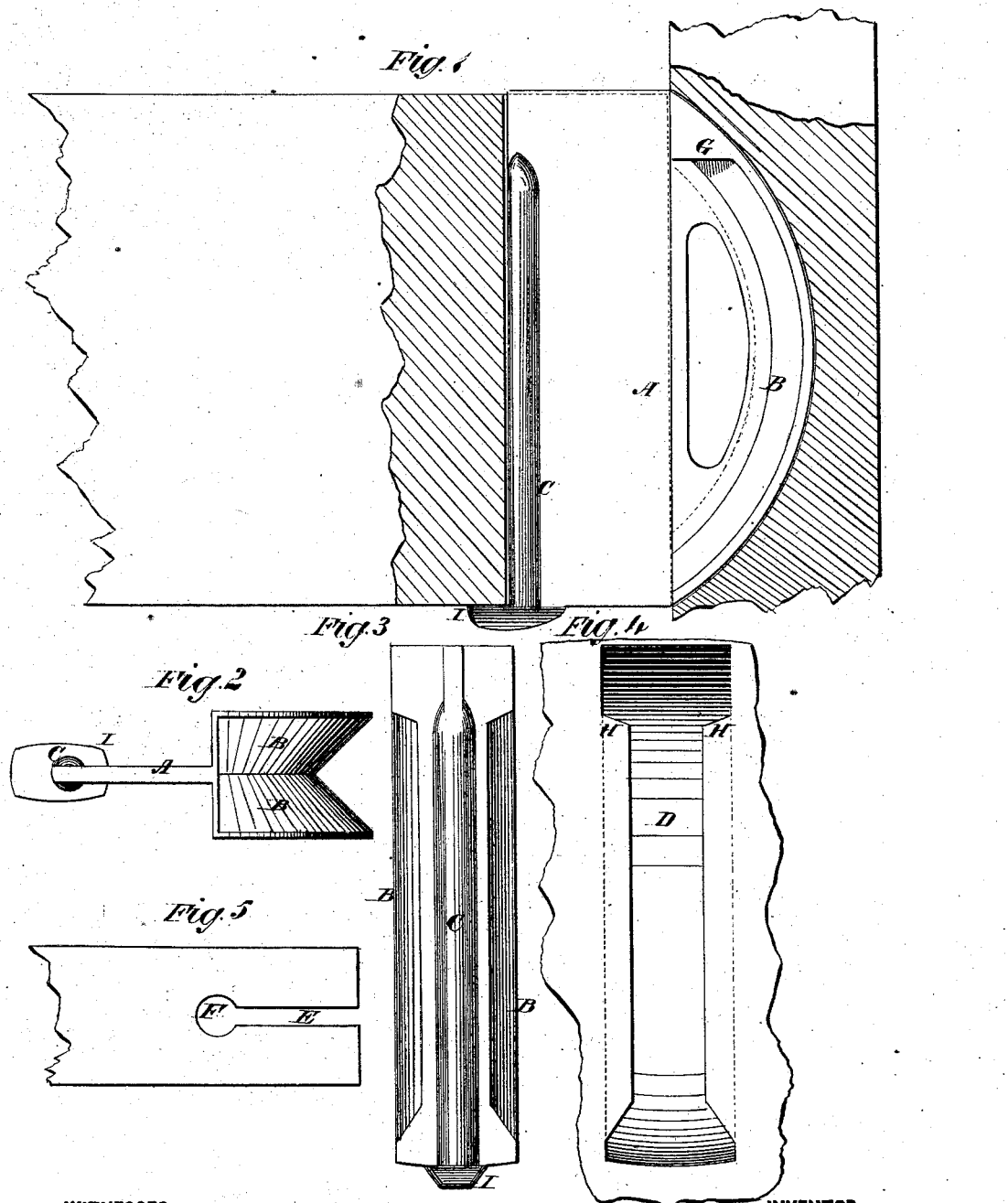


W. MERRITT.
 Bedstead-Fastening.

No. 161,141.

Patented March 23, 1875.



WITNESSES:
 Francis McArdle,
 A. J. Terry

INVENTOR:
 Wm. Merritt
 BY *[Signature]*
 ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WYLY MERRITT, OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND M. T. CASTLEBERRY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEDSTEAD-FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 161,141, dated March 23, 1875; application filed December 5, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WYLY MERRITT, of Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have invented a new and Improved Bedstead-Fastening, of which the following is a specification:

The invention consists of a fastening-plate contrived with a curved T-head, which enters a curved undercut mortise in the post, and holds fast by the head without screws or bolts, and the plate has a cylindrical enlargement, which enters a round hole at the bottom of a slot in the end of the rail, and holds it without screws or bolts, and without requiring the attachment of a special piece to the rail.

The merit of the invention lies in the contrivance of the fastening in one piece, and in the contrivance of the form so that the slots or mortises for connecting it to the post and rail may be quickly made by revolving cutters.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the plate, and section of the post and rail, showing the rail and post fastened together. Fig. 2 is a top view of the plate. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the plate. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the post, and Fig. 5 is a top view of the rail.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the plate; B, the curved T-head for locking in the post; C, the cylindrical enlargement for locking in the rail; D, the circular undercut mortise in the post, and E the slot with the cylindrical enlargement F at the bot-

tom in the rail for the plate. At the top of the head B are shoulders G, which rest on the top H of the walls of the narrow portion of the mortise D, to prevent the plate from descending too low, and at the bottom of the enlargement C is a flange, I, which holds the rail from falling too low.

It will be seen that the mortise D can be readily cut by revolving cutters, first using one to cut out the middle portion, and then one or more to form the undercut portions, and the slot in the rail can be formed by a boring-tool and a saw, the whole being quickly and cheaply done.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination of the curved T-headed plate A, having an enlarged portion, C, with the post having a curved undercut mortise, D, and the rail having the slot E, with the enlargement F at the bottom, substantially as specified.

2. The improved fastening-plate A, having a curved T-head, B, with shoulders G and the flanged cylindrical enlargement C, substantially as specified.

WYLY ^{his} × MERRITT.
mark.

Witnesses:

W. O. MERRITT,
HOKE SMITH.