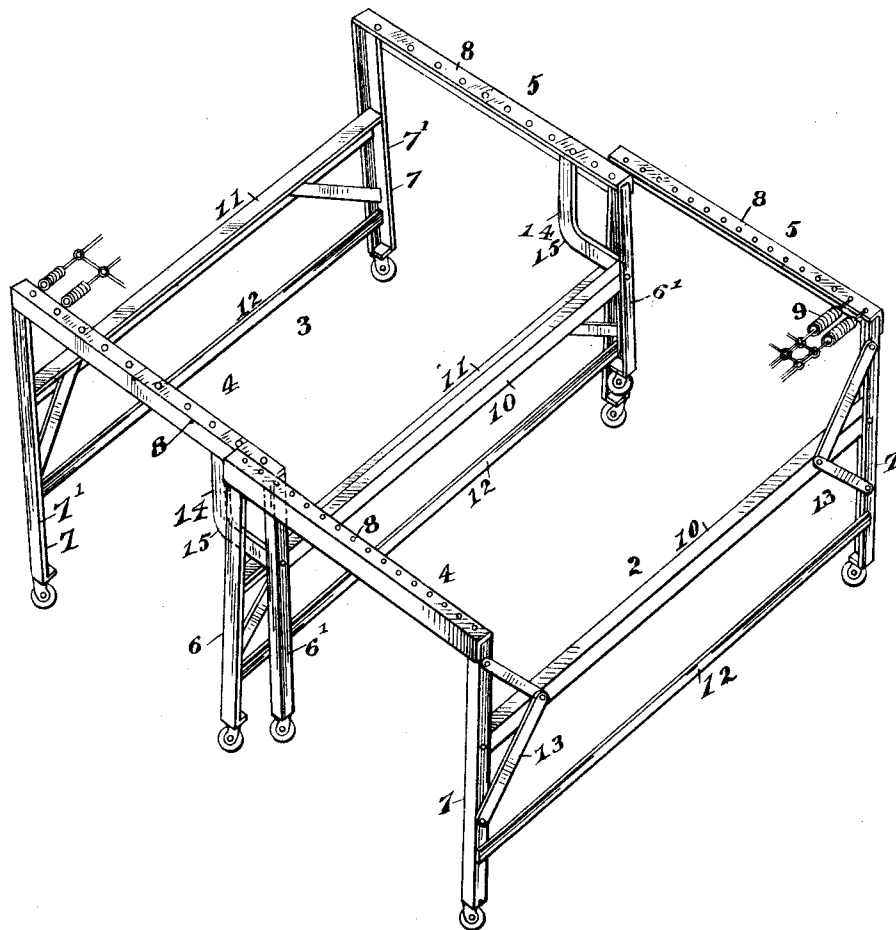


C. L. PLUNKETT.
COUCH OR COUCH BED.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 9, 1912.

1,061,403.

Patented May 13, 1913.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

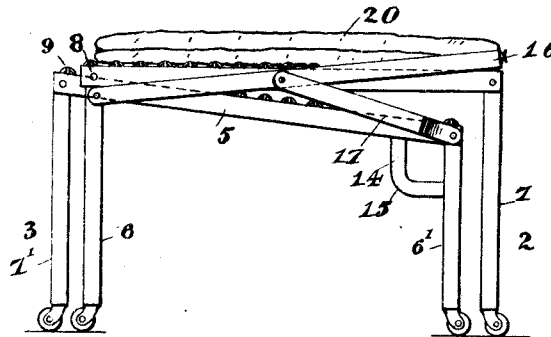


Fig. 3.

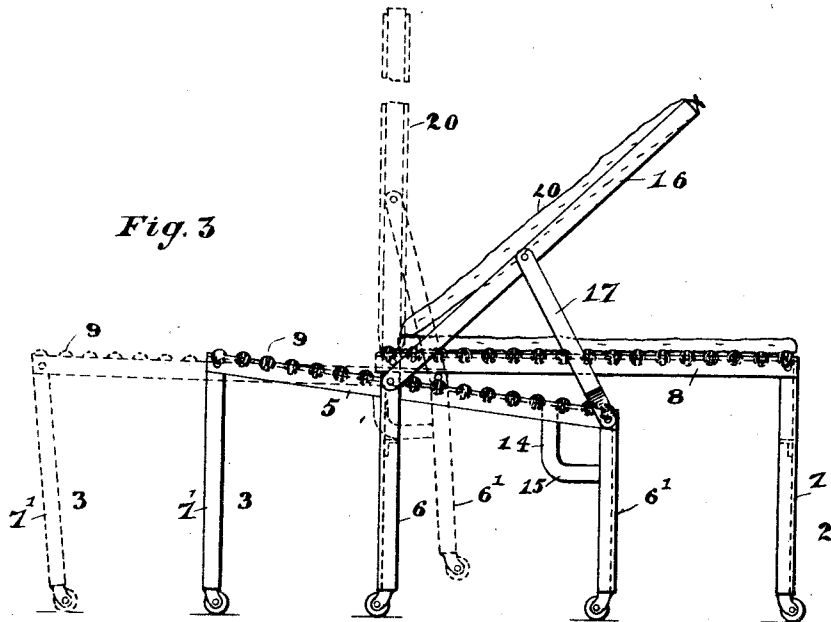
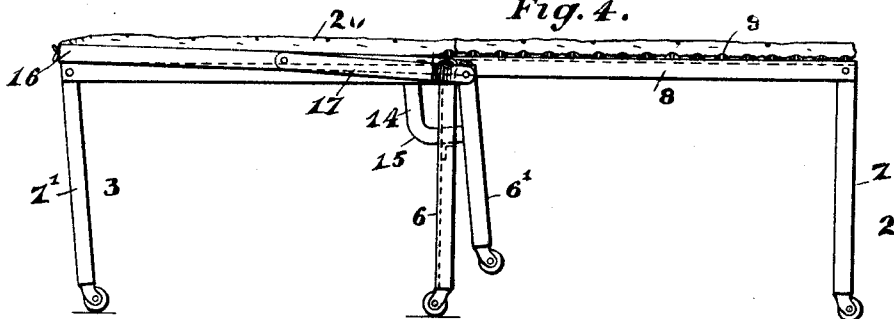


