A. A. YOUNG.

Folding or Camp-Chair.

No. 211,827. Patented Jan. 28, 1879.

Fig. 4.

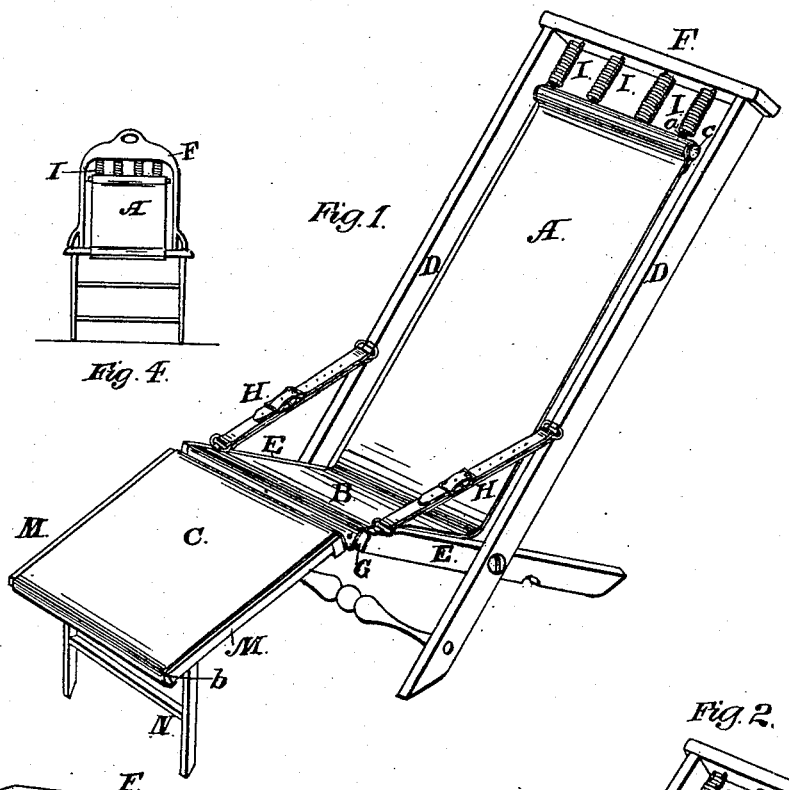

Fig. 1.

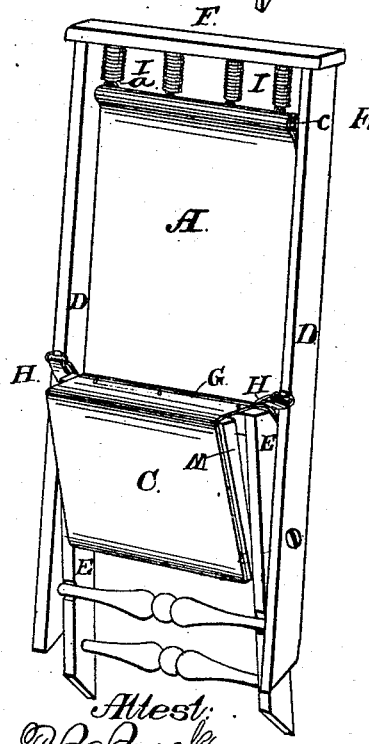

Fig. 3.

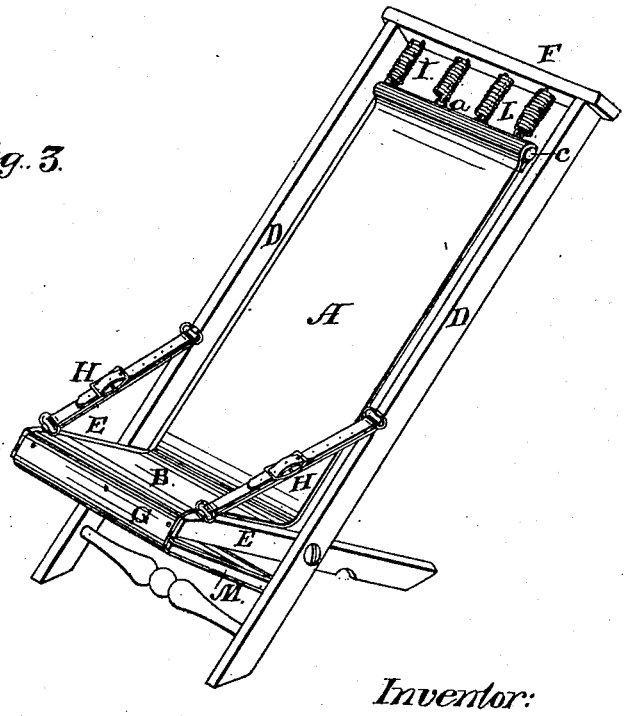

Fig. 2.

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ALBERT A. YOUNG, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING OR CAMP CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **211,827**, dated January 28, 1879; application filed July 27, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT A. YOUNG, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spring Hammock Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a view, in perspective, of a chair to which my improvements have been applied, and which I term a "spring hammock chair," the foot-rest being shown in position for use. Fig. 2 represents a similar view of the same chair, the foot-rest being folded in, as when not being used, the chair in this position forming a simple camp-chair. Fig. 3 represents a similar view of the same chair as when folded up and put away, or for the purposes of transportation, &c. Fig. 4 represents a front elevation of an ordinary chair to which my improvement has been applied.

