J. J. WELLER.

FOLDING-CHAIR.

No. 188,324.

Patented March 13, 1877.

Fig. 1.

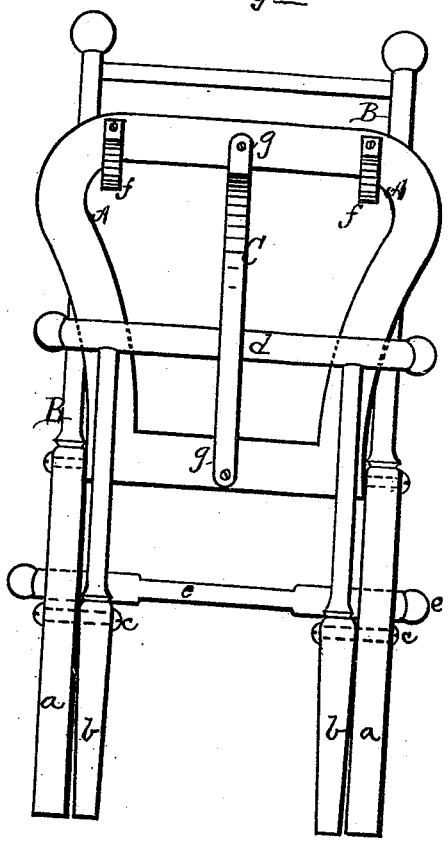
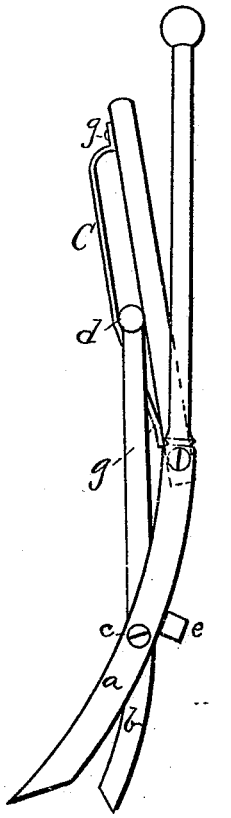


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB J. WELLER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 188,324, dated March 13, 1877; application filed October 23, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB JOSEPH WELLER, of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, (assignor to the firm of WELLER, BROWN & MESMER, of same place,) have made certain Improvements in Folding Chairs, of which the following is a specification:

This invention is for the purpose of strengthening the construction of folding chairs, and to insure the raising up of the back legs when the seat is folded, and lowering them when opened; and the invention consists in providing a strap-loop attached to the under side of the seat, and in which the top bar of the back legs moves; also in providing a back bar to support the back legs when in use, as hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of the chair folded, showing the loop, &c. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same.

A represents the seat, hinged or pivoted to the back pieces B B, which also form, by forward curved continuations *a a*, the front legs, as shown in the drawings. *b b* are the back legs, also curved forward in their construction, and each pivoted at *c c* to the legs *a a*. A bar, *d*, unites the tops of these legs, and keeps them firm, and when expanded, a back bar or brace, *e*, which is fastened to the back of the front legs *a a*, as shown, supports the back legs by their resting against the bar, so as to take off, almost entirely, the strain on the pivot-pins *c c*. This is important, as in most folding chairs in which the legs are pivoted together, the pins break, the bearings wear loose, and the chair soon becomes shackly.

The usual stops *f f* to receive the head of the back legs *b b* are attached to the bottom of the seat in front, as shown in Fig. 1.

In chairs of a folding nature or style these back (and sometimes the front) legs have to be lifted by hand, as well as the seat, and when the seat is lifted these legs will usually drop down, and have to be separately raised. To avoid this, and make the raising and lowering automatic with the folding-up of the chair-seat, I provide a guide strap or loop, C, (preferably of metal,) which incloses the bar *d*, and whose ends *g g* are fastened to the bottom of the seat, one front and the other back, at or near the center. This metal guide-loop bulges out sufficiently to allow a free movement of the bar *d*, so that when the seat is lifted it slides this bar *d* in the strap, and, consequently, carries the bar (and legs) with it, thus insuring their folding up with the chair, and when the chair is unfolded the bar *d* is guided by the strap C exactly into place the strap also acting as an additional center stop.

I claim—

In a folding chair, the guide-loop C and back stop *e*, in combination with the seat A bar *d*, and legs *a b*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

J. J. WELLER.

Witnesses:
J. R. DRAKE,
T. H. PARSONS.