Fig. 4.



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COUCH OR COUCH-BED.

1,061,403.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 13, 1913.

Application filed August 8, 1912. Serial No. 714,169.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L. PLUNKETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Couches or Couch-Beds, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to sliding couches or couch beds, the object of the invention being to provide a sliding couch made up of a pair of couches or sections one sliding relatively to the other and provided with cooperating means whereby when the sliding section is drawn out it will be raised so as to be substantially level with the stationary section, and which means is simple in construction and practical in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a sliding couch bed provided with means for shifting the sliding section relatively to the stationary section whereby during the sliding movement of the said sliding section it will be automatically raised to a position substantially level with the main or stationary section and which shifting means may in some forms of the invention be provided with a mattress that may be shifted from the top of the main or stationary section to the top of the sliding section.

In the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of sliding couch having this improvement for raising the sliding section applied thereto; Fig. 2 is an end view of another form of sliding couch in its closed condition having this improvement for raising the sliding section and also a means for shifting said sliding section; Fig. 3 is an end view thereof illustrating different positions of the sliding couch and the means for shifting it; and Fig. 4 is an end view illustrating the two couch sections when fully opened to form a double bed.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the drawings.

Sliding couches as ordinarily constructed comprise a main or stationary section and a shiftable or sliding section, the latter having its spring fabric sliding between a side bar and the spring fabric of the main or stationary section. It is necessary, however, that the two sections be substantially level

when open to form a double bed, in order that the inner edges of the two sections may not cause discomfort to the sleeper by reason of the difference in height, which results in the formation of a ridge along the two inner edges when the sections are opened. Even though the stuffed mattress is so made that one part is higher than that carried by the stationary section so as to provide for this difference in level it soon becomes compacted so that a ridge along the inner edges of the two sections is the result, causing much discomfort to the sleeper. Furthermore, when the couch is so made that the spring or spring fabric of the sliding section runs close under that of the main section it is difficult to manipulate the sliding section by reason of the fact that the two fabrics frequently become caught so that it is, without some considerable difficulty, impossible to pull out or shove in the sliding section, requiring either the removal of the stuffed mattress or the user getting under the couch in order to detach the springs and permit the structure to work properly. To overcome these disadvantages in a very simple and practical manner is the object of the present improvement.

This improved couch bed comprises in the present form thereof a main or stationary section 2 and a shiftable or sliding section 3, each comprising a pair of end frames 4 and 5, each end frame consisting of a pair of legs 6 and 7 connected by a cross member or bar 8 for carrying the spring or spring fabric 9, which is stretched therebetween. The two end frames of each section are connected by a pair of side bars 10 and 11 and tension strips 12 with suitable diagonal braces 13 for giving rigidity to the structure.

In order to prevent the spring of the sliding section from becoming entangled with that of the main section, the two inner legs 6' of the sliding section are made shorter than the outer legs 7 of said section, whereby the spring of the sliding section is supported in an inclined position relatively to that of the main section when the casters of the four legs of the sliding section rest upon the floor, which they do throughout the major part of the sliding movement of such sliding section. Means are provided for raising the sliding section during the latter part of its outward sliding movement,

and in the present form thereof this comprises a device which also acts as a brace for each inner corner of the sliding section. In the present form this means comprises an angular bar 14 having one end connected to the cross bar of the end frame and the other to the inner leg adjacent to such cross bar. This bar 14 is shown as of angular formation and having a rounded or curved end 15 to facilitate its engagement with the longitudinally extending inner side bar of the main section. For shifting the sliding section and also assisting to raise the inner side thereof thereby to bring the bars 14 into engagement with the side bar an angular frame 16 is provided. This comprises a U-shaped rod or bar pivotally connected at its inner ends to the main section adjacent to the inner edge thereof and connected by a link 17 at each end of the structure with the inner side of the sliding section. This bar normally rests upon the outer edge of the main section. By raising it in the manner shown in Fig. 3 and throwing it over upon the sliding section it will shift such sliding section outwardly to form a double bed and at the same time sufficiently raise the inner side thereof to enable the angular bars to engage and slide on to the upper side bar of the main section and thereby effectively raise and hold the inner side of the sliding section in a position substantially level with that of the main section. In other words, the two spring fabrics will be brought one close under the other so that no ridge will be formed when the stuffed mattress is in position.

