

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 28, 1908.

Patented Mar. 16, 1909.

3 SHEETS--SHEET 1.



Frank H. Parker



Henry Williams

915,497.

F. S. SPRAGUE.
COUCH BED.
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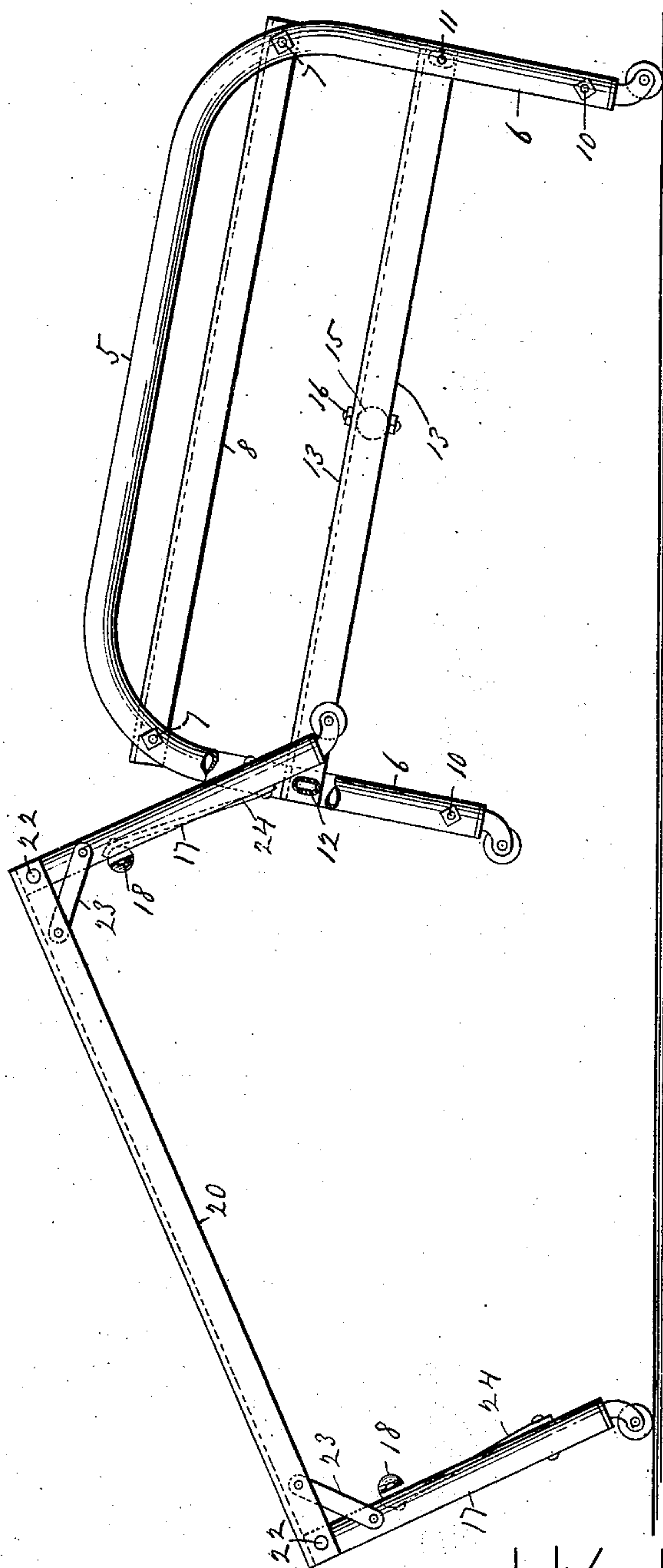


FIG. 2.

