B. SCHAPKER.

Spring Bed-Bottom.

No. 215,482. Patented May 20, 1879.

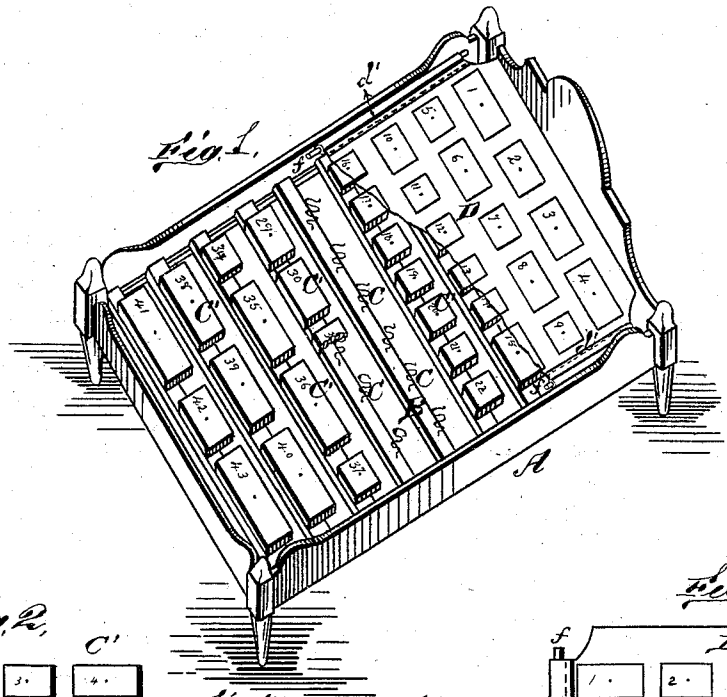


Fig. 1.

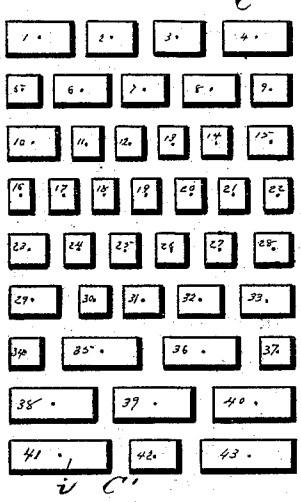


Fig. 2.



Fig. 4.

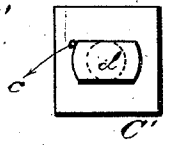


Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

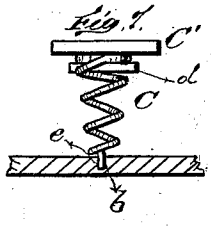


Fig. 7.

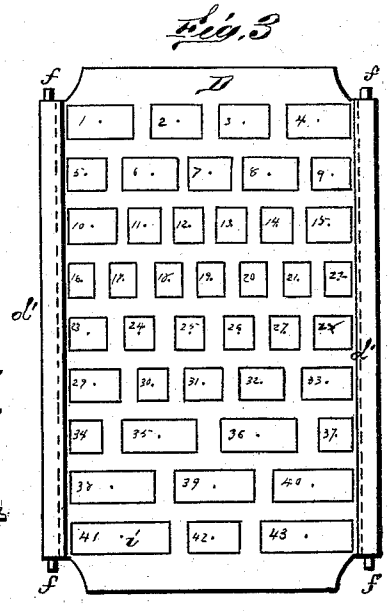


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES

E. L. Bates

Walter G. Mace

INVENTOR

Bernard Schapker

by E. W. Anderson,

ATTORNEY

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNARD SCHAPKER, OF EVANSVILLE, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPRING BED-BOTTOMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,482**, dated May 20, 1879; application filed May 4, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNARD SCHAPKER, of Evansville, in the county of Vanderburg and State of Indiana, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Spring Bed-Bottoms; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a perspective view of a stead, showing the springs, head-blocks, and part of the mattress-protector; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the head-blocks arranged; Fig. 3 is a top view of the mattress-protector, showing the diagram of the head-blocks; and Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7 are detail views of the spring and head-block.

