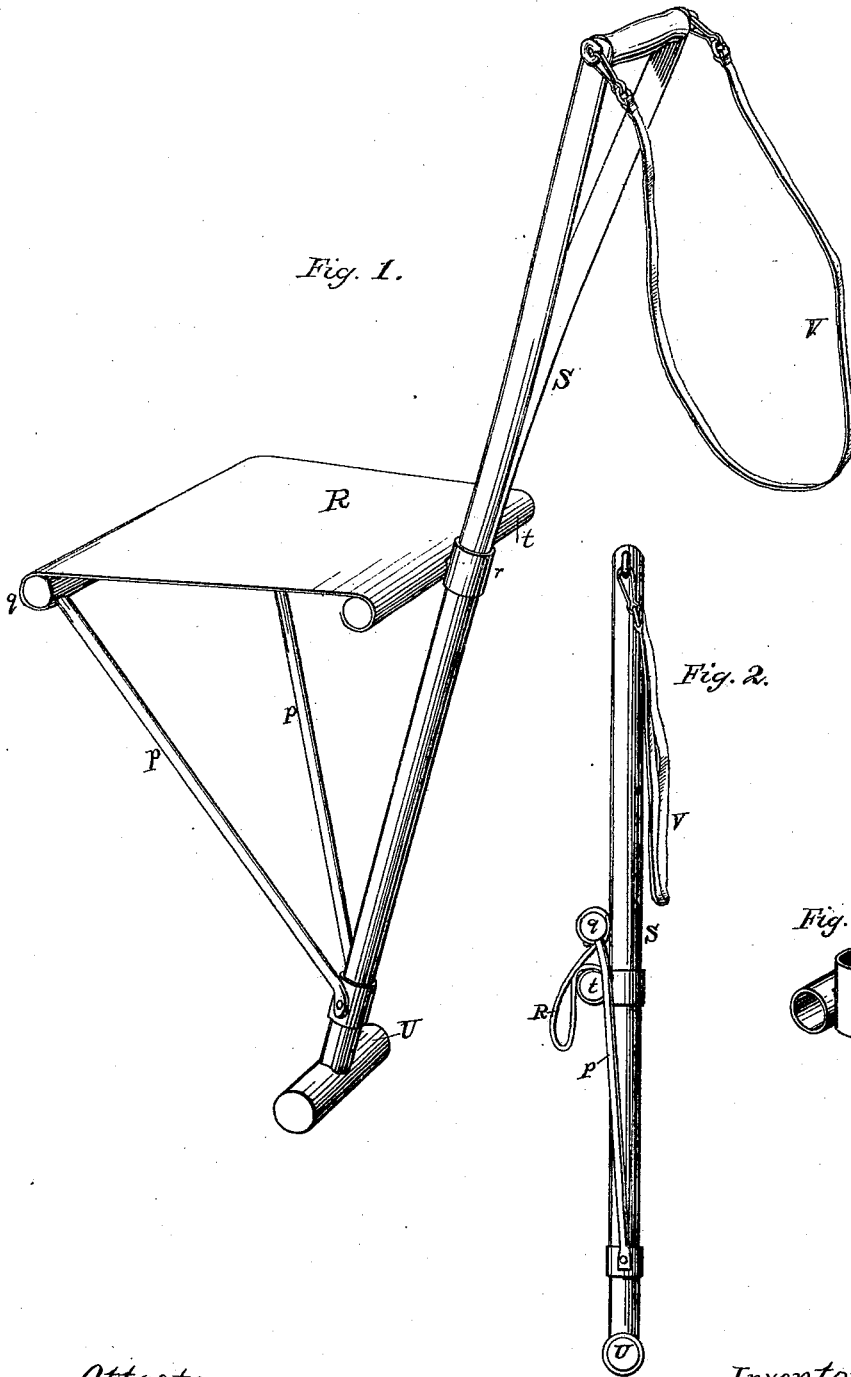


S. A. SKINNER.
FOLDING CHAIR.

No. 180,074.

Patented July 18, 1876.



Attest:
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W. B. Chaffee

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By his atty
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SMITH A. SKINNER, OF HOOSICK FALLS, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,074**, dated July 18, 1876; application filed April 17, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SMITH A. SKINNER, of Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer county, in the State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Folding Stools, of which the following is a full and exact description:

The object of this invention is to provide a novel and useful folding stool, which may also be conveniently used for other purposes, to wit, a staff in walking or a croquet-mallet—a very convenient article for use in excursions or upon lawns, where persons engage in croquet; and it consists of a staff of suitable length to be conveniently used as a walking-staff, and provided at its lower end with a cross-head or mallet, and also provided with a transverse bar or round, to hold one edge of a canvas or cloth seat, the opposite edge of which is held by a similar round, connected to said staff by two braces, pivoted at their lower ends to the staff near its lower end.

That others may fully understand my invention, I will particularly describe it, having reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective of my stool unfolded and in position for use. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same closed. Fig. 3 is a perspective of the cross-ferrule for uniting the round and staff.

S is the shaft, of suitable length and size. At a distance of about sixteen inches from its lower end I attach a cross-piece or round, *t*, to which is secured the rear edge of the seat R, of canvas or other suitable material. I find it convenient to attach said cross-piece *t* to the staff by means of a double or cross ferrule, *r*, which may be cast in one piece. The front edge of the seat R is secured to a similar cross-piece or round, *q*, which is supported

by two brace-rods, *p p*, the lower ends of which are pivoted to the sides of the staff S, near its lower end. The round *q* can therefore be folded up against the shaft; and I find it convenient to graduate the proportion of the parts, so that in folding said bar *q* against the staff the braces *p p* will necessarily spring apart slightly to pass the ends of the cross-bar *t*, which will therefore serve as a shaft to retain said braces and round *q* in place when folded.

The cross-head or mallet U serves at once for a foot, to prevent the sinking into the ground of the staff S under the weight of the person sitting upon the seat, and for a croquet-mallet, if such is wanted. If not desired, however, the mallet may be removed or entirely dispensed with.

The upper end of the staff is provided with a suitable handle; but the structure shown is preferred, because that affords not only a ready means of holding it, but also is of a convenient construction for slipping the arm through when carrying it from place to place.

A sling, V, may be attached for its more convenient transportation.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. A folding stool composed of a staff, S, with a permanently-fixed cross-piece, *t*, and a movable cross-piece or round, *q*, attached to said staff by pivoted braces *p p*, and a seat, R, of canvas or other suitable material.

2. A staff, S, provided with a cross-head, U, forming a mallet, combined with a seat, R, folding substantially as described.

SMITH A. SKINNER.

Witnesses:

S. D. LOCKE,
A. C. EDDY.