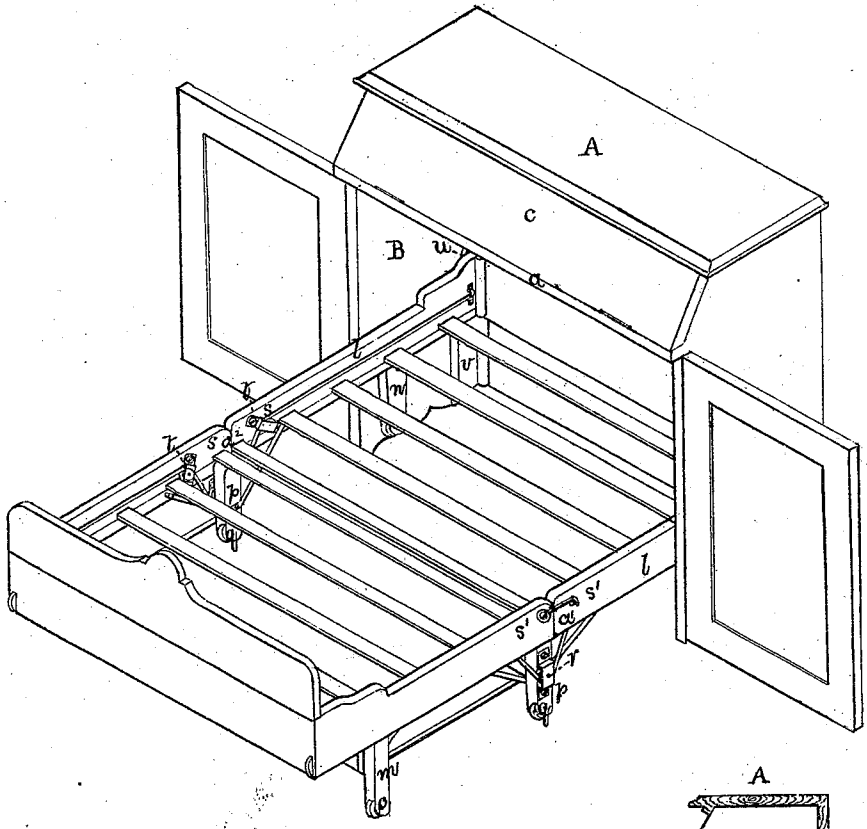
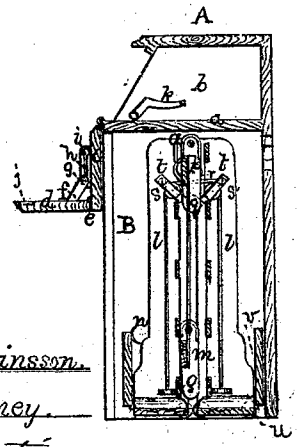
D. T. Robinson,

Wardrobe Bedstead.

No. 93,556. Patented Aug. 10. 1869.





Witnesses
Edward Griffith.
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Letters Patent No. 93,556, *dated August* 10, 1869.

IMPROVED CABINET-BEDSTEAD.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all to whom these presents shall come:

Be it known that I, DANIEL T. ROBINSON, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have made an invention of certain Improvements in Folding or Cabinet-Bedsteads; and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, due reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective representation of my invention, with its bed-bottom in an open or exposed and extended condition, ready for occupancy.

Figure 2 is a vertical section of the invention, with its bed in a closed state, but with the writing-desk thereof open and exposed to view.

The invention to be herein described is an improvement in a class of bedsteads, now coming into extensive use, known as bureau or secretary-bedsteads, or those in which the bed-bottom or bedding is concealed within a counterfeit article of furniture, the particular form of such bedsteads to which my present invention has especial and local reference being that in which the bed-bottom folds within the bureau or cabinet, in order to reduce its height and lessen the vertical space required for its reception, as well as to enable its elevation to be effected with less exertion.

This invention will be found to consist in an original and novel mode of uniting the two portions of the bed in such manner that its elevation into a perpendicular position may be effected with little or no effort on the part of the occupant, as well as in a peculiar mode of connecting the bed-bottom with the receiving-case or bureau, whereby it may be readily detached therefrom, should occasion require, as well as to permit of its elevation within such case, or its depression with respect thereto.

And this invention will further be found to consist in an ingenious mode of construction of the upper part of the cabinet, which receives the bed-bottom, whereby a "standing or sitting" desk or table may be produced at pleasure.

Reference being had to the before-mentioned drawings, which illustrate my invention, it will be seen that A denotes the general case or shell of the invention, such shell, in the present instance, being intended to resemble in appearance a cabinet or other analogous article of household-furniture.

The greater part of the interior of the case A, or that lettered B, is for the reception of the bed-bottom and its necessary bedding, the upper portion of the cabinet being divided by a shelf, *a*, which creates a shallow enclosure, *b*, into which may be deposited the various toilet-articles, utensils, &c., of the occupant, or, if desirable, may be utilized wholly or in part as a receptacle for various papers, writing-materials, and articles usually contained in a writing-desk.

