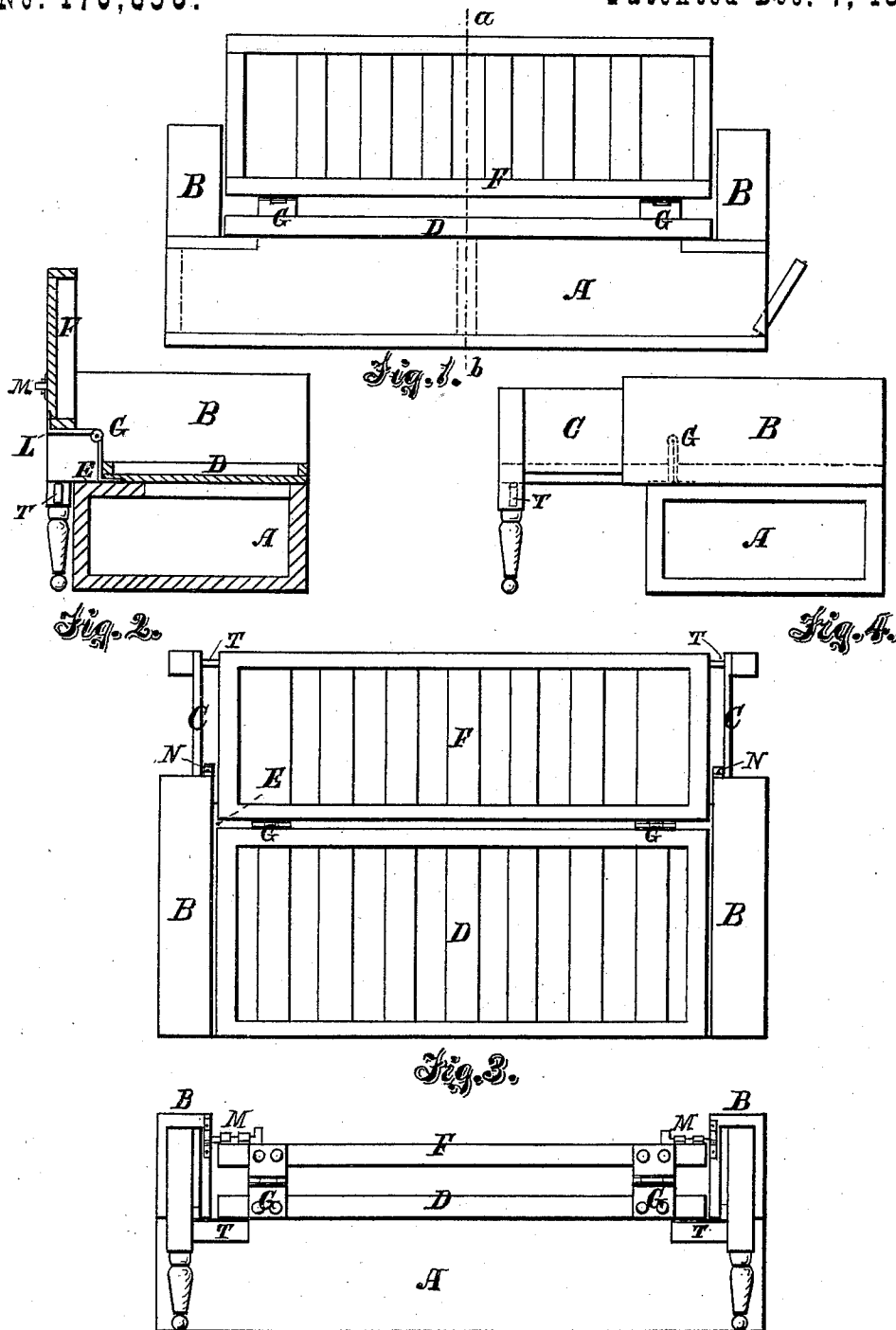


G. J. HENKELS.

SOFA-BEDSTEAD.

No. 170,853.

Patented Dec. 7, 1875.



Witnesses.

J. Bonsall Taylor.  
Owen Darcy

Fig. 5.

Inventor.

