No. 676,256. Patented June 11, 1901.

W. H. JACKSON.

MORRIS CHAIR.

(Application filed Mar. 25, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

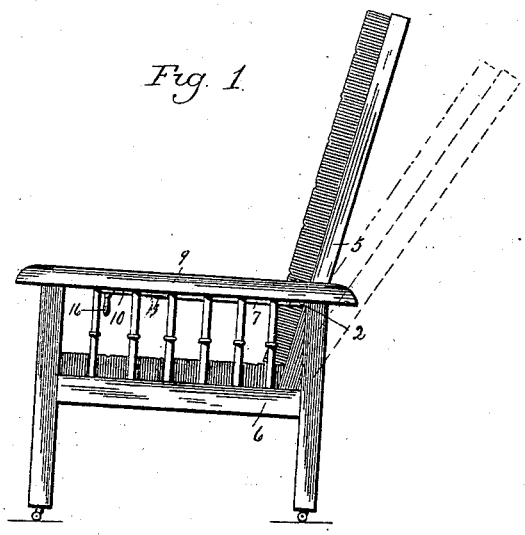

Fig. 2.

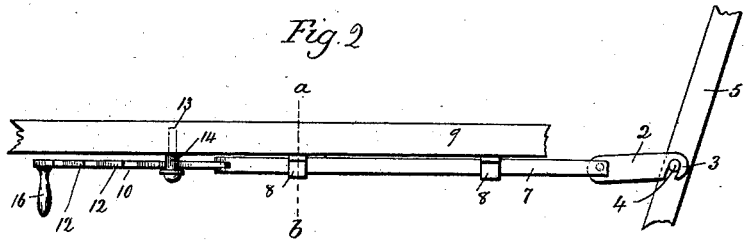

Fig. 3.

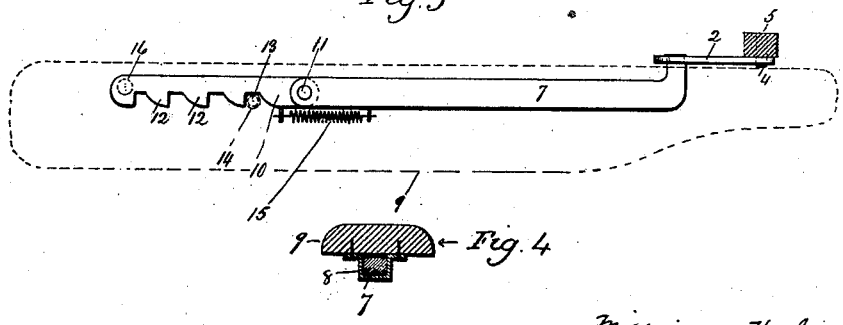

Fig. 4.

Witnesses.
J. H. Shumway
Lillian D. Kelley.

William H. Jackson.
Inventor.
By attys
Seymour & Earle

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. JACKSON, OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT.

MORRIS CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 676,256, dated June 11, 1901.

Application filed March 25, 1901. Serial No. 52,741. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. JACKSON, of Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Morris Chairs; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the characters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a view in side elevation of a chair provided with my invention; Fig. 2, an enlarged broken view, in side elevation, showing my improved mechanism applied to the back and arm of the chair; Fig. 3, a plan view of the mechanism, the arm of the chair being shown by broken lines. Fig. 4 is a view in vertical section on the line *a b* of Fig. 2 through the arm of the chair and the sliding bar of the mechanism.

My invention relates to an improvement in Morris chairs, the object being to provide simple, durable, and convenient means for adjusting the inclination of the backs of such chairs.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain details of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

