(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. SAUNDERS.

INVALID BED.

No. 396,607. Patented Jan. 22, 1889.

FIG. 1.

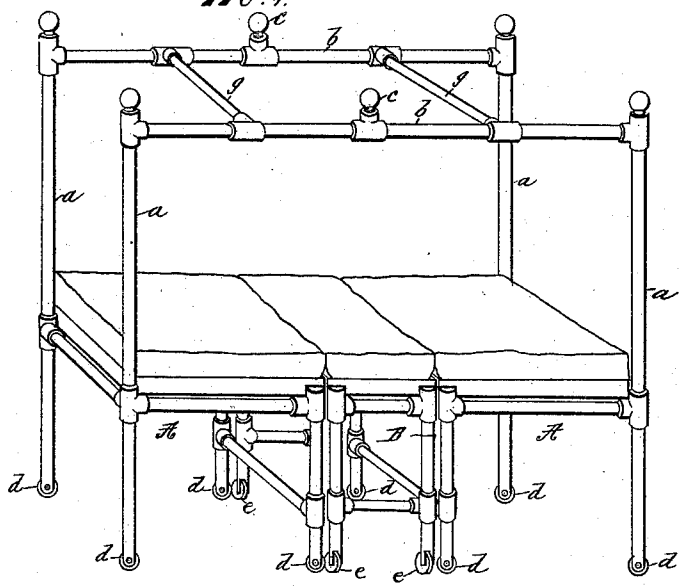
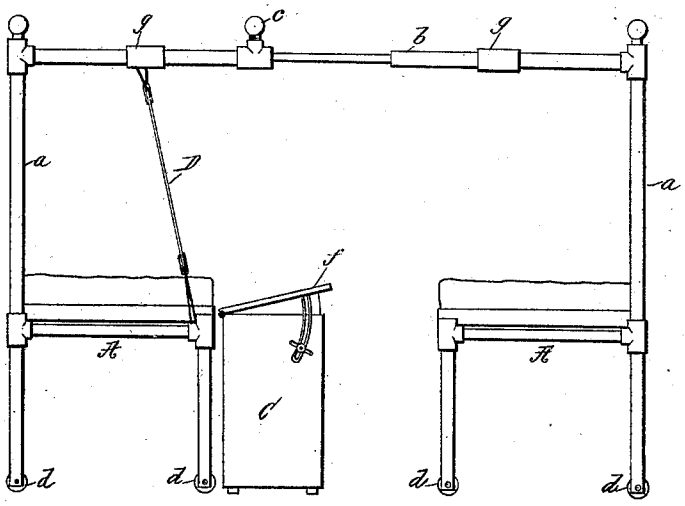


FIG. 2.



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(No Model.)

