

J. CLOUGH.
BARBERS' CHAIR.

No. 192,898.

Patented July 10. 1877.

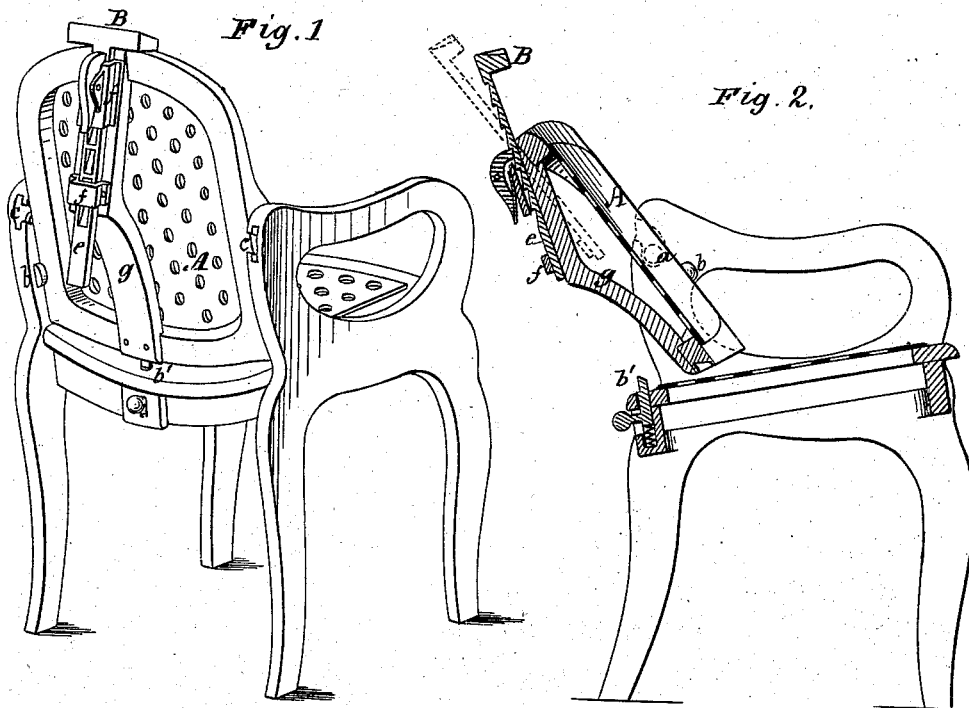


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

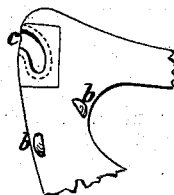


Fig. 5.



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IMPROVEMENT IN BARBERS' CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,898**, dated July 10, 1877; application filed February 24, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH CLOUGH, of the city and county of Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barbers' Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings furnished and forming a part of the same, is a clear, true, and complete description thereof.

My said improvements in chairs contribute largely to their practical value, in that they are capable of a more comfortable adjustment for occupants thereof during the operation of shaving than any other chair of which I am cognizant, and also in that the movable parts of the chair are so connected with the main portions thereof as to enable me to secure strength and durability while employing a minimum of bulk in material.

The main feature of my invention consists in the combination, with a pivoted chair-back, of a sliding head-rest, which is attached thereto, and has a movement in a line obliquely to the vertical line of the back. In pivoted-back chairs, as well as in those in which the back has no movement, the sliding head-rests, as heretofore constructed, have a movement parallel with the vertical line of the back. The peculiar value of having the head-rest mounted in accordance with this feature of my invention will hereinafter be fully set forth.

Another feature of my invention consists in the combination, with a pivoted chair-back, of a head-rest guide-bar which is rigidly connected to the top and bottom rails of the chair-back, and serves as a strengthening-brace. This bracing feature is of practical importance in view of the fact that the back is mounted on pivots attached to the sides thereof.

Another feature of my invention consists in the combination, with the back of a chair, of flanged headed pivots attached to the sides of the back, and open sockets or mortises in the sides of the chair, which receive the flanged-head pivots, and by a lateral engagement therewith enable the back and its pivots to serve as a lateral tie for bracing the two sides of the chair.

