

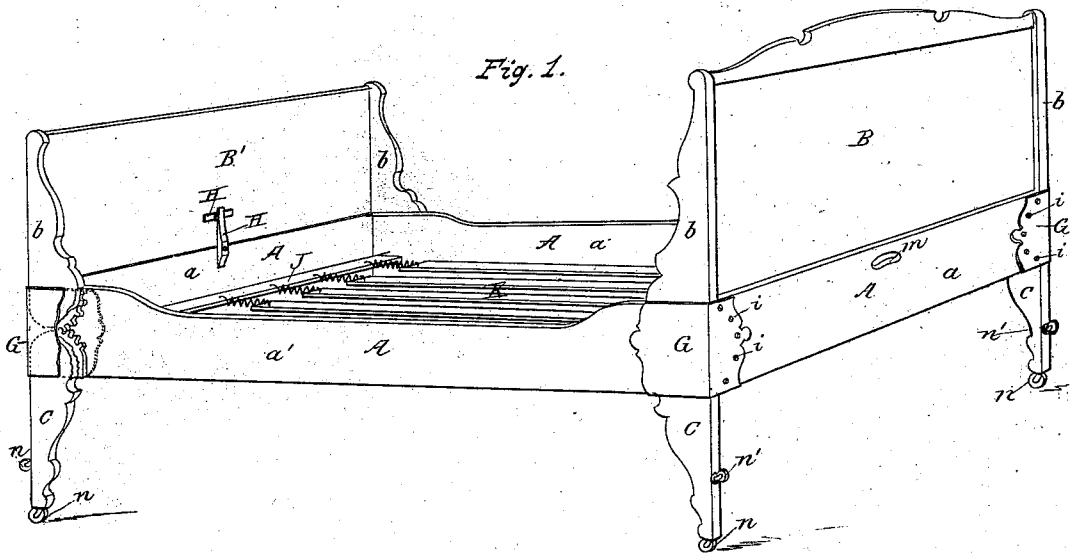
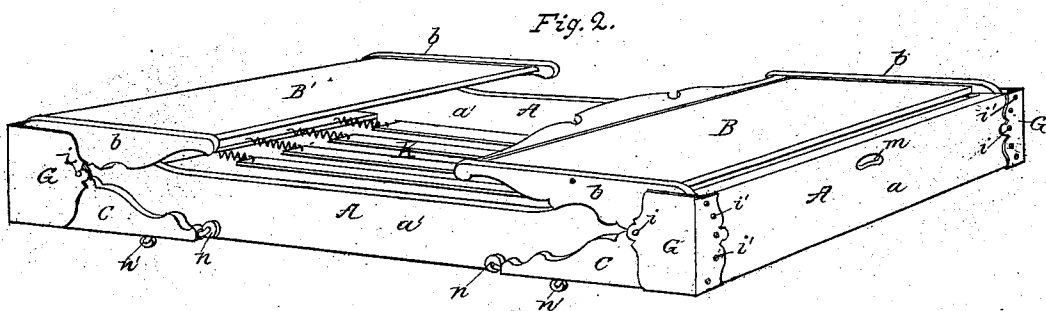
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. T. SHEPARD.
FOLDING BEDSTEAD AND CRIB.

No. 293,796.

Patented Feb. 19, 1884.



Witnesses:

Charles J. Shepard
Richard P. Denny

Charles J. Shepard

Inventor.