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FIG. 3

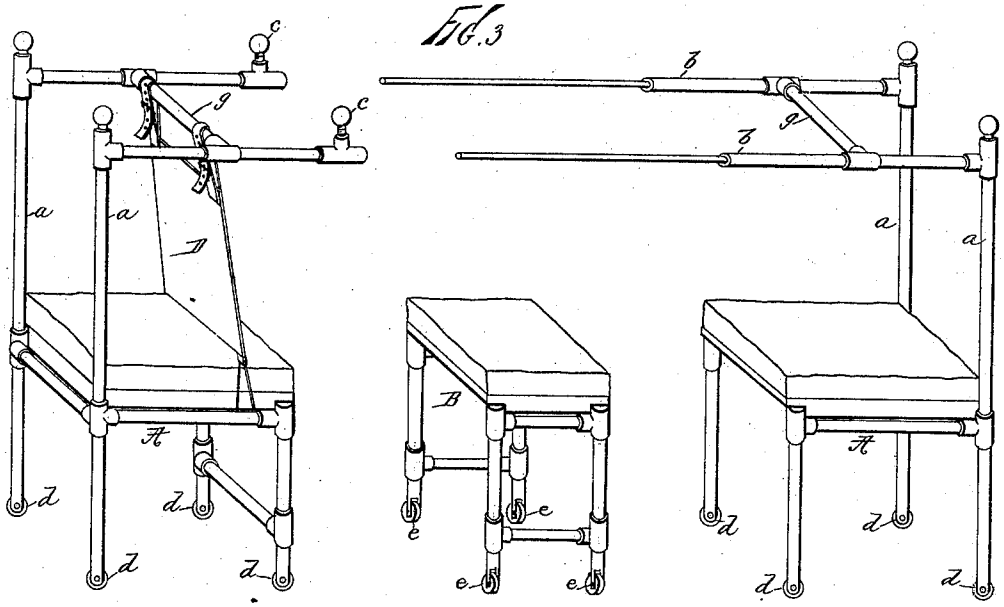


FIG. 4.

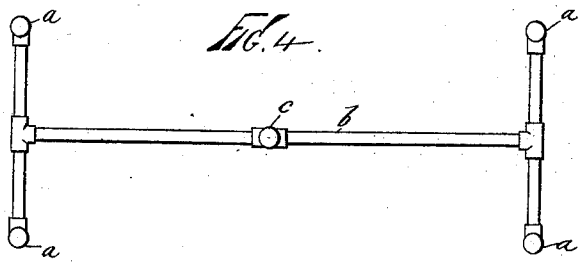
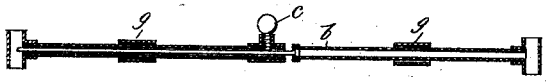


FIG. 5.



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No. 396,607. Patented Jan. 22, 1889.

FIG. 6.

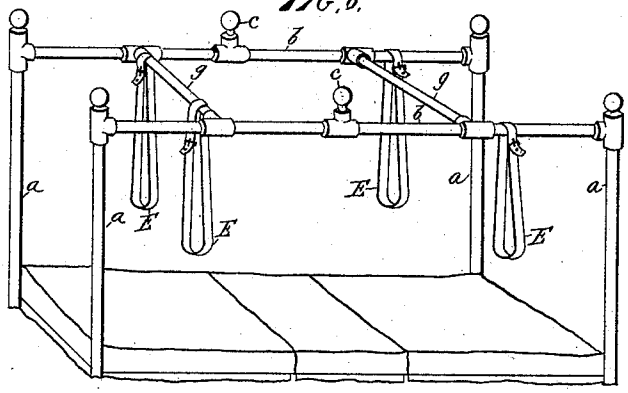
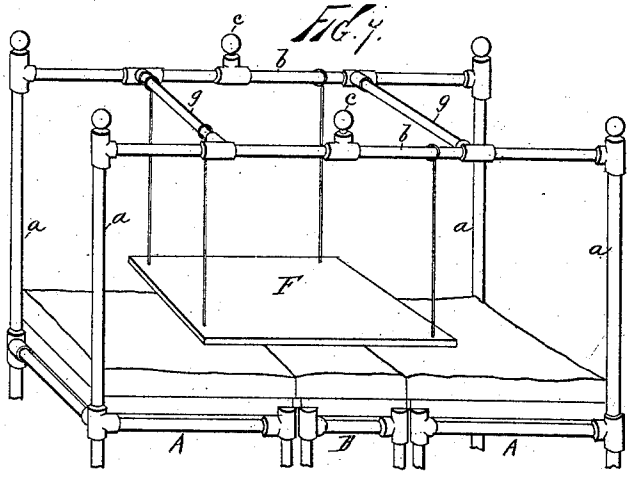


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS, OF WEST POINT, NEW YORK.

INVALID-BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 396,607, dated January 22, 1889.

Application filed April 6, 1888. Serial No. 269,843. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SAUNDERS, of West Point, county of Orange, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Invalid-Beds, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention relates to beds such as are employed for invalids, and has for its object the production of a simple, durable, and efficient structure which will afford increased comfort to the sick and wounded and admirable facilities and advantages in the management and care or treatment of the occupant.

