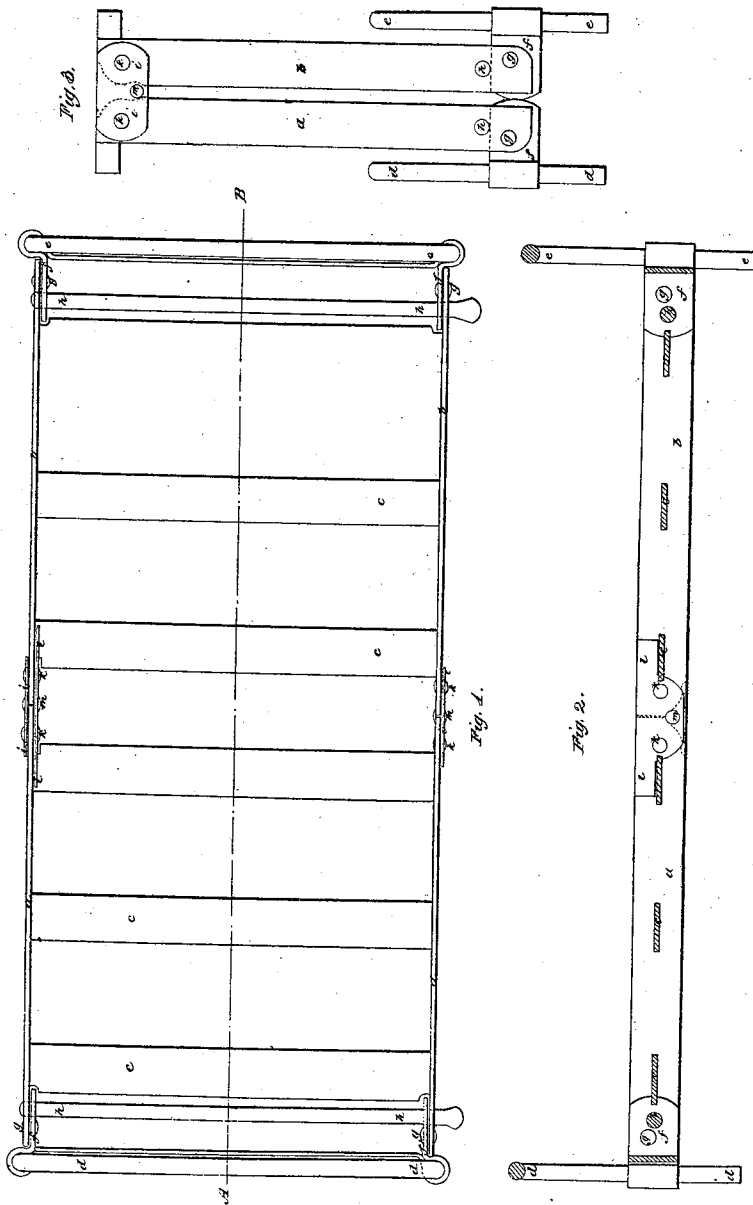


No. 7,014.

PATENTED JAN. 15, 1850.

J. BINDER.
PORTABLE IRON BEDSTEAD.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN BINDER, OF CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS.

FOLDING BEDSTEAD.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 7,014, dated January 15, 1850.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN BINDER, of Chelsea, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Iron Bedsteads, and that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, hereinafter referred to, forms a full and exact specification of the same, wherein I have set forth the nature and principles of my said improvements by which my invention may be distinguished from others of a similar class, together with such parts as I claim and desire to have secured to me by Letters Patent.

The figures of the accompanying plate of drawings represent my improvement.

Figure 1 is a plan of my improved portable iron bedstead, Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section taken in the plane of the line A, B Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the bedstead folded up for transportation.

The iron bedstead which I have improved is principally used in hospitals and camp service, and is arranged so as to be folded up in a compact form in order that it may be conveniently moved from place to place, the head and foot frames folding over on the main horizontal supporting frame, which latter frame is jointed at the center so as to be doubled up and present the appearance as a whole which is represented in elevation in Fig. 3. As the bedsteads have heretofore been constructed, this center joint of the horizontal supporting frame has been necessarily and invariably supported by a leg which greatly enhances the inconvenience of folding up the apparatus.

My improvement supersedes the necessity of this leg and at the same time makes the joint as stiff as is required when the bedstead is spread out for use.

The bedstead is made mostly in the usual way with two long stringers or side bars *a b*, *a b* and a series of stretchers or cross bars *c*, *c*, *c*, *c* framed between them and fastened at each end in any proper way. The head frame *d d d* and foot frame *e e e* are connected to the opposite ends of the side bars *a b*, *a b* by the projections *f f* &c., so

that each of said frames turns on the pins *g g g g*, as shown in Fig. 1. The long rods *h h*, when inserted in holes formed in said side bars and the projections *f f*, keep the head and foot frames in their proper vertical position when the bedstead is set out for use.

The side bars *a b* are divided at the center so as to form two parts *a b* which are connected to each other on the outside by the short connecting bar *i i* through which and the adjacent ends of the parts *a b* of the side bars at proper points, two pins or rivets *k*, *k* are passed. These pins or rivets also pass through similar connecting bars *l l* on the inside of said side bars *a b* (one of said bars *l l* being left off in order to exemplify my improvements more clearly) and the outer connecting bar *i i* and inner one *l l* are connected by a third rivet *m*, Figs. 1, 2, 3. In the bedsteads now in use these two rivets *k k* and *m* are in the same horizontal range, which made it necessary to cut the adjacent edges of the parts *a b* of the side bars *a b*, away, thereby leaving but little bearing surface for said edges when they come together and rendering it necessary to support the joint by a leg attached to the center rivet, *m*. By my improvement this center rivet *m* is placed considerably below the range of the other two rivets *k k* which gives considerable bearing surface for the edges of the parts *a b* of the side bar and said edges below the point where they bear against each other are curved so as to rest upon said rivet as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2. This arrangement it is believed will make the joint sufficiently rigid. But in order to strengthen it and entirely supersede the use of a leg, I form the inside connecting bars *l l* with two wings or lateral projections which when the bedstead is open, operate as shoulders and rest on the two cross bars *c c*, *c c* of the bedstead adjacent to each other on each side of the joint and this arrangement makes said joint altogether inflexible.

Having thus described my improvements I shall state my claims as follows.

What I claim as my invention and desire to have secured to me by Letters Patent is,—

Arranging said center joint with the center rivet below the other two in combination with the curving of the adjacent edges of the parts of the side bars, so as to rest
5 upon said center rivet as described, and also the forming of the inner connecting bar with lateral projections or shoulders which when the bedstead is open shall rest on the

top of the two cross bars of the bedstead adjacent to the joint in the side bars of the 10 same, all as hereinabove set forth.

JOHN BINDER.

Witnesses:

EZRA LINCOLN, Jr.,
WM. BLAKE.