By his Attorney Alex. McKim

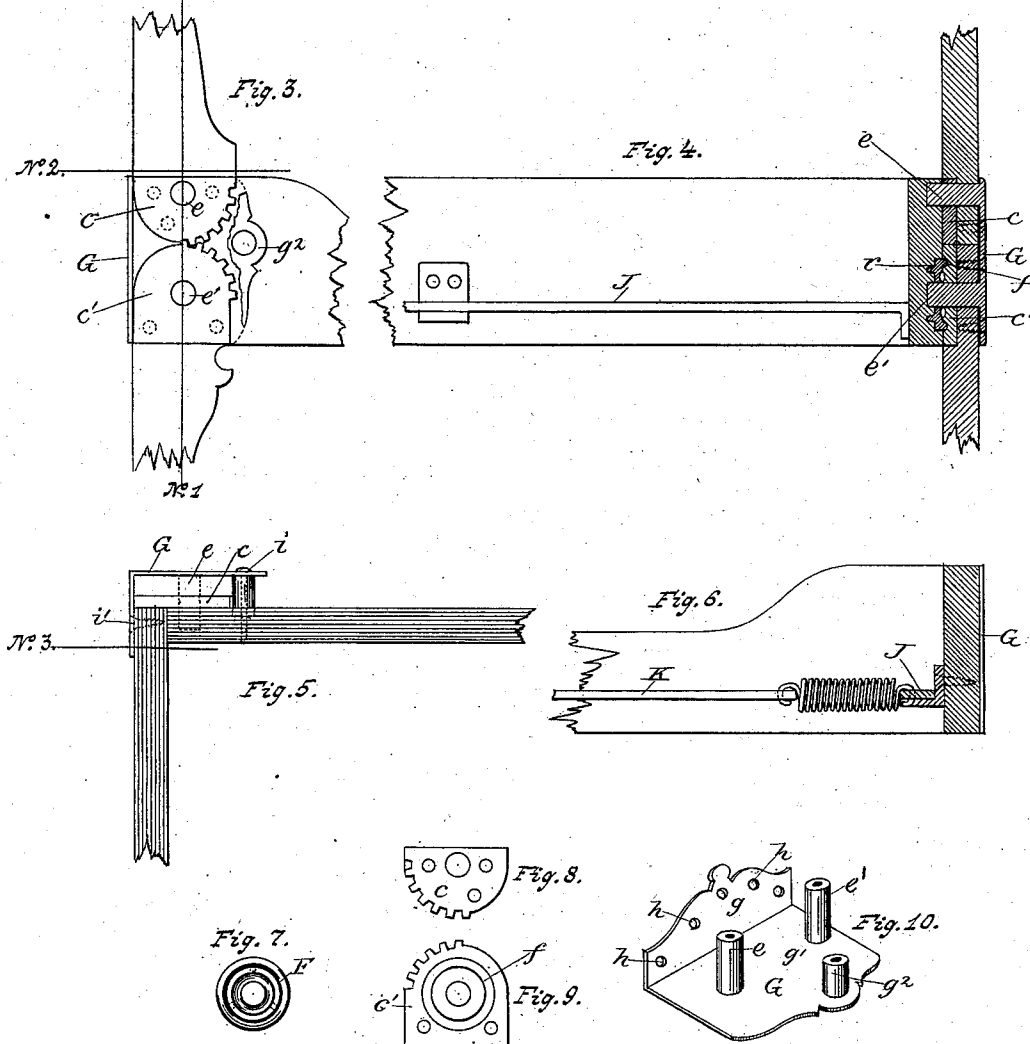
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

C. T. SHEPARD.
FOLDING BEDSTEAD AND CRIB.

No. 293,796.

Patented Feb. 19, 1884.



Witnesses:

Charles H. Kirk
Richard P. Dunaway

Charles T. Shepard

Inventor.

By his Attorney
Alex. Selkirk

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES T. SHEPARD, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO WILLIAM APPLETON, JR., OF SAME PLACE.

FOLDING BEDSTEAD AND CRIB.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 293,796, dated February 19, 1884.

Application filed June 5, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES T. SHEPARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Albany, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Bedsteads and Cribs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of folding bedsteads and cribs in which the supporting-legs are folded up against the sides of the bed-frame and the end boards are folded down over the same when it is to be placed out of the way beneath a standing bedstead, or is to be stowed away, and when used the legs and end boards will be made to stand vertical.

