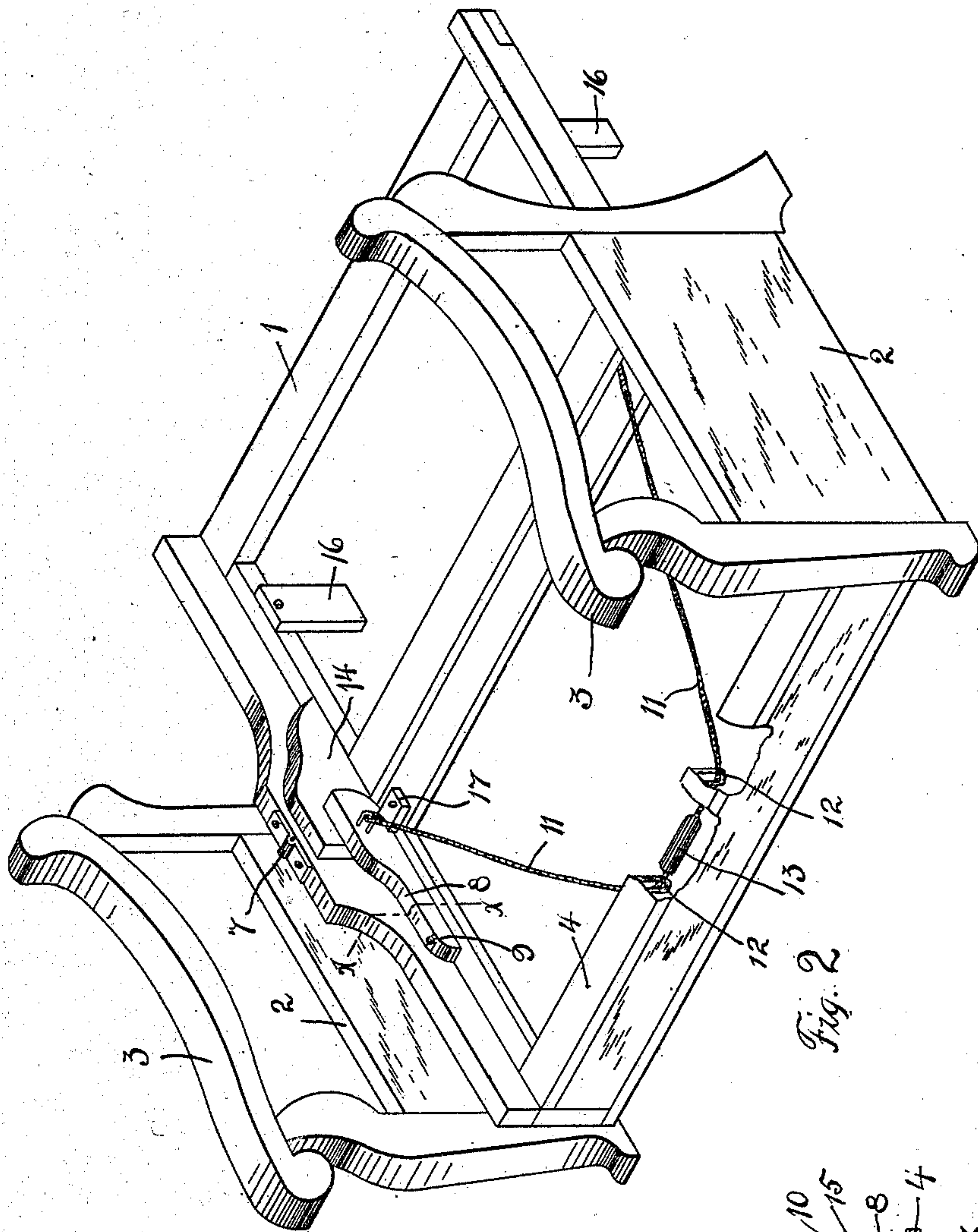


Fig. 2

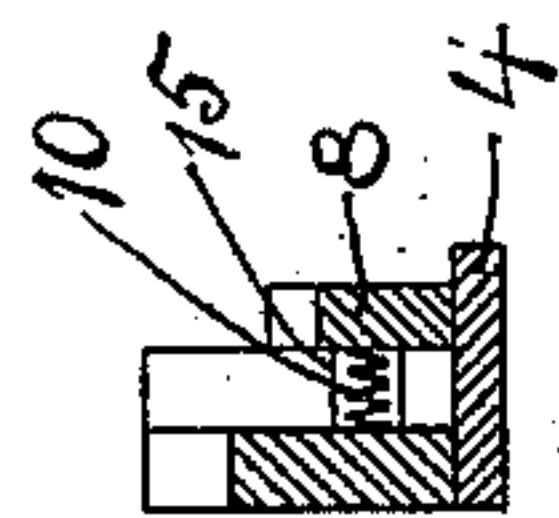


Fig. 3

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SOFA-BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 723,171, dated March 17, 1903.