The enclosure *b* is open at front, such opening being closed by a drop-door or cover, *c*, hinged at its lower side to the front edge of the shelf or partition *a*.

The door *c* has a second or auxiliary depending leaf or tablet, *d*, hinged to its inner upper edge, as shown at *e*, in fig. 2, of the accompanying drawings, such leaf being furnished at each end with a link or bar, *f*, pivoted thereto, the free end of each of such links, or a stud, *g*, fixed thereupon, extending into and playing in a slot, *h*, made in an ear or plate, *i* or *i*, fixed to the inner face of the door *c*, as exhibited.

Furthermore, upon the inner face of the leaf *d*, and at each extreme opposite end, a socket or clasp, *j*, is provided, while to the inner surface of each end of the enclosure *b*, I pivot a swivelling bent arm or catch-bar, *k*, as shown in fig. 2 of the drawings.

Should it become desirable to convert the cabinet into a writing-desk, of such nature that the occupant may use it in a sitting posture, the door *c* is first to be lowered against the front of the cabinet, and the leaf *d* subsequently lowered to its extreme limit, or into a horizontal position, the links *f f* and slotted plates *i i* serving to retain it firmly in this position.

Should the occupant wish to use the desk while standing, the door *c* is to be lowered into a position, with its outer edge at a slight angle above a horizontal plane, and the leaf or tablet *d* raised into a horizontal position, or thereabouts, the free ends of the catch-bars *k k* being brought forward and inserted within the socket *j* of the leaf *d*, thus serving as a reliable support to such leaf, the slots permitting of the necessary intervening movements of the leaf and door.

The bed-bottom before alluded to, is shown as composed of two slotted frames *l l*, made and hinged together at their abutting ends, as shown at a^1 a^2, very much after the manner of many bed-bottoms now in use, the outer frame being provided with depending folding legs *m m*, and the inner frame with immovable legs *n n*, such immovable legs, as well as those first mentioned, being furnished preferably at their lower ends, with casters or rollers *o o*.

The wire of the hinges *a a* extends entirely across the frames, and has pivoted to its ends two pendulous legs *p p*, for supporting the centre of the bed-bottom, casters *q q* being applied to the feet of such legs.

In carrying out the portion of my invention relating to the bed-bottom, I apply to one face of each leg *p p* a stud or pulley, *r*, while to the inner face of each side-rail, *s s* or *s' s'*, of the frames *l l*, and in immediate proximity of such legs, I swivel a pulley or sheave, *t*.

I next attach an elastic cord to each side of the bed-bottom, by securing the respective ends of such cords to opposite ends of such bed-bottom, and pass such cords over the pulleys *t t*, &c., and below the pulleys *r r*, as shown in figs. 1 and 2 of the annexed drawings, the slack of such cord being taken up when it is confined in place.

It will be apparent that the tension of the elastic

cord, or its equivalent, will serve to maintain the two portions of the bed-bottom in contact with each other, when within the cabinet. The chief value of the elastic cord will be found to consist in the fact that its contraction will have sufficient power to fold the two frames *l l*, and elevate them into a perpendicular position, or into that shown in fig. 2 of the drawings.

A suitable hook or clasp is to be applied to the two frames *l l*, to hold them in horizontal position against the power of the elastic cord.

On releasing this catch, the power of the elastic cord will at once elevate the two frames within the chamber B, without exertion on the part of the attendant.

To the outer face of the inner or lower end of each side of the inner frame *l*, and at the upper corner thereof, I pivot a roller or caster, *u*, such rollers playing in vertical grooves *v v*, formed in the inside of the opposite walls of the chamber B, the said rollers serving as fulcra, to permit of raising and lowering of the frames *l l*, as well as casters to the bed-bottom, when the latter is entirely detached from the cabinet, and used as a bed independently thereof, the grooves *v v* permitting this removal to be effected very easily and expeditiously.

It will be evident that other devices than the elastic cord herein mentioned may be employed for contracting and elevating the bed-bottom, without affecting the character of my invention. For instance, an elastic cord may be passed about the pulleys in manner as herein shown, and its ends attached to spiral springs, which, in turn, are secured to the rails of the bed-bottom, or a windlass may be employed at each end of the bed-bottom, about which the ends of the cords are passed, by rotating which the cords may be shortened or lengthened, to produce the same result.

Claims.

1. In bureau-bedsteads, in which the bed-bottom consists of two portions hinged together, a spring, or the equivalent thereof, so applied and arranged as to contract and elevate the hinged portions, substantially as herein described, and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination and arrangement of the doo or cover *c* and leaf *d*, hinged together, and provided with the links *f f*, slotted ears *i i*, and the catch-bars *k k*, and sockets *j j*, or their equivalents, in manner and for the purpose before explained.

DANIEL T. ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

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