My invention consists of the combination of parts and devices hereinafter described and set forth; and the objects of my invention are to produce a neat, strong, and handsome bedstead or crib at small expense, which will be adapted to have its end boards and legs folded to the bed-frame, so as to reduce its vertical height, that it may be readily run beneath a standing bedstead when not used; and also to provide means by which an operator will, by simply turning down the end boards, fold the legs up at the sides of the bed-frame, and by reverse movement of the end boards turn the legs from a folded to a vertical position. I attain these objects by means of the mechanism illustrated in the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bedstead or crib embodying my improvement when in position for use, with parts broken away to show the interior mechanism. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same when the parts are folded together. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation of a portion of the side of the bedstead or crib, with the shield-bracket broken and exposing the operative mechanism. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken at line No. 1 in Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a view taken on horizontal line No. 2 in Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view taken at line No. 3 in Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a view of the wear-plate of the legs. Fig. 8 is a view of the gear-plate of the folding end boards. Fig. 9 is a view of the gear-plate and wear-plate of the folding legs, and Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the shield-bracket.

The same letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views.

In the drawings, A represents the bed-frame, which frame is composed of end rails, *a a*, and side rails, *a' a'*, secured firmly together, so as to make their joints at the corners of the frame firm and rigid. The end boards, B B', compose the head-board and end board, and are so pivoted to the bed-frame at the corners thereof and from the sides of the same as to be readily folded down from vertical positions shown in Fig. 1 to horizontal positions in Fig. 2. The end boards, B B', have securely connected with them brackets *b b*, which are set apart to a distance equal to the width of the bed-frame, outside measure, and they are pivoted to the frame, as at *e*, while the legs are pivoted to the same from independent pivots, as at *e'*. The lower ends of brackets *b* of the end boards, B B', are made with a curvature from a radius equal to that required to be given to the upper ends of the legs to make the ends of both the legs and brackets correspond for turning on their respective pivots.

Secured to the lower end of each bracket *b* is a gear or gear-section, *c*, which is attached thereto in any proper manner. If selected, these brackets *b* may be made of cast-iron and have the gears cast solid with them. Each of the legs C has secured to its upper end a gear or gear-section, *c'*, of the same radius as the gear or gear-section *c*, connected or made with the brackets of the end boards. When these legs are made of cast metal, gears *c'* may be cast solid with them. These legs with their gear are pivoted to the bed-frame at points relatively below the pivots of the respective brackets of the end boards, and relatively on the same vertical lines, so that when each end board is moved the gear on their respective brackets will actuate the gear on the respective legs and effect a corresponding movement of the latter in direction opposite to the movement of the end boards, and when the end boards are secured in an upright position, the gears will coact together to lock the legs in an upright position.

Made with the leg gear-plate *e'* is a wear-plate, *f*, made, preferably, with an annular grooved or recessed form, as shown in Figs. 4 and 9, and said wear-plate coacts with the wear-plate F, which wear-plate (shown in Fig. 7) is secured in a circular recess, *r*, made in

the side of the side rail of the bed-frame, as shown in Fig. 4. This wear-plate F is made with a circular or annular projection corresponding in diameter and form with the recessed groove made in wear-plate *f* of gear-plate *c*.

Secured to the corners of the bed-frame and over the pivoted ends of brackets *b* and legs C are shield-brackets G, which shield-brackets are made, preferably, of metal and with the form substantially of an angle-plate, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 10. When in position over the joints of the legs and end-board brackets, the said shield-bracket is secured by screws passing through holes *h h*, made in portion *g*, to the end rails of the bed-frame, and to the side rails of the frame, by bolt passing through portion *g'*, and a stud, *g''*, cast with or laid to the metal of said portion of the shield-bracket. Cast solid with each shield-bracket G are the cylindrical projections *ee'*, which are the pivots on which the end-board brackets *b* and legs C respectively turn. The said projections or pivots are made to project from the inner side surface of this shield-bracket, as shown in Fig. 10, and are preferably made with a large diameter—say about one inch, more or less, as may be preferred. When these shield-brackets are in place at the corners of the bed-frame and over the joints of the legs and end-board brackets, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, the projections or pivots *ee'*, cast with said shield-bracket, will pass through each bracket *b* and its attached gear-plate *c* and each leg C and its attached gear-plate *c'*, having wear-plate *f*, and the wear-plate F, and will enter into a recess made in the side of the side rail of the frame, as shown in Fig. 4; and when said shield-bracket is firmly secured in place by bolt *i* and screws *i' i'*, the bracket of the end boards and leg at each corner of the bed-frame will be securely geared together, and their joints will be covered from view.

