(No Model.)

N. G. FRANZEN.

ROCKING CHAIR.

No. 323,137. Patented July 28, 1885.

Fig. 1.

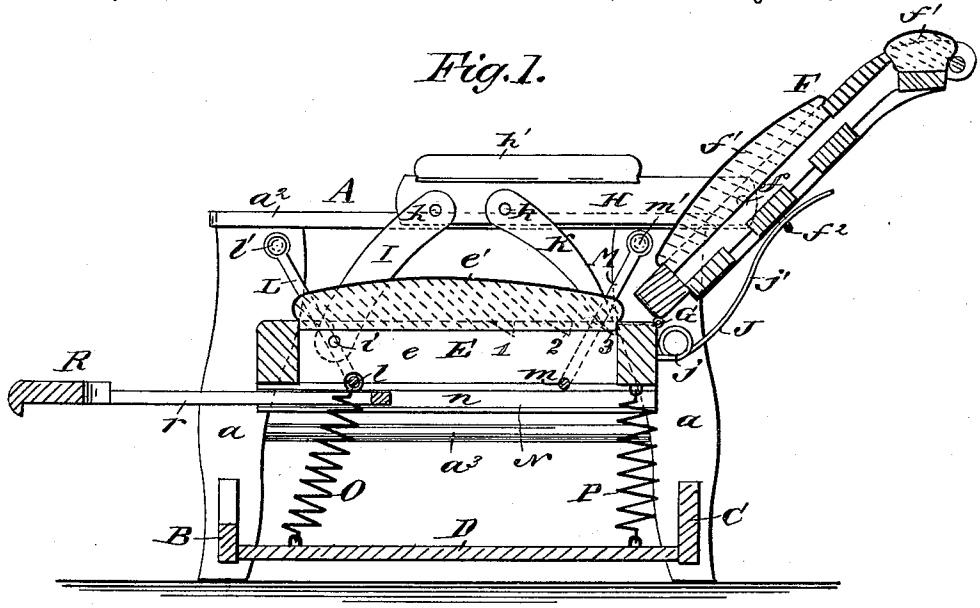
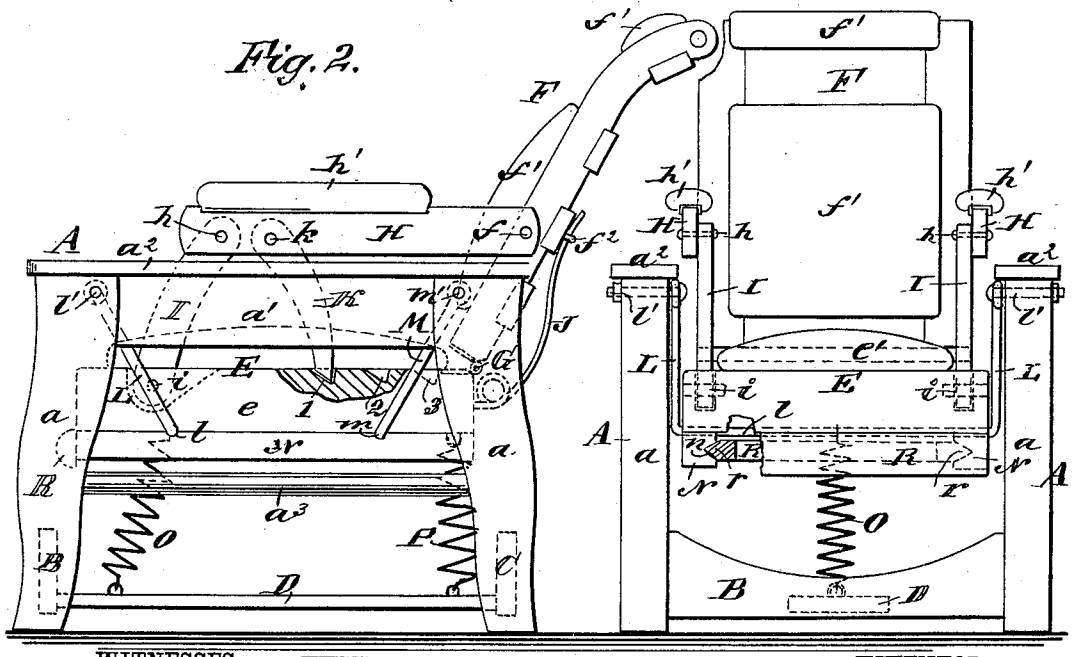


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.



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NILS GUSTAF FRANZEN, OF RANDOLPH, KANSAS.

ROCKING-CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 323,137, dated July 28, 1885.

Application filed November 24, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NILS GUSTAF FRANZEN, of Randolph, in the county of Riley and State of Kansas, have invented a new and Improved Rocking-Chair, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to improve the construction of rocking-chairs, so as to provide a chair having an agreeable combined rocking and swinging motion, and one capable of being used with comfort by occupants in sitting or in recumbent positions.

The invention consists in particular constructions of parts of the chair, including its base-frame, the connections of the seat of the chair-body to its back and to the base-frame, and in the means employed to hang the chair-body from and within the base-frame, together with a sliding foot-rest fitted beneath the chair-body, all as hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a central longitudinal sectional elevation of my improved rocking-chair. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the chair partly broken away and in section, and Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the chair partly broken away and in section.