Application filed November 14, 1902. Serial No. 131,335. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MAHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Medina, in the county of Orleans and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sofa-Beds; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in that class of furniture known as "sofa-beds," its object being to provide simple and reliable means for quickly and easily converting the sofa into a bed and for transforming the bed back into its former condition as a sofa.

To that end my invention consists of a carrying-frame, a seat-frame hinged to the carrying-frame, a back-frame hinged to the seat-frame, spring-controlled catches pivoted to the seat-frame, adapted for engagement with the spring-controlled catches to hold the back-frame in an upright position, and means for throwing the spring-controlled catches out of engagement with the shoulders on the back-frame to permit the back-frame to lie in a horizontal position.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the different frames, illustrating the sofa arrangement. Fig. 2 is a similar view illustrating the bed arrangement, and Fig. 3 is a sectional detail taken in line *xx* of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, 1 is the carrying-frame, having the end panels 2 2 and sofa-arms 3 3.

4 is the seat-frame, having its rear end corners hinged to the inner faces of the end panels 2 2 of the carrying-frame, as clearly shown at 5 in Fig. 1. This arrangement permits of the seat-frame being swung into an upright position, for a purpose which will more clearly hereinafter appear.

6 is the back-frame, which is hinged, as at 7, to the seat-frame 4. 8 represents the catches, pivoted at 9 to each end of the seat-frame 4 and connected at their rear free ends by springs 10 (see Fig. 3) to the end panels 2. The ends of a cord 11 are secured to the spring-

controlled catches 8 8. This cord passes through the two retaining-loops 12 12 on the under side of the front of the seat-frame and has the handle 13 secured thereto between the retaining-loops 12 12, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

14 represents shoulders upon the back-frame, adapted for holding engagement with the spring-controlled catches 8. Each shoulder has upon its engaging end a notch 15.

16 16 are pivoted legs for holding the back-frame in a horizontal position when lowered.

In operation when it is desired to convert the sofa into a bed the seat-frame is grasped at its front edge and thrown up into an upright or vertical position, which operation simultaneously carries the back-frame of the sofa into a horizontal position. The legs 16 are turned down to support the now horizontal back-frame upon the floor. The handle 13, underneath the seat-frame before it is raised, is now in an easily-accessible position, where it can be given a sharp pull, and the connected cord 11 will throw the pivoted catches 8 8 out of engagement with the shoulders 14 14 on the back-frame, which releases the seat-frame and enables it to be thrown back into its former horizontal position, thus converting the sofa into a bed. The stops upon the seat-frame limit the inward play of the pivoted catches. In this position the pivoted catches 8 8 are held against the sides of the shoulders 14 14 by the springs 10. (See Fig. 3.) To reconvert the bed into a sofa, it is only necessary to swing the back-frame up into a vertical position. As soon as this position is assumed, the shoulders 14 14, rising clear of the catches 8 8, permit the catches under the action of their attached springs to be again thrown into engagement with the shoulders, and thus hold the back-frame in its upright position, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

It will be seen that with my improved construction the necessary operative parts are reduced to a minimum, and their action is thus rendered positive and reliable. Then, too, the mechanism for operating the spring-controlled catches is entirely out of sight, which greatly improves the appearance of my sofa-bed.

I claim—

A sofa-bed comprising a carrying-frame, a seat-frame hinged to the carrying-frame, a back-frame hinged to the seat-frame, spring-controlled catches pivoted to the seat-frame, 5 shoulders on the back-frame adapted for engagement with the spring-controlled catches, to hold the back-frame in an upright position, and means for throwing the spring-controlled catches out of engagement with the shoulders 10 on the back-frame to permit the back-frame

to lie in a horizontal position, all combined and operating as and for the purpose stated.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN MAHER.

Witnesses:

AUGUST F. HANDWERK,
W. T. MILLER.