George J. Henkels,  
by his atty.  
W. C. Shawbridge

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

GEORGE J. HENKELS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SOFA-BEDSTEADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **170,853**, dated December 7, 1875; application filed September 23, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE J. HENKELS, of the city and county of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sofa-Beds, of which the following is a full, clear, and precise specification:

My invention relates to that class of sofas which, while compact and slightly as lounges, are also capable of extension as bedsteads.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my invention as a lounge; Fig. 2, a central transverse section of the same on the line A B, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a plan view as a bedstead; Fig. 4, an end view as a bedstead; and Fig. 5 a back view, when the entire device is closed up into its most compact form.

All the figures represent an unupholstered frame-work, and in them all the same letters of reference denote the same parts.

The object of my invention is the production of a sofa-bedstead which can be folded up upon itself to form a solid rectangular box or package, so to speak, for convenience of use and transportation; and to this end it consists in, first, the combination in a sofa-bedstead of the main frame-work A inclosing receptacles for clothing, &c., the main head-boards B B, the sliding head-boards C C, the stationary frame-work D, and the hinged frame-work F, substantially as described; second, the hinged frame-work F, operating as specified; third, the combination of the ledge E with the frame-works D and F, the hinges G G, and the sliding head-boards C C, for the purpose specified.

With reference to the drawing, for the better information of the public, A represents the main frame-work of the bedstead, which consists substantially of a hollow rectangular box, divided by a central diaphragm into two compartments, to which access is had through doors located in either end of the box, opening outward, so that the even appearance of the front shall be unbroken for any ornamentation, paneling, or the like. Framed upon and flush with the ends of this box are hollow head-boards or arms B B extending upward at right angles with the box. Within these head-boards fit and slide other head-boards C C, carrying each a single leg at the

rear extending to the ground. The extent to which the sliding head-boards can be drawn out is fixed, being governed by lugs within the main head-boards B B. Doweled or otherwise rigidly attached to the box A is a rectangular frame-work, D, (permanently slatted, for convenience, but not necessarily so, for webbing may replace the slats,) which in length fits flush inside from main head-board to main head-board, but in width does not so fit from side to side of the box, but at the back does not come up to the edge, being short any convenient number of inches, leaving a broad ledge, E, the entire length of the box, for a purpose hereinafter to be specified.

To this rigid frame-work D is hinged by means of hinges G G of peculiar construction a movable frame-work, F, similar in all other respects to D. The hinges G G have very long leaves—so long, in fact, that when F is folded over upon D it is raised high enough above D to allow of any required thickness of upholstery upon both frame-works, as shown in Fig. 5. The hinge-leaves, moreover, are bent over at right angles L L about the frame-works, as shown in Fig. 2, for greater strength. Upon the frame-work F are bolts or other fastenings M M taking into corresponding catches N N upon the head-boards to sustain the folding frame-work when it is elevated as the back of the lounge, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5.

Such being the structure its mode of operation is as follows: For transportation the frame-work F is folded down upon the frame-work D and the sliding head-boards pushed in. As a lounge the frame-work F is raised perpendicularly and the bolts M M locked. As a bedstead the sliding head-boards are pulled out to their full extent, and the frame-work F turned over and down until it rests upon two tenons, T T, laterally projecting internally from the sliding head-boards; and it is in this connection that the ledge E comes into play, for should the sliding head-boards not be drawn out, or should the tenons become broken, then the width of this ledge is sufficiently great in connection with the very powerful angled hinges, which I have described, to overcome by its support the fracturing leverage of the frame-work F, holding that

frame-work out horizontally without damage until the mistake can be remedied or the accident repaired.

I relieve all strains upon the upholstery in every position of the back by placing my hinges upon the ends, and partially beneath, my frame-works, and elevating their joints, as described.

I am aware that sofa-bedsteads, and wardrobe or folding bedsteads, of any kind, have been long in use. I am also aware that in bedsteads of these descriptions receptacles for clothing have been placed, and to such devices broadly I lay no claim.

What I claim, then, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

A sofa-bedstead, consisting of the main frame-work or body A, having separate compartments therein, provided with end pieces hinged at their lower edge to the frame to form doors to said compartments, the back-frame F having bolts M, the end pieces B, sliding head and foot boards C, and seat D, secured to the back by hinges G.

GEORGE J. HENKELS.

Witnesses:

OWEN DARCY,  
WM. H. ADDICKS.