To accomplish all of this my improvements involve certain new and useful peculiarities of construction and relative arrangements or combinations of parts, as will be herein first fully described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete bedstead, showing the three principal parts thereof closed together and locked as in position for use. Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation showing the two end sections separated by a sufficient distance to accommodate the commode and afford ample space in advance of it. Fig. 3 is a perspective like Fig. 2, but showing the parts of the bed separated from each other. Fig. 4 is a plan showing one longitudinal locking-rod at the top instead of two, as in Figs. 1 and 3, and indicating that any number of such rods may be employed. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section of one of the locking-rods. Fig. 6 is a view in perspective of the upper part of the bed, showing surgical appliances suspended therefrom; and Fig. 7 is a similar view showing a table suspended in position.

In all the figures like letters of reference wherever they occur indicate corresponding parts.

The bedstead proper is made of three sections, indicated at A A and B, of which A and A are preferred to be of the same size, or practically so, either one being used as the head. The central section, B, is of the same width as A, but narrower, as shown. The frame-work is preferably of iron; but it may be of brass or wood or other material. The end posts, *a a a a*, extend up a convenient distance, and are joined at top by one, two, three, or more adjustable rods, *b*. These rods are provided with set-screws or equivalent locking devices, as at *c*, by use of which the end sections are locked and held at any point to which adjusted. The end sections, A A, have casters *d d*, preferably mounted in such way as to allow the sections to be moved easily directly toward or from each other. The central section, B, has casters *e* preferably mounted so as to facilitate the movement of this section only in the direction of its length.

C is a commode, of about the height of the bed. This preferably has an adjustable seat, *f*, for obvious uses and purposes.

By moving the end sections apart, withdrawing the central section, B, and introducing the commode, as indicated in Fig. 2, the structure may be conveniently used, affording ample room for the comfort of the patient and for convenience of the attendant.

At *g g* are sliding cross-bars mounted on the rods *b b*, so that they may be adjusted to any desired position. These with the longitudinal rods afford convenient means for suspending and holding any accessories which may be employed about the bed. D represents a canvas or other support for the back of the patient, held at top and bottom. The rods and cross-bars may also sustain supports for the extremities of the patient, as E E, or various surgical appliances, buffet-tables, as F, and any other devices not necessary to be detailed herein.

The bedstead can be instantly locked in open or closed position, and the locking devices are out of the way and not liable to become disarranged. The sliding rods guide the parts accurately toward or from each other. By removing one section entirely from the others it may be used after the manner of a chair.

The mattress is made in sections to correspond with the parts of the bed, and each section is intended to be incased by the sheet, like a pillow. The proportions of these sections may be such that they may be interchanged after the manner of sectional mat-

tresses. Thus the bed can be easily and perfectly cared for.

The separable sections of the bed enable the surgeon or physician to place the patient in the best position and afford him easy and convenient access to all parts of the body.

When constructed and arranged substantially in accordance with the foregoing explanations, the improved bed will be found in practice to admirably answer the purpose or object of the invention as previously set forth.

I am aware that sliding rods uniting the tops of bed-posts adapted to be adjusted to correspond with different widths of the bed were known prior to my improvement, and also a fixed cross bar or rod connecting side bars, and I do not claim such devices. In my construction the sliding rods permit a longitudinal extension of the bed beyond its normal length, and they are adjustable with respect to each other and to the sections. The end sections are movable to allow the use of a commode, and the entire space between the bed proper and the sliding rods *b* is unobstructed to permit a free access to the patient for the purpose of moving or aiding him. The extensible or sliding rods are held fast in any desired position and give a stability which is especially desirable in this class of bedsteads composed of sections made readily separable for the purpose named.

I make no claim herein to a sectional bedstead, broadly considered; but,

Having now fully described my invention, what I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. An invalid-bedstead composed of two end sections, the side rails of each section being entirely disconnected from the side rails of the other, in combination with an elevated extensible frame forming the sole means for connecting said sections and holding them in the proper relation to each other, substantially as specified.

2. An invalid-bedstead composed of two end sections, the side rails of each section being entirely disconnected from the side rails of the other, in combination with an elevated extensible frame forming the sole means for connecting said sections and holding them in the proper relation to each other, and sliding bars made adjustable upon the extensible parts of said frame, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

WM. SAUNDERS.

Witnesses:
DAVID ROBERTSON,
H. B. WILLETT.