This invention has relation to improvements in spring bed-bottoms.

The object of the invention is to construct a bed-bottom of such a nature that its component parts may be readily separated and packed in small compass for transportation, to protect the mattress from the friction of the springs, and to prevent the springs under that portion of the bed bearing the most of the occupant's weight from undue yielding to such weight.

The nature of the invention consists in the construction and novel arrangement of a spring bed-bottom having independent springs resting in slats of the bedstead and provided with independent heads of different sizes, these independent spring-seated heads being transversely longer and fewer in the row at the head and foot, and transversely shorter and more numerous in the central portion, and all breaking joints.

It also consists in a bedstead and its slats, and a series of independent springs having separate head-blocks of different lengths, and a mattress-protector having upon one side a plan or diagram of each head-block in its proper relative position, and in each plan a dot indicative of the position of the tang-seat of that particular head-block in the slat, as hereinafter shown and described.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A designates an ordinary bedstead having the spaced transverse slats B applied thereto in any suitable manner. C represents the springs composing the bottom, the same being separate and independent. This spring is made of wire coiled into the form of a volute, and has at its upper end a tang, *a*, and at its lower end a tang, *b*.

The tang *a* is inserted into a perforation, *c*, in a head-block, C′, and is locked thereto by means of a T-cleat, *d*, extending across the top whirl of the spring and secured to the head-block in any suitable manner, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

The lower tang, *b*, is inserted in a seat, *e*, formed with an awl or other instrument in the slats.

As shown in Fig. 2, the spring-seated blocks C′ are of various sizes, being largest at the head and foot of the bed-bottom, and gradually decreasing in length toward its middle portion, where they are more numerous. Each head-block having its appropriate spring, the latter are also more numerous at the middle portion of the bottom, where the greatest weight of the occupant is received, than at its ends. By this means the mattress is prevented from sinking at the middle of the bed unduly. At the same time a proper comfortable yielding of the springs is preserved.

The springs may be readily detached from the slots for transportation by drawing their tangs *b* out of their seats in the slats.

Between the head-blocks, which, to prevent the presence of bed-bugs, are made of red cedar, and the mattress is a protector, D, of any suitable material, as cotton duck or canvas, having upon its lateral edges a broad hem, forming a sleeve, *d*, in which is inserted a red-cedar rod, *f*, extending from end to end thereof. These rods hang down at each side of the bed, but not outside the rails, outside of the lateral rows of springs, and prevent them from being bent outward.

The protector D effectually prevents the mattress from injury from the friction of the head-blocks. It has upon its top side a diagram of the head-blocks C′ in their relative positions in

the bed-bottom, each plan having a central dot, *i*, indicative of the position on the slats at which the seats *e* should be made.

The head-blocks and diagrams are correspondingly numbered.

The protector is laid upon the slats and smoothed out. The seats *e* are then formed by forcing a pointed awl or other instrument through the said dots *i* vertically into the slats. They are thus laid off into their proper positions.

The head-blocks C′ in one row break joints with those in the adjacent rows, and, like rods *f*, are made of red cedar, in order that by their aromatic odor bed-bugs may be prevented from infesting the bed.

I am aware that a detachable covering consisting of a canvas spread having weighted strips in its four edges, and being adapted to rest directly upon the coiled springs of a bed-bottom, is not new, and I do not claim such invention.

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

1. A spring bed-bottom consisting of independent springs resting in the slats of the bedstead and having independent heads of different sizes, these independently spring-seated heads being transversely longer and fewer in the row at the head and foot, and transversely shorter and more numerous in the central portion, and all breaking joints, in the manner herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with a bedstead, its slats, and a series of independent springs having separate head-blocks C′, of different lengths, of a mattress-protector, D, having upon one side a plan or diagram of each head-block in its proper relative position, and in each plan a dot indicative of the position of the tang-seat of that particular head-block in the slat, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

BERNARD SCHAPKER.

Witnesses:

HENRY F. MILLER,

F. S. WESSELER.