C. D. OATMAN.

Folding-Chair.

No. 164,321. Patented June 8, 1875.

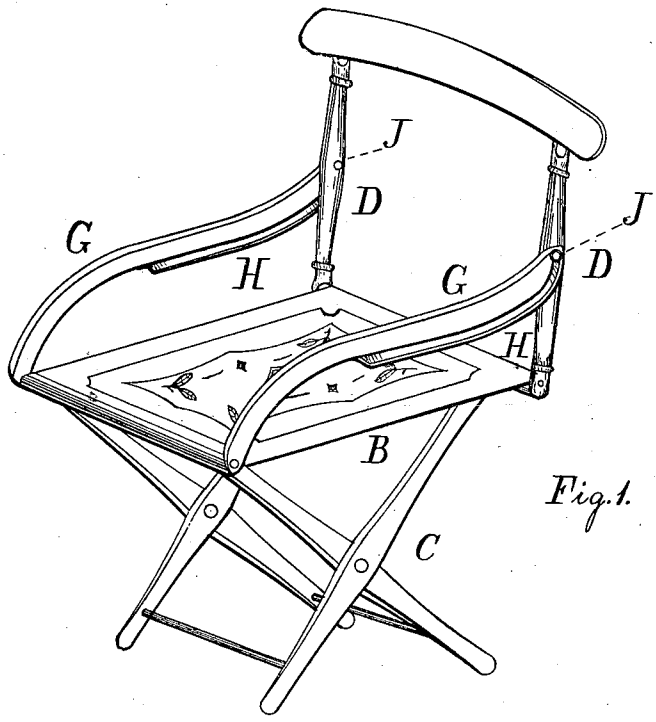

Fig. 1.

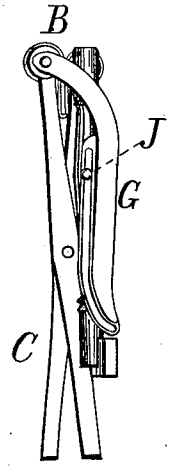

Fig. 2.

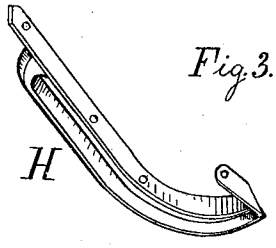

Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES D. OATMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **164,321**, dated June 8, 1875; application filed March 13, 1874.

CASE B.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES D. OATMAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful improvement in Folding Chairs; and I do hereby declare the following to be a clear and exact description of the nature thereof, sufficient to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to fully understand, make, and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side view thereof, in a folded state. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a detached portion.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

This invention consists in a slotted metallic plate applied to the arm-rests of a folding chair, whereby the guiding and holding screws of the back will move freely in the slot of the plate without binding, and the part to which said plate is applied, though adapted to be made of light wood, will be greatly strengthened, there being no cutting of the wood.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a folding chair, consisting of the seat B, cross-legs C, back D, and arm-rests G, which, in general features, may be of well-known form and construction. H represents metallic plates, which are slotted in the direction of their lengths, and of form to correspond to the motion described by the arm-rests when the chair is being folded. These plates H are connected to the arm-rests G and arranged horizontally thereon, or to the side pieces of the back D, and arranged vertically thereon. Pins J are passed through slots of the plates H, and inserted into the back D or arm-rests G, relatively to the location of the plates H, and thus, by means of the pins J the arm-rests and back are firmly connected, and when the chair is opened said back is securely held.

When it is desired to fold the chair the legs C are brought together. This permits the back to fall downwardly to the rear, and the ends of the arm rests adjacent to the back follow the motions of the back, the pins J moving in the slots of the plates, whereby the parts will be compactly folded, as seen in Fig. 2.

It will be observed that there is no weakening of the arm-rests or back by slots for the insertion and occupation of the pins J, and also that the metallic plates H serve to brace and strengthen the arm-rests or back, which may therefore be made of lighter wood than usually.

I am aware that slots have been formed directly in the wood-work of the arm-rests, and that metal plates have been applied in various ways to articles of furniture. I am also aware that the side arm and foot-piece of a reclining-chair have been united by means of a connecting-rod, one end of which is provided with a thumb-screw which slides in a slotted plate attached to the side arm, so that the chair can be confined at any desired degree of inclination.

In the case where the side arms or arm-rests are slotted, slots in the arm-rests weaken the same, and in the event of warping of the wood the pins that play in the slots bind or move roughly therein; but by my invention the arm-rests are left solid, and metal slotted plates are secured thereto, whereby the warping of the wood cannot affect the slots, the pins or screws of the back run smoothly therein, and the arm-rests are not weakened, but, on the contrary, are strengthened by the metallic plates.

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

In a folding chair, having a hinged back, D, and arm-rests G, the slotted metallic plates H, rigidly secured to said arm-rests and connecting with the back, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES D. OATMAN.

Witnesses:

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G. S. HETHERINGTON.