

Russell & Fuller,

Bed Bottom.

N^o 84,581.

Patented Dec 1, 1868.

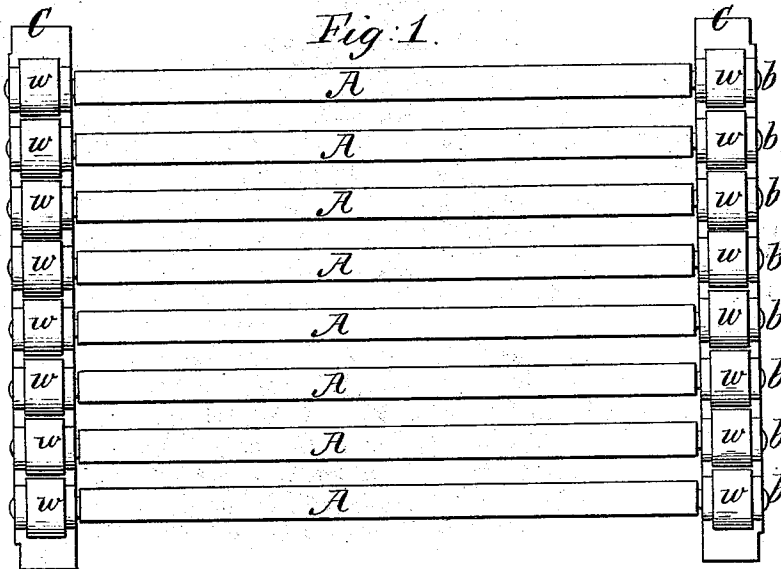
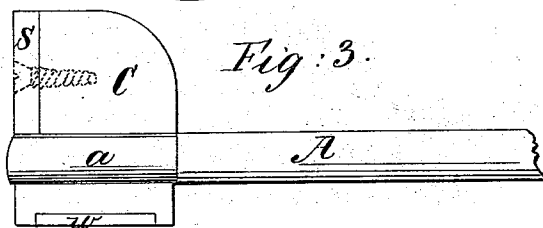
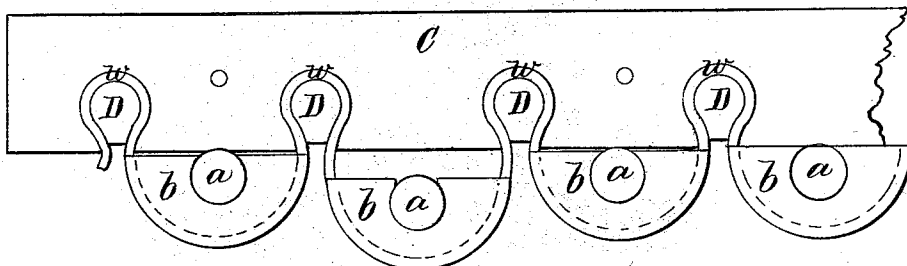


Fig. 2.



Witnesses;
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HIRAM RUSSELL AND MYRON S. FULLER, OF NASHVILLE, MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 84,581, dated December 1, 1868.

IMPROVED SPRING-BED BOTTOM.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HIRAM RUSSELL and MYRON S. FULLER, both of Nashville, in the county of Barry, and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spring-Bed Bottoms; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of the under side of the bed-bottom.

Figure 2 is an end elevation, with the covering-slat removed.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal vertical section through one end of a spring-bed slat.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures.

Our invention consists of an improved mode of hanging the bed-bottom slats on elastic bands, so that the slats may be free to turn, the bands being suspended or fastened without screws or nails, and in such manner that they may be readily renewed whenever it may be necessary, and the whole so arranged as to adapt the bottom equally well for portable as for stationary use.

To better enable others skilled in this mechanical branch to construct our invention, we will now proceed to describe it, with the aid of the drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon.

A represents ordinary wooden bed-bottom slats, having a round tenon or journal, *a*, formed on each of their ends. These journals fit so as to turn freely in holes bored in wooden semicircular bearing-blocks, *b*, which are supported on strips of the material known as rubber webbing, or on bands of any other kind possessing the required elasticity, shown at *w*.

We usually form the bearing-blocks by turning in one circular piece, with a groove around the periphery to receive the elastic webbing, and then saw them in two, after boring for the slat-journals.

C represents the head and foot cross-bars, to which the elastic webbing is connected, for supporting the blocks and slats.

We hang the bearing-blocks and suspend the webbing from the cross-bars, by passing said webbing in a serpentine course around the circular part of the block, within the groove, and around the walls of recesses of a dovetail character, cut in the cross-bars C, opposite the narrow spaces between the blocks in range, and

insert a centre key, so that it may be easily taken out. A very convenient mode of doing this is shown in the enlarged elevation, fig. 2, by boring round holes nearly through the bars, and cutting away sufficient wood to permit the passage of the two thicknesses of webbing. We then insert either round or pear-shaped wooden keys in the centre, to fill (with the webbing) the whole space so made, as indicated at D.

In order to confine the keys in place, we hang the bearing-blocks so that their outer faces will project beyond the sides of the cross-bars a distance equal to the thickness of a wooden strip, seen at S, which we screw on to the outside of each cross-bar, over the keys, and thus secure both keys and webbing in place.

There being no nails, screws, or other metal attachments to the webbing, it wears longer, and it will be seen that our arrangement makes it a comparatively easy matter to take off stretched or worn webbing and replace it with new, or to remove it temporarily to scald the wood-work, if infested with bugs, as all that is necessary to do is to unscrew and screw on the covering-strips, and remove and replace by hand the webbing *w* and key D.

The slats will turn in their bearings so as to adjust themselves at any angle to suit the contour and movements of the body, and, when sprung down by use, can be reversed.

Our bed-bottom may be secured in a bedstead by any of the well-known means, and for military or other portable uses the slats can be taken out, and all the parts tied together for transportation. It is but the work of a few minutes to put the parts together, and an *ex tempore* bedstead can be created by temporary supports at the ends of the cross-bars, to hold them up from the ground.

We do not claim, broadly, supporting bed-bottom slats on elastic webbing; but, having described our invention,

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is the following:

We claim the journal-slats A, supported in bearing-blocks *b*, in combination with the elastic webbing *w*, and recesses and keys D in the cross-bars C, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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MYRON S. FULLER.

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