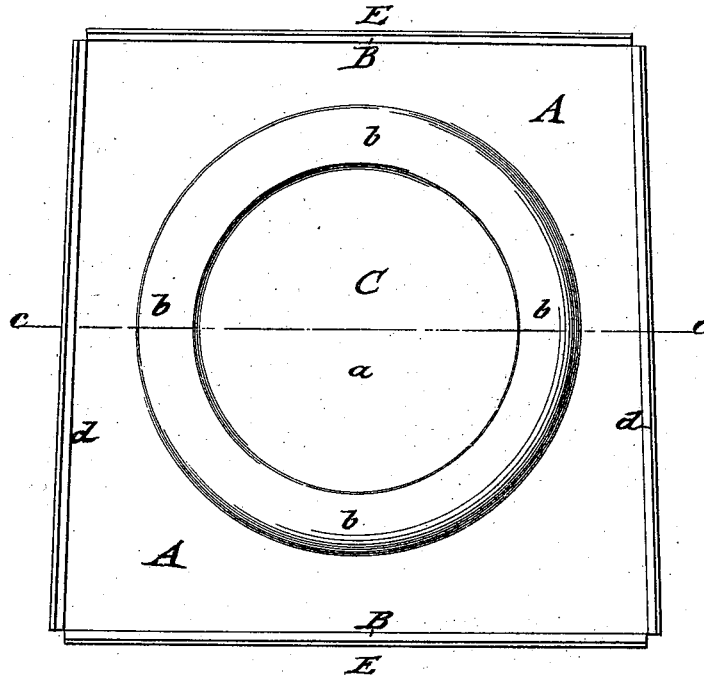


P. RATH.  
 CHAIR SEATS AND BACKS.

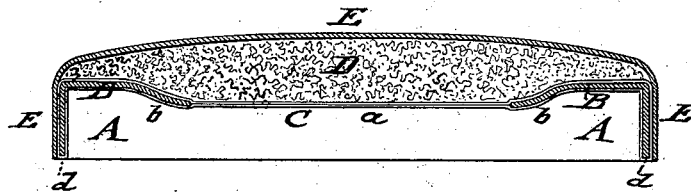
No. 188,410.

Patented March 13, 1877.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:  
*Gustave Dietrich*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL RATH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CHAIR SEATS AND BACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 188,410, dated March 13, 1877; application filed January 29, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PAUL RATH, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Chair Seat and Back, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a bottom view of my improved chair seat or back; and Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section of the same on line *c c*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention relates to the manufacture of upholstered chair seats and backs, so that the same may be furnished ready-made in any size, and at less price to the trade, forming a superior, more elastic, and durable article than the present upholstered seats or backs.

The invention will first be described in connection with the drawing, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the drawing, A represents the improved bottom of my improved chair seat or back, which is made preferably of a piece, B, of pasteboard of suitable size and thickness, according to the size of the chair, sofa, or other article. The pasteboard blank is stamped by suitable machinery, so as to form a central round, square, oval, or other opening, *a*, and a concave molding, *b*, of suitable depth, extending around the opening. The sides of the pasteboard are turned down to form flanges *d*, by which the seat or back may be attached to the piece of furniture.

The pasteboard B is covered at both sides with canvas or other fabric, C, that passes across the center opening, so as to close the same and provide a flexible base for the seat. When the bottom A is thus finished it is exposed, with a quantity of wadding or other stuffing, D, and with a loose leather or other

covering, E, to the pressure of a powerful hydraulic or other press, by which the bulk of the wadding is reduced to smaller compass, and sufficient elasticity given to the same to furnish a soft and flexible seat. When the wadding is thus compressed the sides of the leather covering E are pasted or otherwise attached to the flanges *a* of the bottom, and thereby the connection of covering and bottom obtained at the moment when the wadding is reduced to the smallest space.

The inherent elasticity of the compressed wadding, in connection with the flexibility of the canvas stretched across the opening of the bottom, produces a comfortable seat or back, that assumes instantly its natural convex shape after use, without the unsightly caving in or dishing so common in upholstered furniture.

Manufacturers of furniture, or private parties, may thus be supplied with an upholstered seat or back of superior elasticity, durability, and cheapness, that may be conveniently applied to the chair or other frames by nails and suitable trimmings, so as to admit the cheaper repairing and manufacturing of all kinds of upholstered furniture.

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

1. The combination of pasteboard B, having hole *a*, the covers C E, and the stuffing D, substantially as and for the purpose specified.
2. The pasteboard B, provided with concave molding *b*, surrounding hole *a*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

PAUL RATH.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR RATH,  
PAUL GOEPEL.