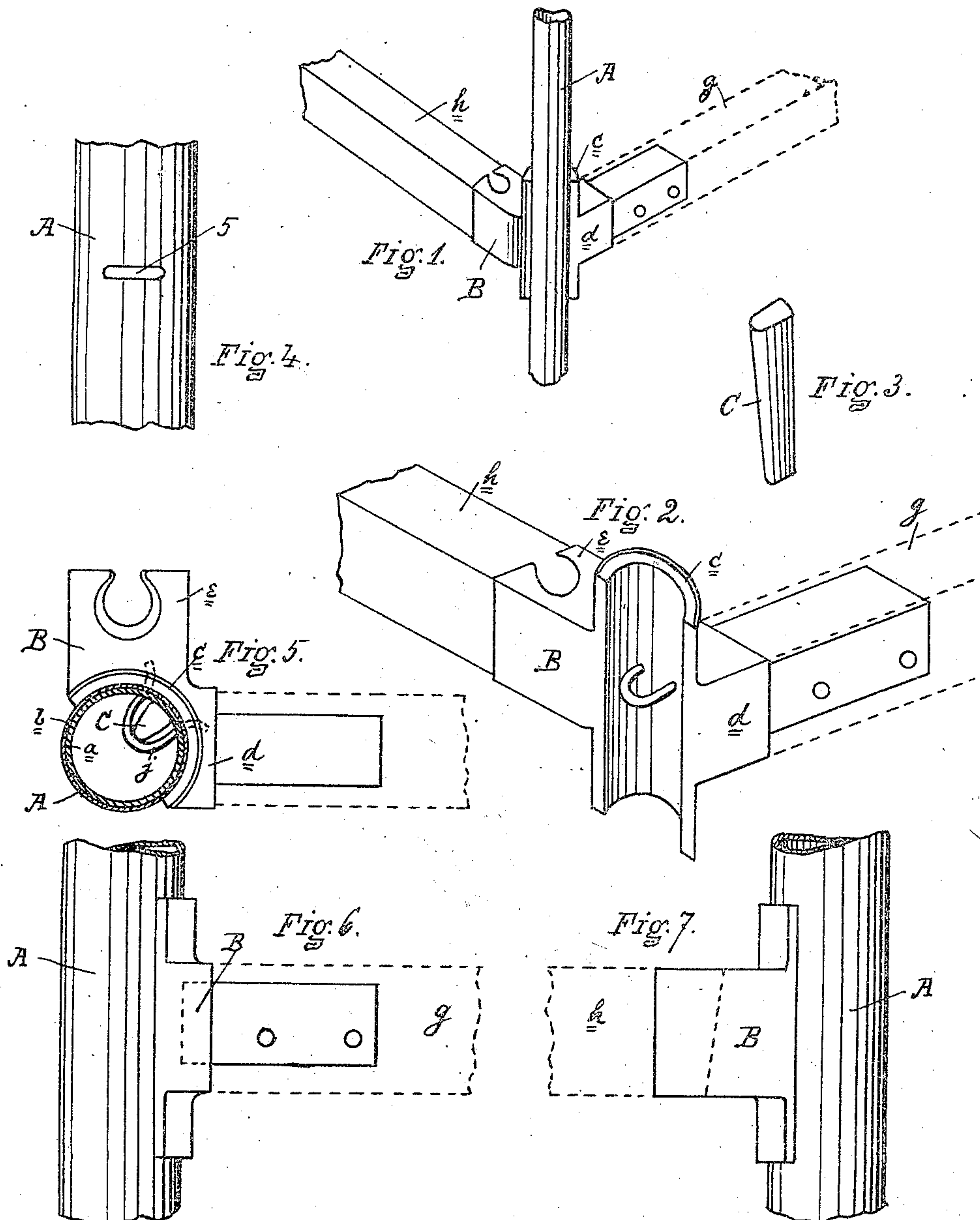


No. 840,858.

PATENTED JAN. 8, 1907.