WITNESSES=
M. A. Atwood.
Frank H. Parker

INVENTOR=
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By his Atty.
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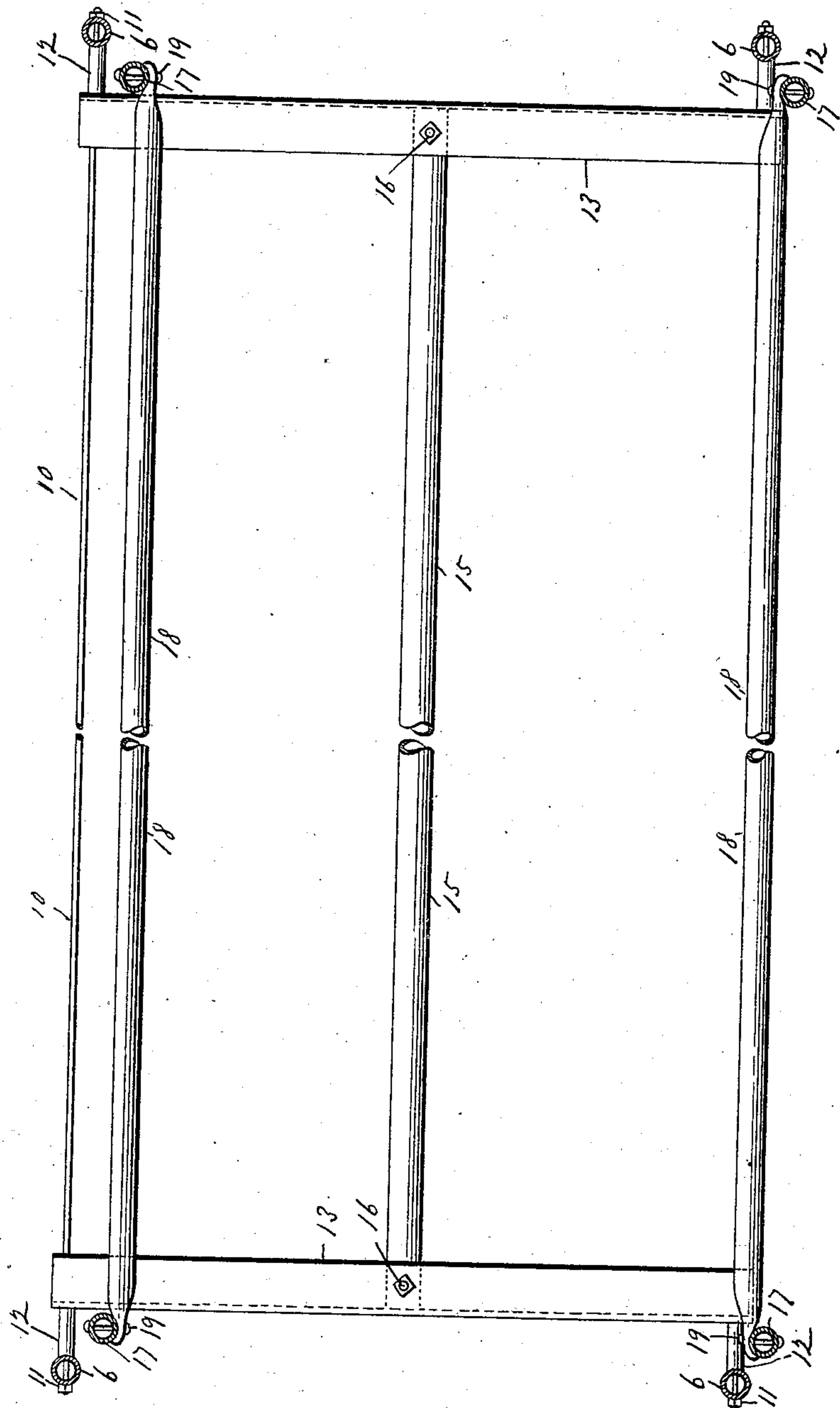


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN S. SPRAGUE, OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

COUCH-BED.

No. 915,497.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 16, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN S. SPRAGUE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Somerville, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Couch-Beds, of which the following is a specification.

This improvement relates to that class of couch-beds or couch-bed-bottoms in which the bed-bottom is constructed in two parts or sections one sliding under the other, both being constructed of metal, whereby when the bed-bottom is extended horizontally it is adapted for use as a double bed, and when it is not extended it is adapted for use as a single bed or couch.

The invention consists in a certain novel construction and arrangement of parts whereby horizontal guideways are provided which are so constructed as to permit of the bed-bottom being extended or closed without binding or cramping and with a minimum of exertion, whereby the bed-bottom can be extended and the parts easily separated by lifting the inner or adjacent edges of said parts and be reassembled by reversing the operation, and whereby simplicity and cheapness in construction are attained together with efficiency in operation.

