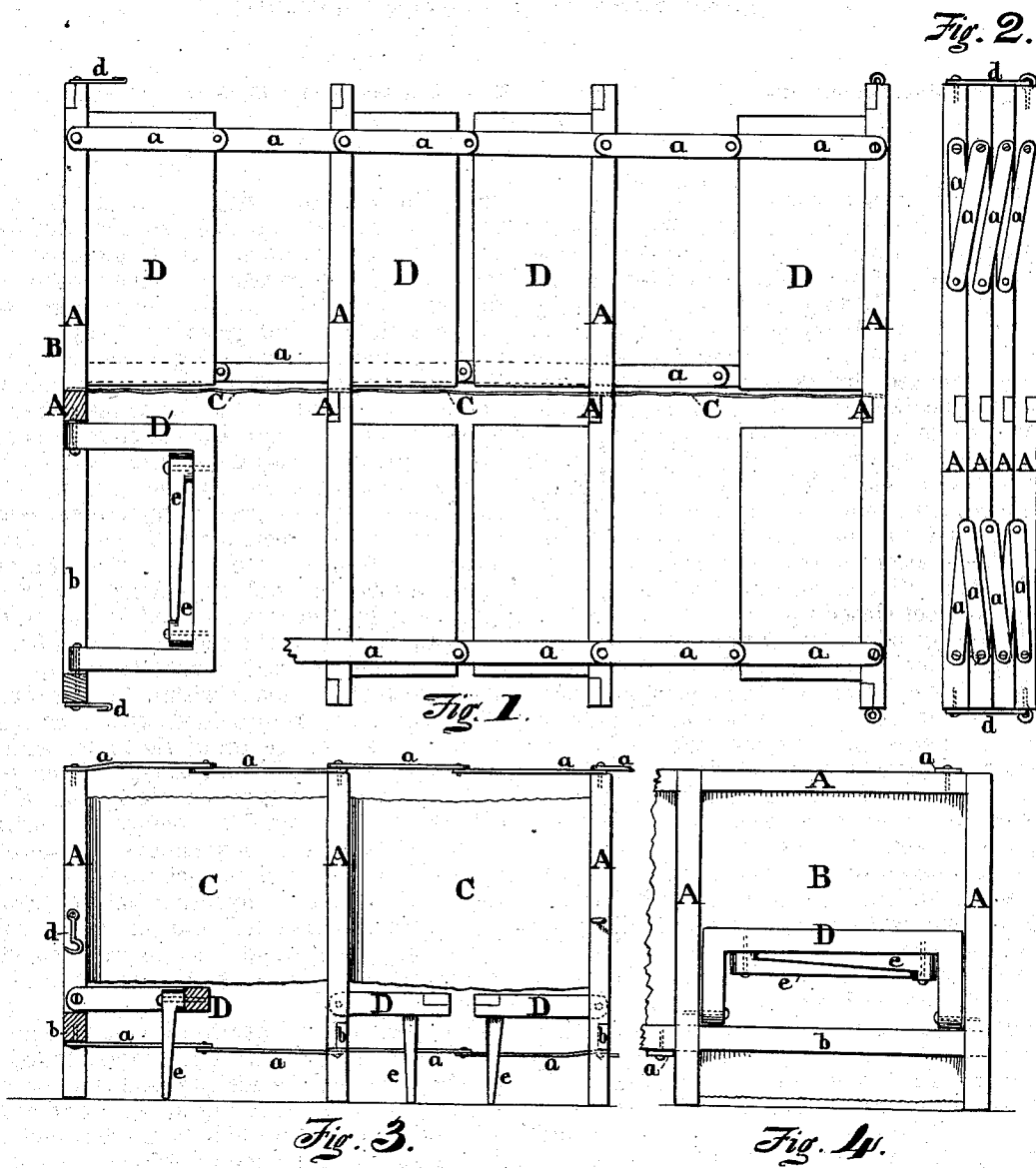


C. H. DEANE.
Folding-Cots.

No. 155,794.

