(No Model.)

L. B. HOPKINS.

BED SLAT FASTENER.

No. 372,913. Patented Nov. 8, 1887.

Fig. 1.

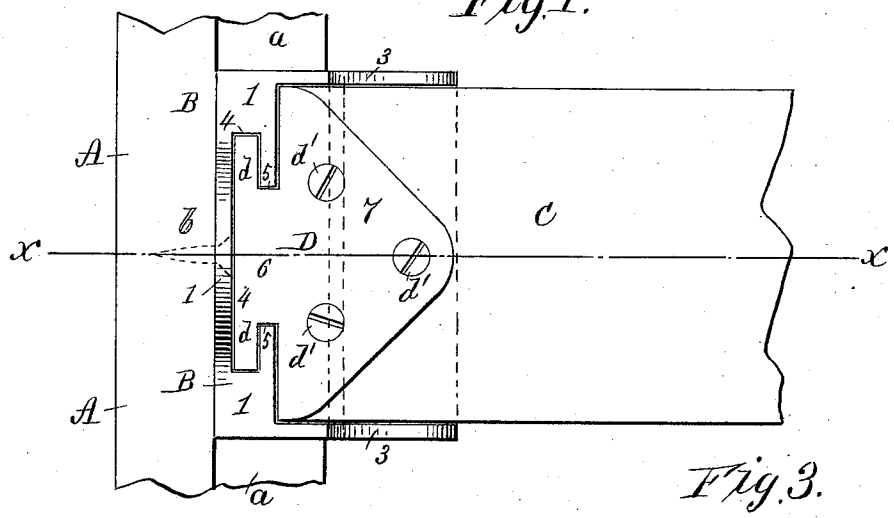


Fig. 3.

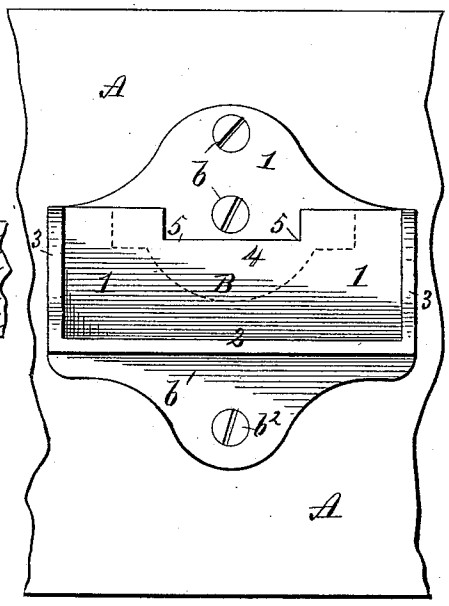


Fig. 2.

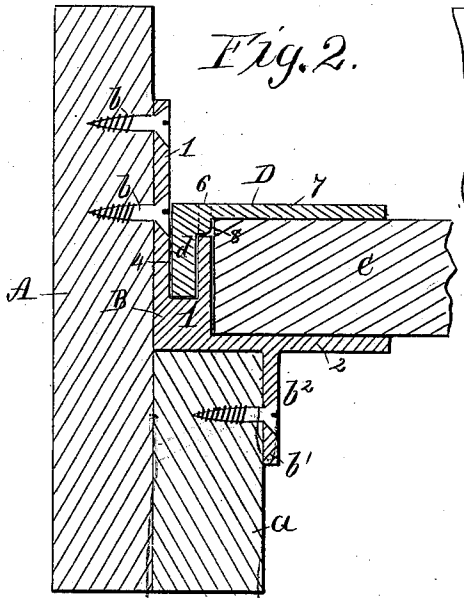
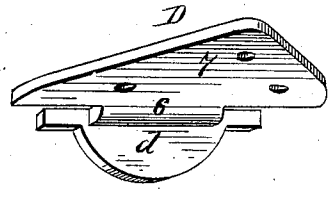


Fig. 4.