The letters A A indicate the two side frames of the base of the chair, each frame consisting of two uprights, *a a*, connected at their tops by a bar, a', and a cap-plate, a^2, which may have any preferred face and edge ornamentation to give a neat finish to the top of the base-frame, and I connect the front and rear uprights by rounds a^3. At or near their lower ends the opposite base-frames are connected by front and back cross bars or plates, B C, respectively, which are themselves connected by a longitudinally-ranging tie bar or plate, D. The parts A B C D form a substantial frame open clear through from front to back at the upper part to give room for the chair-body.

The chair-body consists of a seat, E, and back F, hinged together at G, and having arm plates or bars H, which are pivoted at *f* to the back F, and at *h* are pivoted to links or bars I, which in turn are pivoted at *i* to the seat E, and preferably within recesses formed in the upper edges or faces of the side bars, *e e*, of the seat.

A suitable spring, J, having a coil, *j*, of several turns of the wire of the spring, is made fast at one end to the seat E, and connects with the chair-back F by the passage of its arm j' loosely through an eye or keeper, f^2, fixed to the chair-back, said spring J acting to swing the back F forward on its hinge G; and pawls K, hinged at *k* to the arm-bars H, are adapted each to enter one of a series of notches, 1 2 3, formed in the upper edges of the seat-bars *e e*, to brace or lock the chair-back F firmly against backward pressure brought upon it by the occupant of the chair in swinging or rocking the chair.

The arm-bars H may be provided with any suitable cushioned arm-rests, h', and the seat and back may be upholstered in any preferred way, as at e' f'.

To support the chair-body so it may rock or swing in the base-frame, I employ the U-shaped hangers L M, the side arms of which incline toward each other at the same side of the chair, and are pivoted on pins or bolts l' m', respectively, to the opposite side frames, A A, the chair-seat E resting on the cross-bars *l m* of the hangers, which are held to the seat by side bars or plates, N N, fixed to the seat-bars *e e*, and in which bars N N *e e* the cross-bars *l m* have their bearings, so as to turn freely.

I connect the seat E by front and rear springs, O P, respectively, with the base of the chair, the lower ends of the springs being connected, preferably, to the tie-plate D, and the upper ends of the springs may connect either with the cross-bars of the hangers, as shown, with the spring O, or with the seat-frame, as shown, with the spring P.

The springs O P prevent the chair-body from swinging too far either way, and as the normal tendency of the springs is to contract they always will carry the chair-seat to the middle position. (Indicated in Figs. 1 and 3.)

The opposite side bars, N N, of the seat-frame have grooves *n n* formed in them, in which the side bars, *r r*, of the foot-rest R are adapted to slide, so that the foot-rest may be drawn out at any time, as in Fig. 1, or be pushed in, as in Fig. 2. The front bar of the foot-rest

forms a stop against the ends of the bars N N, and may have any desired ornamental finish.

It will be seen that the occupant of the chair, by pressing against the chair-back, may at any time rock the chair-body on the pivots *l' m'* and cross-bars *l m* of the hangers L M, the front and rear springs, O P, giving the return motions in opposite directions, the motion being a combined rocking and swinging movement, which is very easy and agreeable; and to give a different slant to the chair-back F it is only necessary to place the pawls K in the desired notches, 1, 2, 3, &c., in the seat-frame, Fig. 1 of the drawings representing the pawls in the rear notches, 3, to secure a reclining or recumbent posture to the occupant of the chair, whose feet may then rest on the drawn-out foot-rest R, while in Fig. 2 the pawls K are set in the forward notches, 1, for holding the chair-back nearly vertical, and the foot-rest R is pushed back beneath the seat.

I do not limit myself to the particular forms shown of the springs J O P, as a flat or plate spring may substitute the spring J, and plate-springs and cords or chains connecting their free ends with the chair-seat may substitute the springs O P, as will readily be understood.

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

1. A rocking-chair comprising a seat-frame, a seat within the upper part of said frame, hangers pivoted to the seat-frame and to the seat, the back, the arms pivoted thereto, links pivotally connecting the forward parts of said side arms with the seat, and pawls pivoted to said side arms at or near the middle parts thereof and constructed to engage notches in the sides of the movable seat, substantially as set forth.

2. A rocking-chair constructed with a base-frame open from front to back at its upper part, and a chair-body supported therein on hangers L M, and said chair-body consisting of a seat, E, back F, hinged thereto, a spring tending to swing the back forward with relation to the seat, the arms H, links I, and pawls K, adapted to enter notches in the chair-seat, substantially as herein set forth.

3. A rocking-chair constructed with a base-frame open from front to back at its upper part, and a chair-body supported therein on hangers L M, said chair-body consisting of seat E, hinged back F, spring J, arms H I, pawls K, and a foot-rest, R, sliding under the seat, and the springs O P, connecting the seat and base-frame, all substantially as herein set forth.

4. In a rocking-chair, the combination, with the seat, the pivoted hangers L, and the springs O, of the base-frame constructed with side frames, A A, having legs *a a*, connected by upper bars, *a'*, caps a^2, and rounds a^3, the cross-bars B C, and tie-bar D, substantially as herein set forth.

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