As the mechanism is duplicated on both sides of the chair, it will be sufficient to describe it for one side only. It consists, as herein shown, of a link 2, formed at its rear end with a hook 3, adapted to be hooked over a pin 4, projecting laterally from the chair-back 5, the lower end of which is hinged to the chair-body 6 in any suitable manner. By connecting the rear end of the link 2 to the chair-back 5 in the manner described I am able to disconnect the link from the chair-back, so that the same may be folded forward over the chair-body 6 for convenience in packing the chair for transportation. If desired, however, the rear end of the link may be simply perforated for the reception of the pin 4. I have not illustrated this latter construction, because it seems too obvious to require it. The forward end of the said link 2 is pivotally connected with the rear end of a slide 7, arranged to move back and forth in two strap-like brackets 8, secured to the lower face of the said arm 9. To the forward end of the slide 7 I attach a swinging rack 10 by means of a vertical pivot 11, so that the rack swings in a horizontal plane. Upon its outer edge this rack is formed with several teeth 12, having square rear edges and beveled forward edges. The number of these teeth may be varied as required. They are engaged with a supporting-pin 13, depending from the arm 9 and carrying an antifriction-roller 14. A coiled spring 15, attached at its rear end to the outer edge of the slide 7 and at its forward end to the rack 10, exerts a constant effort to swing the same outward, so as to engage its teeth 12 with the roller on the pin 13, which, with its roller, constitutes a fixed point on the body of the chair for coaction with the rack in supporting the chair-back in any desired inclination. The extreme forward end of the rack 10 is provided with a depending operating-handle or grip 16, designed to be grasped for operation from the inside of the arm 9 of the chair.

It will be readily understood from the foregoing that when the chair-back 5 is lifted its motion will be communicated by the link 2 to the slide 7, which will be slid forward in the brackets 8, whereby the engagement of the beveled edge of the rack lying immediately to the rear at this time of the pin 13, with the antifriction-roller 14 surrounding the said pin, will cause the said rack to be swung inward and disengaged from the pin. As soon as the forward movement of the slide 7 is stopped the spring 15 will operate to swing the pivotal rack 10 outward and reëngage it with the pin 13, whereby the chair-back 5 will be supported in the position into which it was brought by lifting it. To lower the chair-back, the handle 16 of the pivotal rack 10 is grasped and the rack swung inward against the tension of the spring. The chair-back is now free to swing back either under pressure or by gravity. When it is swung back far enough, the handle 16 of the rack is released, whereby the rack at once reëngages with the roller 14 of the supporting-pin 13. In practical use, of course, the user of the chair will operate both racks at the same time for releasing them, thus letting the chair-back down. On the other hand, the chair-back may be very easily raised and brought into

the required position by the user without getting out of the chair.

It is apparent that in carrying out my invention some changes from the construction herein shown and described may be made, and I wish to have it understood that I do not limit myself to that construction, but hold myself at liberty to make such changes therefrom as fairly fall within the scope of my invention.

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

1. An adjusting mechanism for the backs of Morris chairs, comprising a link adapted at its rear end to be connected with the back of the chair, a slide connected at its rear end with the forward end of the said link and supported by the body of the chair, and a rack pivotally connected with the forward end of the said slide and adapted to be engaged in different relations with a fixed point on the body of the chair.

2. In a Morris chair, the combination with the body and hinged back thereof, of a link connected at its rear end to the chair-back, a slide supported by the arm of the chair and pivotally connected at its rear end to the forward end of the said link, a rack pivotally attached to the forward end of the said slide and swinging in a horizontal plane, and means on the arm of the chair for being engaged by the said rack, whereby the said chair-back is supported.

3. An adjusting mechanism for the backs of Morris chairs, comprising a link adapted at its rear end to be detachably connected with the back of the chair, a slide having its rear end connected with the forward end of the said link, and a rack pivotally attached to the forward end of the said slide so as to swing in a horizontal plane, and formed upon its outer edge with a series of teeth adapted to be engaged with a fixed point upon the body of the chair for supporting the chair-back.

4. In a Morris chair, the combination with the body and hinged back thereof, of a link connected at its rear end to the chair-back, a slide supported by the body of the chair and pivotally connected at its rear end to the forward end of the said link, a rack pivotally connected with the forward end of the slide so as to swing in a horizontal plane, means upon the body of the chair for being engaged by the said rack, and a spring coacting with the said rack to swing it outward for engagement with the said means.

5. In a Morris chair, the combination with the body thereof, the said body being provided with arms, of a back hinged to the said body, a link connected at its rear end to the said back, a slide suspended underneath an arm of the chair-body so as to slide back and forth under the said arm and connected at its rear end to the forward end of the said link, a horizontally-swinging rack pivotally connected with the forward end of the said slide, and provided with a handle, and means depending from the said arm for engagement by the said rack.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM H. JACKSON.

Witnesses:
FRED. C. EARLE,
LILLIAN D. KELSEY.