The nature of the invention is fully described below, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a side view of a bed-bottom embodying my invention, in a closed position, a portion being represented as broken out. Fig. 2 is a cross vertical section of the same in an open or extended position, a portion being represented as broken out. Fig. 3 is an end elevation with the two parts or sections being separated, a portion of the stationary section being represented as broken out. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section taken on line 4, Fig. 1.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Reference-numerals 5 and 6 represent respectively the horizontal portion and the leg portions of the two opposite ends of the metallic frame of the stationary section, said ends constituting the head and foot pieces. Secured at 7 to and supported by these ends of the frame are the end-rails 8 of the spring bed of which 9 represents the fabric. The legs 6 at opposite ends of the stationary section are connected by longitudinal rods 10. Bolted at 11 to the four legs or posts 6 are

inwardly projecting horizontal bars or brackets 12, said brackets being all set at the same height, preferably a trifle less than one-half the distance up the legs from the castors. The brackets or bars 12 on the posts or legs 6 at each end of the stationary section of the bed are connected by and support horizontal transversely extending bars 13 made preferably angle-shaped in cross section, said bars 13 being secured to the brackets 12 by suitable bolts at 14. A longitudinal brace-rail 15 extends centrally and horizontally from one of the bars 14 to the other and is connected at 16 thereto. Preferably the bars 15, 12, and frames 5, 6 are all of tubular metal.

The sliding section comprises the four legs 17, the two horizontal tubular side-rails 18 secured at 19 to the legs 17, the end-rails 20 and fabric 21 which constitute the spring bed, the said end-rails being secured at 22 to the legs 17, braces 23 connecting the legs 17 and end-rails 20, and braces 24 connecting the legs 17 with the side-rails 18. The sliding section is somewhat shorter than the stationary section, the length being such that the legs 17 are, when the bedstead is closed, between the angle-shaped bars 13 and the head and foot pieces, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 4, there being just sufficient sliding space between the vertical portion of the angle-shaped bars 14 and the general line of the adjacent head and foot pieces to allow the sliding section to slide out and in with relation to the stationary section without cramping and without the legs 17 binding. In practice, the operator can stand at either end of the bedstead and move the sliding section in and out (it being remembered that both sections are supplied with casters) without binding—the head and foot pieces of the sliding section moving easily and freely in the guideways provided between the angle-shaped bars 13 and the head and foot pieces 5, 6 of the stationary section.

When the parts are to be separated in order that the two sections may be used as separate couches, or for any other purpose, the bedstead is extended, and the operator stands at either end, leans over and grasps the inner or adjacent edges of the fabrics 9 and 21 and lifts them until the inner legs 17 may be lifted out of the guideways and from between the horizontal brackets or bars 12 and the inner edge of the fabric 9, the position assumed while the sliding section is be-

ing thus disengaged being illustrated in Fig. 3. This is very easily accomplished by reason of the fact that the bars 13 and brackets 12 are set so low that the inner pair of legs 17 can be easily lifted over said brackets.

The single brace-rail is centrally located and binds the angle-shaped supporting bars 13 together with great firmness and rigidity, said bars being connected with equal firmness to the legs 6 by the supporting bars or brackets 12, thus producing an effectual brace connection between the opposite corners of the head and foot pieces by the employment of a single central rail.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a couch-bed of the character described, a longitudinal stationary section comprising head and foot pieces, a pair of short horizontal supporting bars or brackets extending inward from the head and foot pieces, and horizontal transverse bars one being supported by each pair of brackets; and a sliding section the legs of which are adapted when the two sections are in engagement to be disposed between the said horizontal bars and the adjacent head and foot pieces of the stationary section, said horizontal bars providing narrow guideways between them and

the adjacent head and foot pieces for the inner pair of legs making a part of the sliding section.

2. In a couch-bed of the character described, a longitudinal stationary section comprising head and foot pieces, a pair of short horizontal supporting bars or brackets extending inward longitudinally from the legs of the head and foot pieces, horizontal transverse bars one being supported by each pair of brackets, and a central horizontal longitudinal brace-rail connecting the central portions of the transverse bars at the opposite ends of said stationary section; and a sliding section the legs of which are adapted when the two sections are in engagement to be disposed between the said horizontal bars and the adjacent head and foot pieces of the stationary section, said horizontal bars providing narrow guideways between them and the adjacent head and foot pieces for the inner pair of legs making a part of the sliding section.

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

FRANKLIN S. SPRAGUE.

Witnesses:

HENRY WILLIAMS,
M. A. ATWOOD.