To more particularly describe my invention,

I will refer to the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 represents, in rear perspective, one of my chairs as arranged for hair-cutting. Fig. 2 represents the same in longitudinal central vertical section as arranged for shaving. Fig. 3 represents one of the pivots on which the back is mounted. Fig. 4 represents, in side view, the upper rear portion of one of the arms of the chair, which contains the pivot-mortise. Fig. 5 represents the same in end view, showing the entrance to the mortise or socket.

The back of the chair, as at A, is mounted on two pivots, one on each side thereof, as at a. These pivots are located at a point nearly midway between the top and bottom of the back, so that the backward movement of the top thereof will substantially correspond in its extent with the forward movement of the bottom, and thus secure the desired degree of inclination with a minimum of movement. On the inner surface of each arm of the chair are two lugs, as at b, which limit the swinging movement of the back. A latch-bolt, as at b', is employed for engaging with the back, and holding it in position for hair-cutting, as in Fig. 1. Each arm of the chair is provided with an open mortise or socket, as at c, for the reception of the pivots a. These open mortises are chambered, so that the flanged heads d of the pivots a may freely enter from the rear. The inner surfaces of the heads d engage with the coincident inner surfaces of the mortises.

By means of the flanged-head pivots and the open mortises, as described, the back can be readily removed, as occasion may require, and the back, when mounted in the mortises, serves as a tie-brace for strengthening the two arms of the chair. The head-rest at B has a stem, as at e, which, in itself, is substantially as heretofore. Its guiding-sockets, however, as at f, are mounted on a head-rest bar, g, which is connected to the top and bottom rails of the back, and the guiding-sockets are set on the bar g. As heretofore constructed, the stem of the head-rest has been fitted to guides attached only to the upper portion of the back, or to a bar projecting downward therefrom for a short distance only.

The head-rest stem is provided with notches and a spring-catch, as heretofore, for maintaining it at any desired elevation.

It will be seen that the chair is well braced and strengthened laterally by the back, its pivots, and the open mortises, while the back is strengthened longitudinally by the head-rest bar; and I am therefore enabled to make pivoted-back chairs of great strength and durability without an excessive bulk of material, as is common in such chairs as heretofore constructed.

For the purpose of illustrating the advantages of having the head-rest movable in a line which is oblique to the line of the back, instead of in a line parallel with the back, I have introduced into Fig. 2, in dotted lines, a head-rest, as heretofore constructed.

It is well known that head-rests are made adjustable in order that the chair may be adapted to the physical peculiarities of different persons—as, for instance, a short-bodied person with a short neck would require the head-rest in the position shown in Fig. 1, closely adjacent to the top of the back of the chair, and therefore for such a person the back would need to be inclined only. For persons with longer bodies and necks the head-rest must be adjusted so as to not merely support the head, but also so as to comfortably maintain it in a position most favorable for the shaving operation.

For the comfort of the occupant the head-rest should be in contact with the rear of the head adjacent to its junction with the spine, and when thus in contact the head is well

supported, and the chin properly elevated without straining the neck. With my head-rest the head of a person may be thus supported, even if it be requisite to elevate the rest to its maximum height; but, as will be seen by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, the parallel head-rest, when fully extended, only affords a support after the head has been thrown backward to a much greater extent than with my rest, and that if the rest be in contact with the central rear portion of the head, the chin will not be properly elevated, and on the other hand, if the rest be in contact with the lower rear portion of the head, the neck will be uncomfortably strained.

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

1. In a barber's chair, the combination, with a pivoted back, of a sliding head-rest, which is movable in a line obliquely to the vertical line of the back, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a pivoted back, of a head-rest bar, *g*, which is rigidly connected with the top and bottom rails of the back, substantially as described.

3. The combination, in a barber's chair, with the pivoted back, provided with flanged pivots, of the sides of the chair, provided with open sockets or mortises, substantially as described.

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