It is understood of course that the two outer legs of the sliding section are of proper length to rest upon the floor and maintain the fabric of the sliding section entirely level when the two inner edges of the fabrics are in engagement, in which position, of course, the two inner legs of the sliding section are raised from the floor as shown in Fig. 4. By this means it will be seen that during the entire sliding movement inwardly or outwardly of the sliding section the spring of such sliding or under section is away from the spring of the main or stationary section so that there is no danger or liability of the two springs becoming caught one with the other. The means for shifting the sliding section when in the position shown in Fig. 4 also constitutes a means for preventing the angle bars from accidentally disengaging from the side bar, so that there is no danger of the inner side of the sliding section slipping off the side bar and falling to the floor under the weight of the sleeper.

In some forms of couches the bar for shifting the sliding couch may carry one part or section 20 of a stuffed mattress, the other half of which rests upon the fabric of the

main section so that when the bar is thrown over into the position shown in Fig. 4 the other half of the stuffed mattress will be shifted with it so as to open the mattress and throw one half thereof on to the sliding section to form a double bed in readiness to be slept upon.

I claim as my invention:

1. A sliding couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring and legs, a pair of legs of the sliding section being shorter than the other pair and its spring inclined when under its companion spring, a side brace bar and rigid means carried by the other section for engaging said side bar thereby to raise the inner side of the sliding section when it is moved into position to form a double bed.

2. A sliding couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring and legs, a pair of legs of the sliding section being shorter than the other pair and its spring inclined when under its companion spring, a side brace bar, rigid means carried by the other section for engaging said side bar thereby to raise the inner side of the sliding section when it is moved into position to form a double bed, and manually operative means for shifting said sliding section and assisting in the raising of the shorter legs thereof to bring the side bar engaging means into operation.

3. A sliding couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring, that of the sliding section inclined when under its companion section, permanently rigid means extending in the direction of the length of one section at one side thereof, and rigid corner means located at one side of the other section for slidably engaging the aforesaid rigid means thereby to raise the adjacent side of the sliding section when moved into position to form a double bed and so bring its spring into a level position and in juxtaposition to the spring of the other section.

4. A sliding couch or couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring, the spring of the sliding section having an inclined position relatively to that of its companion section when the structure is in the form of a couch, a side bar carried by the main section at its inner side, and angular braces carried at the inner corners of the sliding section and adapted to engage the side bar of the main section thereby to raise the inner side of the sliding section to bring the springs to a substantially level position.

5. A sliding couch or couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring, the spring of the sliding section having an in-

clined position relatively to that of its companion section when the structure is in the form of a couch, a side bar carried by the main section at its inner side, angular
 5 braces carried at the inner corners of the sliding section and adapted to engage the side bar of the main section thereby to raise the inner side of the sliding section to bring the springs to a substantially level position,
 10 and means for shifting the sliding section to effect such engagement and thereby bring the spring into a level position.

6. A sliding couch or couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring and
 15 legs, the inner pair of legs of the sliding section being shorter than the outer pair of legs of said section whereby the spring of the sliding section will be inclined to that of the main section when the structure is in
 20 the form of a couch, and means carried by said sections for raising the inner side of the sliding section when it is moved into position to form a double bed, said means
 25 comprising a plurality of members carried at the inner sides of the two sections, a pair of such members being located one at each inner corner of the sliding section.

7. A sliding couch or couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring and
 30 legs, the outer pair of legs of the sliding section being of sufficient length to maintain the outer edge of the spring of the sliding section substantially level with the spring
 35 of the main section and a shorter inner pair of legs whereby the spring of the sliding section will be inclined to that of the main

section when one is under the other, means for raising the inner side of the sliding
 40 section when it is moved into position to form a double bed and comprising a stationary side brace bar carried by one section and means carried by the sliding section at the inner side thereof for engaging the top
 45 of said side bar and raising the inner side of the sliding section, and means for shifting the sliding section relatively to the other section.

8. A sliding couch or couch bed comprising a pair of sections one sliding under the other and each provided with a spring and
 50 legs, the outer pair of legs of the sliding section being of sufficient length to maintain the outer edge of the spring of the sliding section substantially level with the spring
 55 of the main section and a shorter inner pair of legs whereby the spring of the sliding section will be inclined to that of the main section when one is under the other, means
 60 for raising the inner side of the sliding section when it is moved into position to form a double bed and comprising a side bar carried by one section and means carried by the other at the inner side thereof for en-
 65 gaging said side bar and raising the inner side of the sliding section, and means for shifting the sliding section relatively to the other section and comprising a bar pivotally
 70 connected to the main section and linked adjacent to the shorter legs of the sliding section.

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Witnesses:

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 J. B. MCGUIRE.