Pivoted to the end rails of the bed-frame, at about their middle of length, is latch-button H, as shown in Fig. 1, and secured to the end boards, directly over the pivot of the said latch-button, is a wear-plate or keeper, H', having its face preferably made with a slight incline, though it may be made plane. A slot is made in each end rail of the bed-frame, forming hand-handles *m*, by which the ends of the bedstead or crib may be lifted. If preferred, projecting handles secured to these end rails may be substituted for the slots. Caster-wheels *n* are provided on the ends of the legs, for facilitating the movement of the crib or bedstead from place to place when standing erect for use. Caster-wheels *n'* are also provided on the rear side of the legs at a point between their ends, for convenience of trundling the crib or bedstead from place to place when its parts are folded together.

Suspended within the bed-frame from bars J, one at each end, is a bed-bottom, K, com-

posed of slats and having springs connecting said slats to the end supporting-bars.

When the bedstead or crib is to be folded for placement beneath a bedstead, the operator will lift, successively, each end of the crib or bedstead by handle *m*, and turn the end boards down over the bed-frame, as shown in Fig. 2, and while the said end boards are being turned on their pivots *e*, the gear-plates *c* will revolve on their respective pivots and actuate gear-plates *c'* on the legs C, and cause them to be folded inward and upward against the sides of the side rails of the bed-frame, when the end boards and legs will be compactly folded with the same, as shown in Fig. 2, and may be readily trundled to beneath a standing bedstead on caster-wheels *n'*. When this bedstead or crib is to be opened out and made to stand erect, the operator will lift with one hand, by handle *m*, each end of the crib successively, and, when lifted, he will, with the other hand, turn the end boards up to vertical position, as shown in Fig. 1, and while said end boards are being turned up their attached gear will actuate those on the legs and cause the said legs to turn back and outward to vertical position, as shown in Fig. 2. The operator will then turn latch-buttons H to over and against the keeper H', and thereby lock the said end boards in a vertical position and hold them from being accidentally turned down. When the end boards are in vertical position, the rear sides of their brackets will be supported by the portion *g* of the shield-bracket G, and the rear sides of the legs will be supported against the same portion of said shield-bracket, and will be held from being turned outward past a perpendicular, while the latch-buttons will hold the end boards, and, through the gears, also hold the legs vertical. The wear-plates F, secured in the recesses made in the side rails of the frame, co-operate with the wear-plates made in the gear-plates *c'* to relieve the pivots *e'*, on which the legs turn, from excessive strain, which these pivots would otherwise sustain. If preferred, the bracket-shield may be omitted in some cases, and the legs and brackets of the end boards may be pivoted direct to the side rails by simple pins secured to said side rails.

The gear-plates may be modified in form from that shown, and the gear-cogs may be secured to the end edges of legs C and brackets *b*, if preferred.

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

1. In a folding bedstead or crib, plate G, provided with pivot *e'*, and wear-plates F and *f*, in combination with bed-frame A and leg C, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a folding bedstead or crib, plates G, provided each with pivots *e* and *e'*, set relatively on the same vertical line, and having

perforated stud g^2 , in combination with bed-frame A, an end board having end brackets provided with gear, and leg C, provided with gear, as described, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a folding bedstead or crib, the combination, with a bed-frame, of plate G, provided with a perforated right-angular flange, g , and with pivots e e' and perforated stud g^2 ,

an end board having brackets, and folding legs, both provided with gears, as set forth, and pivoted upon pivots e e' , substantially as and for the purpose described.

CHAS. T. SHEPARD.

Witnesses:

ALEX. SELKIRK,
CHARLES SELKIRK.