M. G. MERRITT.  
CORNER FASTENER FOR BEDSTEADS.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 20, 1905.



WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORTIMER G. MERRITT, OF ROME, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO ROME  
METALLIC BEDSTEAD COMPANY, OF ROME, NEW YORK.

## CORNER-FASTENER FOR BEDSTEADS.

No. 840,858.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 8, 1907.

Application filed September 20, 1905. Serial No. 272,901.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MORTIMER G. MERRITT, of Rome, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corner-Fasteners for Bedsteads; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which 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 the characters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

The object of my present invention is to provide a corner-fastener for bedsteads wherein provision is made for securing a strong attachment to the leg or post by inexpensive means. The material for the posts of ordinary brass bedsteads consists of a tube of iron covered with a thin sheet of brass. It has been found quite difficult to provide a strong, secure, and satisfactory fastener on a post of such construction.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a post and a corner-fastener device of my improved construction, including portions of the end and side rails of the bedstead. Fig. 2 shows a perspective view, on an enlarged scale, of the parts removed from the post. Fig. 3 shows in perspective a wedging-key employed in the construction. Fig. 4 shows a section of the post employed. Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view of the post, together with a plan view of the corner-fastener and its parts. Fig. 6 is a side elevation from one point of view, and Fig. 7 is a side elevation from another point of view of the corner-fastener.

Referring to the reference letters and figures in a more particular description, A indicates the bedstead-post, which is of tubular form and, as shown in Fig. 5, consists of an inner iron tube part *a* and an outer brass-sheet covering *b*. This post is provided at a suitable elevation from the lower end with a slotted opening 5 through one of the walls of the post. The corner-piece B consists of a grooved part *c*, adapted to fit the side of the post and projecting parts *d* and *e*. To the former is adapted to be connected a cross-bar, (shown in dotted lines and indicated by *g*,) and to the other part *e* is adapted to be

connected the usual side rail *h* of a bedstead, the ordinary dovetail corner connection, as shown, being employed, if desired. Firmly secured in the corner-piece *b* and projecting from the concave face of the part *c* is a staple *j*, which is adapted to enter the opening 5 in the post. When so entered, the corner-piece B is bound and secured to the post by the wedging-key C passing through the eye of the staple *j* and driven down sufficiently to bind the parts securely together. The shape of the key C is preferably such that its crown side engages only with the head of the staple, while the base side fits the inner wall of the tubular post.

This construction is easily assembled in building bedsteads. Of course it is obvious that the corner-piece B may be easily applied to the post with the staple *j* entering the opening 5, and with a suitable long pair of pincers the key C may be entered in the staple from the top of the post, even though it may extend to some considerable height above the plane of the corner-fastener. After it is entered, it may be driven down by means of a rod or punch extending down to the key. While this corner is not very readily taken apart, it is obvious that the key C can be removed by driving it out by means of a rod inserted from the lower end of the post. In the finished construction of bedsteads of course the upper and lower ends of the post will be closed by suitable ornaments.

As the staple *j* is relatively small as compared with the diameter of the post and the key C is also relatively small, it is possible to place these keys with suitable tools from the lower end of the leg only, and this method has to be availed of when on account of construction access cannot be had into the tube of the leg from the upper end. In placing the keys entirely from the lower end they will be passed upward by the staple and then moved downwardly into securing position. It is advisable to have the larger end of the key uppermost, as then any tendency to drop out by gravity is obviated.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination in a bedstead corner-fastener of a tubular post having an opening through the side wall and corner-piece fitting



the side of the post and having a U-shaped staple entering the opening in the post, and a wedging-key extending longitudinally of and engaging with the inner surface of the post  
5 and passing through said staple with the larger end of the key uppermost, the staple, key and opening through the post being of relative size to enable the key to be passed by the staple outside of the loop thereof when

the staple is within the opening, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have affixed my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 15th day of September, 1905.

MORTIMER G. MERRITT.

Witnesses:

LEON L. ARTHUR,  
E. S. HESSE.