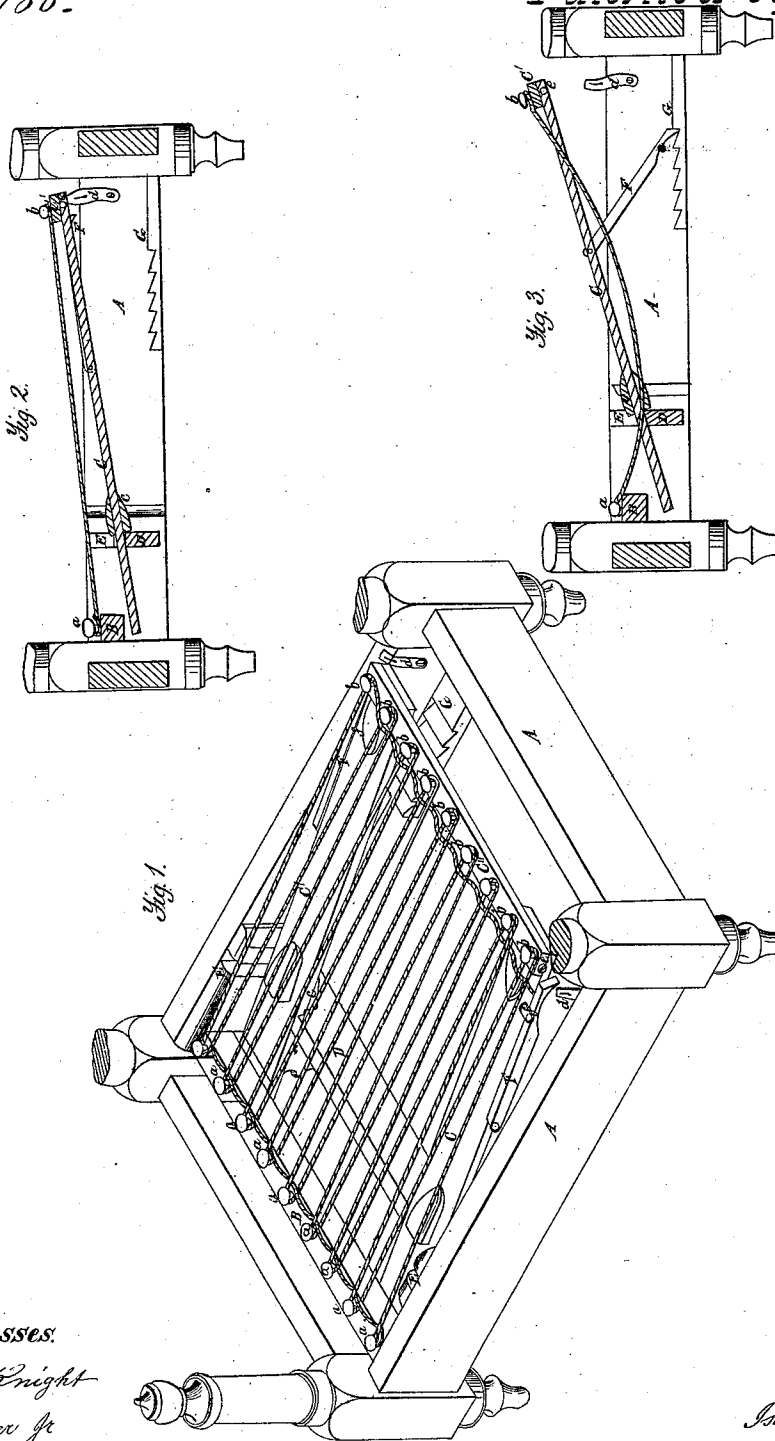


I. A. Sergeant,

Bed Bottom,

N^o 23,786.

Patented Apr. 26, 1859.



Witnesses:

*Geo. H. Knight
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Inventor:

Isaac A. Sergeant

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC A. SERGEANT, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

IMPROVED SPRING BED-BOTTOM.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 23,786, dated April 26, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC A. SERGEANT, of Springfield, Clark county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bed-Bottoms; and I hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

My invention relates to, first, the provision of a combined yielding frame with a longitudinal arrangement of cords of simple construction, easy adjustment, and enduring elasticity; second, a provision in connection with the first named for adaptation to the purposes of a recumbent couch; third, an arrangement for the temporary fixture of the yielding or upper portion of the bottom.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view representing my improved bottom adapted to a common sleeping-bed. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation thereof. Fig. 3 exhibits the arrangement adapted to the purposes of a recumbent couch.

A is the bedstead-frame.

Parallel and near to the foot-rail is a rail, B, whose top has a set of belaying-knobs, *a*. A little in front of and lower than B is a second transverse rail, D, adjustable in height within notches E in the side rails. In connection with these stationary parts I employ a yielding stretcher-frame, consisting of two similar longitudinal wooden bars, C C', rigidly united at their upper ends by a cross-bar, C''. These bars C C', resting in notches in the rail B, press with their lower ends against the bottom of the supplementary foot-rail B. Studs *c* retain the bars C C' in place. The cross-bar C has a set of knobs, *b*, similar to those on the rail B. Around these knobs the cord is laced in parallel longitudinal rows, as shown. The stretcher being thus held by the cords, the whole becomes a yielding bottom, whose powerful yet sensitive elastic functions are prevented under any load from that of a heavy man to that of an infant.

The elasticity of the bottom is derived chiefly from the cords, but in a lesser degree from the

bars C C' also. The bar C'' has hinged to its under side legs or stays F, which, engaging in racks G on the side rails, enable the stretcher-frame to be supported, as in Fig. 3, for recumbent purposes.

f are buttons to hold up the legs F when out of use.

d are straps or loops, which hook over studs *e*, so as to hold down the frame when dressing the bed, after which they can be again detached.

Should the stretcher C C' C'' become bent or warped by use, its construction enables it to be readily reversed, when it will be better than ever.

Sacking may replace the cords; but I prefer the latter.

The cords being stretched lengthwise, the bed has no tendency to sink toward the center, as with cross-cording, and is as elastic at the side as at the middle. By simply drawing tight or slackening the cord at one end the resilience of the whole is instantly modified, so as to suit any burden. The same bottom can be adapted to support different loads by simply chocking the bearings of one or both bars C C'. As a hushing-couch for a baby it is perfect. At a very small expense this arrangement can be adapted to any ordinary bedstead.

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

1. The arrangement of the stretcher-frame C C' C'' and rails B and D, secured and supported as described, for the purpose set forth.
2. The supporting legs or stays F and racks G, in the described combination with the stretcher-frame C C' C'', for the purpose set forth.
3. The described arrangement of straps *d* and knobs *e*, for the purpose explained.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

ISAAC A. SERGEANT.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,
C. STEEMER, Jr.