(No Model.)

A. H. FROST.

BED BOTTOM.

No. 468,054. Patented Feb. 2, 1892.

Fig. 1.

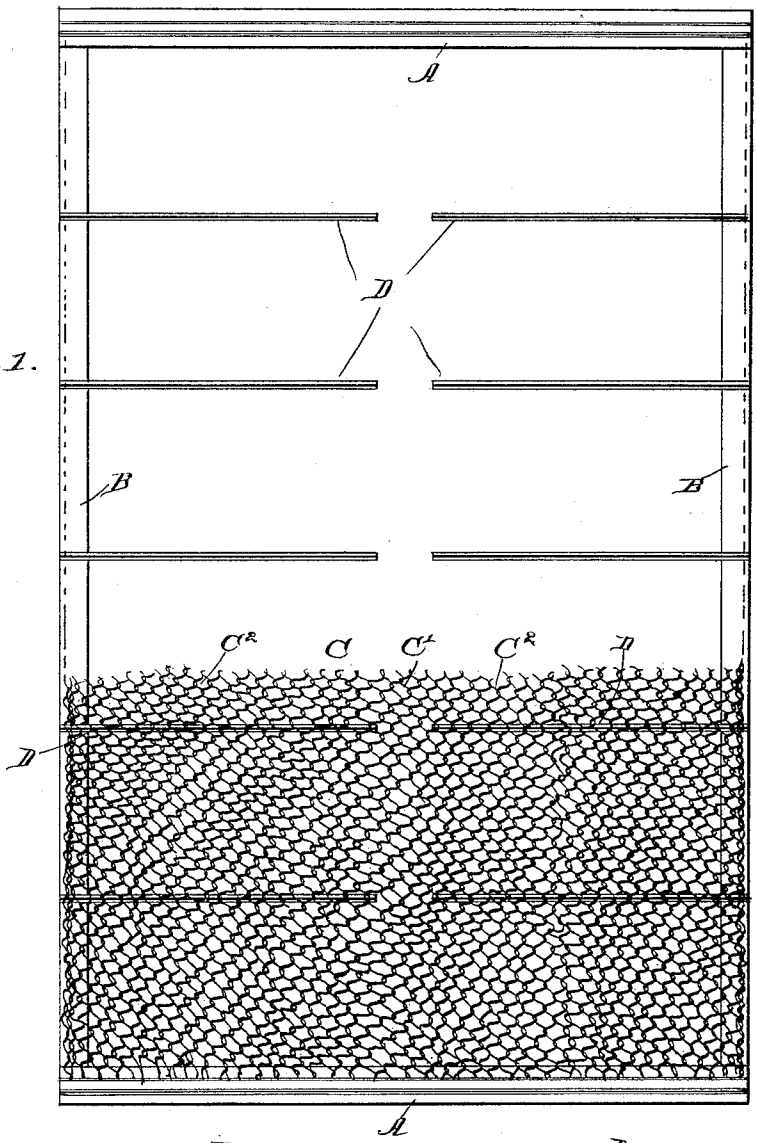


Fig. 2.

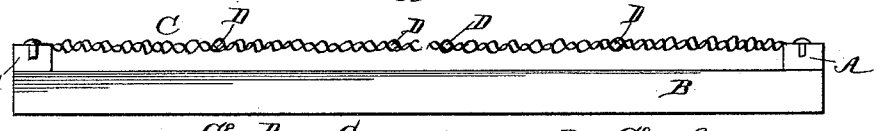
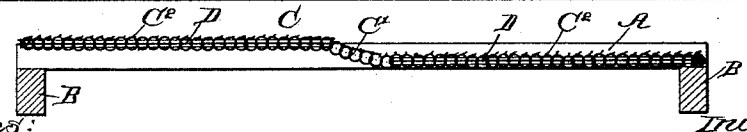


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Frank L. Stevens.
Robt Ryan

Inventor:
Abel H. Frost
by Cyrus K. Hr
Atty

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABEL H. FROST, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BED-BOTTOM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 468,054, dated February 2, 1892.

Application filed August 25, 1890. Serial No. 363,018. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABEL H. FROST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bed-Bottoms; 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 letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to produce a bed-bottom of proper width for two persons the surface of which is generally flexible, but which has the portions at each side of a relatively narrow strip extending lengthwise through the middle of the bed-bottom less flexible than such middle strip, such middle strip being given merely sufficient firmness to unite the relatively stiff side portions. By reason of this construction either side of the bed-bottom may yield to the weight of the sleeper and descend independently of the other side, and while so descending it may retain a substantially horizontal position instead of canting toward the middle of the bed and also drawing down with it the adjacent portion of the opposite side of the bed-bottom.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan of a bed-bottom embodying my improvement. Fig. 2 is an enlarged side view of a portion of the bed-bottom. Fig. 3 is a section in line *a b* of Fig. 1.

A A are the ordinary end rails, and B B the side rails, forming the frame of what is known in the trade as a "woven-wire mattress."

C is the woven-wire fabric, stretched from one of the rails A to the other in the well-known manner.

D D are shafts of wood or other suitable firm material secured transversely to the fabric C, each such strip extending from the outer margin of the fabric almost to the middle of the latter, so that a strip C′ is left along the middle of the fabric without the shafts D. A broad strip C^2 of the fabric C is thus covered by the shafts D at each side of the strip C′. Said strips C^2 are each stiffened transversely, while the strip C′ remains flexible. When a person lies on either strip C^2 said portion of the bed-bottom will not collapse nor cant, but will merely settle down, according to the weight of the sleeper. If two persons of unequal weight occupy the bed, the strip C^2 having upon it the heavier person may settle lower than the other strip C^2, and since the strip C′ is flexible the latter is free to turn into an oblique position, as shown in Fig. 3, and allow each strip C^2 to stand in the horizontal position. The shafts D may be secured to the fabric C by penetrating the latter, as shown in Fig. 2, or they may be secured in any other suitable manner. The fabric may be composed of flexible or pliable material other than woven wire.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a bed-bottom, the combination, with the fabric-supporting frame, of a fabric C, composed of the middle strip C′ and the side strips C^2, said side strips having applied to them transversely stiffening-shafts D, and said middle strip C′ being relatively pliable, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a bed-bottom, the combination, with a fabric-supporting frame, of woven-wire strips C^2, shafts D D, penetrating said strips C^2 transversely, and a middle strip C′ of woven-wire fabric located between and joined to the strips C^2, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 16th day of August, in the year 1890.

ABEL H. FROST.

Witnesses:
LENA C. HUBBARD,
CYRUS KEHR.