

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CORNER-BRACE FOR BEDSTEADS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 251,267, dated December 20, 1881.

Application filed October 11, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM MCFARLAND, of Trenton, in the county of Mercer and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corner-Braces for Bedsteads; 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 pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to corner-braces for bedsteads or other furniture and means for supporting the same in place.

Heretofore bedsteads have been provided with corner-braces attached directly to the side and end rails of the bed by cutting away or mortising the latter to form dovetail bearings for the braces, which are formed with enlarged heads to fit the bearings. This construction is defective, for the reason that mortising or chiseling the bearings in the edges of the rails necessarily weakens the latter to some extent, and as the bearings are cut in the top edge of the side and end rails only to a depth sufficient to retain the brace flush with the rails, the frame of the bed which may be placed upon them will rest above the rails and have no side bearing to retain it in position.

The object of my invention is to provide the side and end rails of a bedstead with brace-supports removably secured to the rails, and to combine with said supports an improved corner-brace, as fully described hereinafter.

The invention consists in the improved corner-brace and the combinations of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a bedstead provided with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the corner-brace, and Fig. 3 represents detail views of the brace-support.

A represents the side rails, and B the end rails, of a bedstead, having the legs *a*. To the inner side of each of said rails, at a point near their ends and about midway of their height, is a countersink, *b*, adapted to receive a plate, C, preferably of metal, whose edges are flush with the side of the rails, and which are held thereto by screws or equivalent means, *c*. The countersink, however, may be dispensed with and the plate attached to the surface of the

rail. These plates are formed with vertical lugs D, one on each side thereof, whose inner sides are beveled or undercut, so that the space between them is wider at the top than at their lower ends, thus adapting them to receive and retain a corner-brace, the end of which snugly fits the space between the lugs D. The plate C, I preferably construct of disk form; but it is apparent that it might be made of square, diamond, or other form without departing from my invention.

E represents a corner-brace, formed with the enlarged ends or heads *d*, the wide bearing *e*, and web *f*. The heads *d* are oppositely inclined, and have their side edges, *d'*, beveled to adapt them to the lugs of one of the plates C of the side rail and the adjacent plate of the end rail. The heads fit between the lugs and are firmly held there, thus securely bracing the side and end rails together and giving the bed a reliable corner-connection.

It will be observed that the brace E, when in position as shown in Fig. 1, is considerably below the top edge of the rails, and this arrangement, in connection with the wide bearing *e*, is designed to constitute a desirable support for a spring or other bed having a rigid frame. The latter is placed upon the bearings *e* of the braces at each corner of the bedstead, and said bearings being below the upper edge of the rails, side and end bearings against the rails are secured for the bed-frame.

In order to have the brace E as light as possible, due regard being had for strength and durability, I form it with a web, *f*, below the bearing *e*, instead of casting it in a solid piece of equal thickness, which would be heavy and cumbersome.

The plates and braces may be manufactured at little cost, and may be readily applied to a bedstead, and the latter thereby securely braced. The bed may be easily taken apart by simply removing the braces.

It will be apparent that the use of my improvement need not be limited to bedsteads, since it will be found equally applicable to many other articles of furniture, such as tables, desks, chairs, &c. Therefore, while I have illustrated in the drawings only a bedstead and have designed the brace primarily for such use, I would have it understood that I do not

confine myself to that particular adaptation of my invention.

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

1. The combination, with the rails of a bed, of a brace-supporting plate adapted to be secured to said rails, and provided with inclined undercut lugs which form a wedge-shaped bearing for the ends of a brace, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with an end rail of a bed provided with a brace-supporting plate having undercut lugs, and a side nut provided with a similar plate, of a corner-brace whose ends respectively engage with said end and side plates, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the side and end rails of a bedstead, of brace-supporting plates secured to the inner sides of the rails and provided with inclined lugs, and a corner-brace one end of which is adapted to engage with the

lugs of the adjacent plate of the end rail, thus forming a diagonal corner-brace, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with an end rail of a bed provided with a brace-supporting plate adapted to be secured to said rail and provided with undercut lugs, of a side rail provided with a similar plate, and a corner-brace adapted to fit said end and side plates, and having a broad flat top bearing, *e*, to receive a bed-frame, substantially as set forth.

5. A corner-brace for bedsteads, consisting of heads *d'*, to engage with retaining devices, a flat top bearing, *e*, and web portion *f*, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM MCFARLAND.

Witnesses:

GEORGE W. MILLER,
ROBERT S. VANDEWATER.