My invention relates to a new and improved mode of constructing spring-seated chairs, and is more particularly intended to be applied to that class of chairs termed "folding" or "camp" chairs, but is adapted, with suitable modifications, to other kinds of chairs and seats.

In folding or camp chairs the cloth that forms the back and seat proper has heretofore been rigidly secured to the top rail of the back. This is objectionable, for the reason that the only claim to elasticity it has lies in the stretch or give of the cloth, which in itself is inconsiderable, and does not accomplish the desired result—to wit, a seat that is at once elastic, yielding, and easy, and which can be manufactured at slight cost.

My invention consists in combining, with the seat of a chair, flexible or hinged at its front edge, and with the top or other rail employed for the purpose of its back, a spring or series of springs, in the manner and for the purposes hereinafter to be more fully set forth.

In the drawings, Figs. 1, 2, and 3, my improvement is represented as being applied to a reclining, camp, or folding chair, and which I term a "spring hammock chair"—in other words, a chair provided with an adjustable back, A, seat B, and foot-rest C. The chair thus constructed consists of two pairs of standards, D D and E E, pivoted together in the manner of an ordinary camp-chair, one pair, D D, being prolonged to form the frame for the back of the chair, and connected at the top by the cross-rail F. The upper end of rails E E are also connected by cross-rail G. These two pairs of rails, D D and E E, are also connected, in the ordinary manner of camp-chairs, by the adjustable stay-straps H H. In an ordinary camp-chair to which my improvement is applied no foot-rest C would be used, in which case a piece of cloth, B A, which forms the seat and back, would at its lower end terminate at and be secured to the front or cross rail, G, of the standards E, while at its upper edge it would be secured in any suitable way to the free end or ends of a spring or series of springs, I, the other end or ends of which are attached to the top rail, F, of the back of the chair, or, if desired, to a supplementary rail employed for the purpose.

Ordinarily I prefer to use for this purpose a series of spiral springs; but springs of other and suitable construction of known form may be used. In this case, where I use a spiral spring, I prefer to mount upon and secure the upper end of the cloth back A to a bar or rod of wood, *c*, into which eyebolts *a*, or equivalent devices, are secured, and then attaching these to the springs by hooking the lower bent ends of the latter into the eyes of these bolts.

Thus constructed, an elastic seat and back is provided for the occupant of the chair.

To transform a camp-chair into a reclining or spring hammock chair, all that is necessary to do is to take the chair last described, and to hinge a foot-rest frame, M, to the front rail, G, of the camp-chair, and then prolong the cloth which forms the seat B sufficiently far to extend over and cover that frame, and thus form the foot-rest C, for which purpose the outer end of the cloth is then secured to the outer cross-rail, *b*, of said frame M. The foot-rest is then completed by hinging or pivoting to the front end of the frame M, on the inside of the

latter, a pair of supporting standards or legs, N, and which legs are so constructed as to be capable of being folded within said frame M, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

The chair thus constructed is capable of being used either as a simple camp-chair, as shown in Fig. 2, where the foot-rest C is illustrated as folded up and stowed away under the seat proper, B, or as a reclining or easy chair, in which the foot-rest is used, and the back adjusted to any angle required by means of the buckle stay-straps H, as shown in Fig. 1.

In Fig. 4 my improvement is shown as being applied to the frame of an ordinary chair, bench or seat. In this case the lower end of the cloth which forms the back and seat is secured directly to the front rail of the frame of the chair or bench, while the upper end is secured, in a similar manner to that shown in Fig. 1, to the lower end of a spring or series of springs, I, the upper end or ends of which are then secured to the upper rail of the chair or seat back, and thus form a chair with an elastic or yielding seat or back. Or, this latter style of chair may be modified by using, instead of the cloth seat and back, one of those perforated curved wooden seats and backs, such as are now in common use; but in such case the front end of the seat must be flexibly connected or hinged to the inside of the front rail of the chair-seat frame, and the upper end of the back then secured in any suitable way to the lower end of the springs I, as in Fig. 1, the said springs then being secured at their other end to the rail F of the chair-back frame, as in said figure, or that of Fig. 4.

Thus constructed, an easy and elastic or yielding wooden seat and back is provided at small cost, and would be well adapted to the construction of chairs, benches, car-seats, &c.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In combination with a continuous back and seat, A B, of a chair, bench, or seat, hinged or flexibly connected at its front edge to the front cross-bar, G, an upper cross-rail, F, and spring or springs I, arranged to operate in the manner substantially as shown and described.

2. A chair, seat, or bench constructed with a continuous back and seat, A B, hinged or flexibly connected at its front end to the front cross-bar, G, and with an upper cross-rail, F, and a spring or springs, I, arranged to operate substantially as shown and described.

3. A folding camp or reclining chair provided with a continuous back and seat, A B, flexibly connected at its front end to the front cross-bar, G, and with an upper cross-rail, F, and a spring or springs, I, arranged to operate in the manner substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT A. YOUNG.

Witnesses:
JAS. M. HUSE,
JOHN W. STEELE.