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LAFAYETTE B. HOPKINS, OF COUNCIL GROVE, KANSAS.

BED-SLAT FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 372,913, dated November 8, 1887.

Application filed August 8, 1887. Serial No. 246,426. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAFAYETTE B. HOPKINS, of Council Grove, in the county of Morris and State of Kansas, have invented a new and Improved Bed-Slat Fastener, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to fastenings for holding bed-bottom slats to the side rails of a bedstead, and has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient device of this character, which will hold the slats securely to the rails and allow instant removal of the slats when required, and will also prevent lateral spreading of the rails of the bedstead.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts of the fastener, all as hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters and figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of parts of a bedstead-rail and a bed-slat held to each other by my improved fastener. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the rail, slat, and fastener, taken on the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an inside face view of part of the bedstead-rail with the slat-holding iron attached and the slat removed, and Fig. 4 is a bottom rear perspective view of the bed-slat iron.

The side rail, A, of the bedstead is provided at its inner face with an auxiliary rail, *a*, which is usually mortised to receive the ends of the slats of the bedstead, but which in my improvement gives substantial support to an iron, B, which I call the "rail-iron," and which supports the bed-slat C, which is provided with an iron, D, which I call the "slat-iron," and which interlocks with the rail-iron in a manner presently described. The main body part of the rail-iron B has a right-angular general form, or is made with a back plate, 1, which preferably extends upward to receive screws *b*, by which the iron is held to the bedstead-rail A, while the bottom plate, 2, of the iron rests on the top of the rail *a*, and this plate 2 is provided with a pendent-flange plate, *b'*, which is secured by a screw, b^2, to the face of the rail *a*. Opposite end flanges, 3 3, projecting upward from the plate 2, form, with the plates 1 2, a socket to receive the end of the bed-slat C. The back plate, 1, of the rail-iron B is quite thick, to allow the formation in it of a vertically-ranging slot, 4, which receives a lock-plate, *d*, formed at the outer end of the slat-iron D, and the inner wall of the slot 4 is cut away at 5, (see Fig. 3,) to snugly receive the neck or portion 6 of the slat-iron, which connects its lock-plate *d* with the body-plate 7 of the iron, which plate 7 is preferably made in triangular form and is secured by screws *d'* to the bed-slat C. The neck 6 of the slat-iron D is thicker than the body portion 7 of the iron, thereby not only giving strength to the lock plate or tongue *d*, but also forming a stop-shoulder, 8, against the end of the bed-slat C, to allow the iron D to be screwed to the slat with an assurance that the lock-plate *d* will properly enter the slot 4 of the rail-iron B, while the end of the slat abuts the inner face of the back wall, 1, of said iron, as will be understood from Fig. 2 of the drawings. The irons B will be applied to opposite side rails of the bedstead, and the irons D will be fixed to opposite ends of each slat of the bed-bottom.

It is obvious that with this fastening the slats will be substantially supported from the rails of the bedstead and cannot shift edgewise, and the plates or tongues *d* of the slat-irons, by interlocking with the rail-irons, will effectually prevent lateral spreading of the rails of the bedstead. Furthermore, the two parts or irons B D of the fastening may be very cheaply made in cast metal, and may be easily and quickly applied to either new or old bedsteads.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As an improved article of manufacture, a bed-slat fastener consisting in the rail-iron B, formed with the back plate, 1, having apertures, the bottom plate, 2, at right angles to the back plate and provided with the pendent flange *b'*, having an aperture, the opposite upward extending end flanges, 3 3, forming the rail-socket, the back-plate being thicker at its juncture with the bottom plate and formed

with the vertical slot 4, having part of its front wall cut away, as at 5, and the slat-iron D, formed of an apertured body portion, 7, having the tongue *d* at right angles thereto, and the stop-shoulder 8 for the slat at the inner angle of the slat-iron, the tongue *d* entering the slot 4, and the stop-shoulder engaging the recess 5 in the front wall thereof, substantially as set forth.

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