Patented Oct. 13, 1874.



Witnesses
Henry H. Wells
Clarence Shurtlow

Inventor
Charles H. Deane
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. DEANE, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING COTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **155,794**, dated October 13, 1874; application filed April 23, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. DEANE, of the city of Peoria, in the county of Peoria, in the State of Illinois, have invented an Improvement in Folding Cots; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings making a part of this specification, in which like letters of reference refer to like parts, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a plan view with part of frame removed in left hand bottom corner, to show plan of mounting the cot-frame; Fig. 2, plan view of the whole when closed up; Fig. 3, elevation of two compartments with their cots; Fig. 4, elevation of one end of frame and cot closed up.

The object of my invention is to provide an economical, portable, and ready mode of supplying cots with screened compartments for guests in hotels, to be placed in halls or other available spaces where there may be a scarcity of better accommodations. This consists in providing a series of square upright frames, about fourteen feet long and seven high, composed of wood or iron rods. If of wood the pieces of the frame may be about two and a half inches square, properly braced, and provided with horizontal cross-pieces, to which the cots are hinged. The frames are hinged together parallel with each other, so that the distance between each will be wide enough to contain one or two cots, and the hinges may be made of metal strips, jointed together half way between each frame, and pivoted, each strip, to its respective frame at the top and bottom, so that the frames may shut together compactly, vertically, when the cots are turned up, and be stowed away when not in use. To the cross horizontal bars or to the uprights are hinged one or more cot-frames, in such a manner as to fold them upward or downward within the plane of their respective frames, vertically, so that none of them will interfere with the closing together of the frames when put away. The cots are provided with the usual webbing and sacking, and with legs or supports made to fold within the cot-frame, or to be let fall into a notch or other receptacles in the large frame, in the manner of a bracket. Each large

frame is provided with a canvas or other screen, stretched from side to side and from top to bottom, and a screen of the same kind may extend from frame to frame up the middle, so as to form compartments right and left of each frame for greater privacy.

One of the forms in which I construct this folding compartment for cots is as follows, and as represented in the drawings, where A A are the vertical frames, each connected and hinged together parallel to the next by the jointed strips *a a* at top and bottom; B B, the canvas screens, stretched upon each frame; C C, the cross-screens, which form a divisional wall between the cots on the right and those on the left end of a frame; D D, the cots, each hinged at either end to one of the uprights A A A at the center and end frame, so as to fold upward vertically within the same, with their legs *e* within the cot-frame. The whole may be provided with a hanging curtain or screen, covering the outer end of each compartment, if necessary, and this will not interfere with the proper closing up of the apparatus, nor would a canopy or curtain covering the compartments above do so either. Hooks *d d* are used to lock the frames together when shut compactly, that the whole may be readily handled and put away when not in use. The frames may be provided with casters under each vertical piece A A A of each frame.

The operation of this invention is as follows: The frames A A are shut compactly together to occupy as little space as possible when not wanted, the cots D folding up within their respective frames, the whole being fastened by the hooks *d d* at the end of frames. To open them for use two persons can readily draw the frames apart, the elbow joints *a a* forming for them a sufficient support to keep them parallel. The act of drawing them apart also stretches the intermediate screens C C. The cots D D are now opened out horizontally, and their legs *e e* let fall, and the addition of a spread for each cot is all that is necessary for forming a comfortable series of sleeping compartments, free from observation, and for temporary use where such accommodation may be useful, as in hotels, cars, steamboats, and other vessels. These may be constructed

in single compartments or as many as may be necessary.

What I claim as my invention is—

The combination of the folding parallel frames A A, provided with the hinged cots D, having legs e, screens B and C, and hinged strips a, constructed and arranged to operate substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing sectional compartment for cots, &c., I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of April, A. D. 1874.

CHARLES H. DEANE.

Witnesses:

H. W. WELLS,

JAMES M. MORSE.