No. 636,725. Patented Nov. 7, 1899.

J. HEALY.

FOOT REST FOR CHAIRS.

(Application filed Sept. 25, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

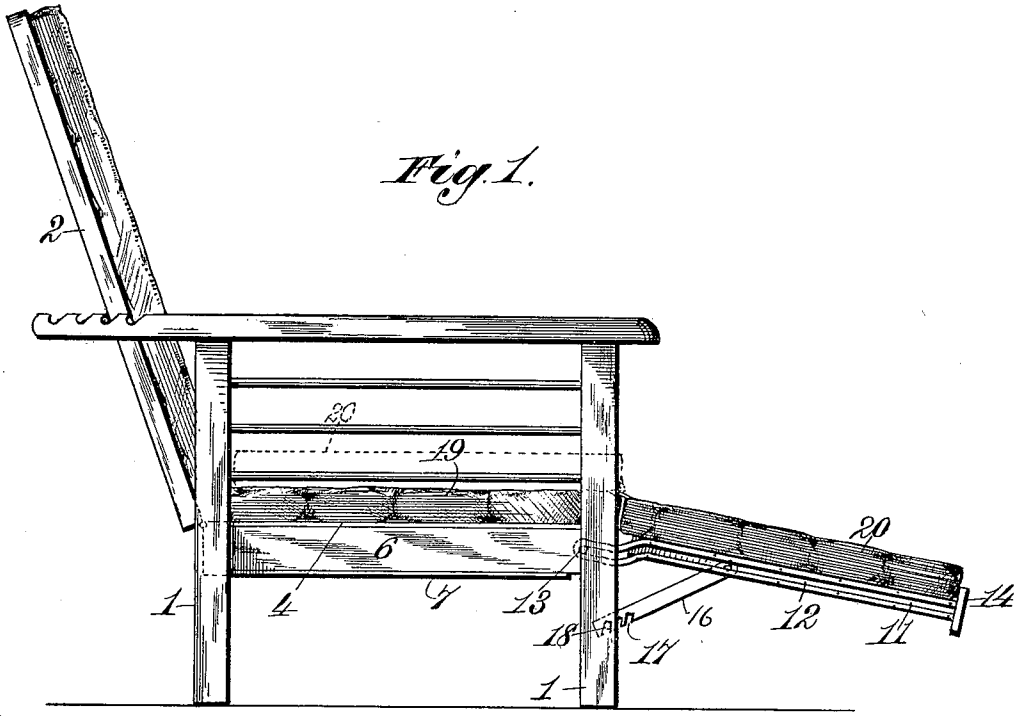


Fig. 2.

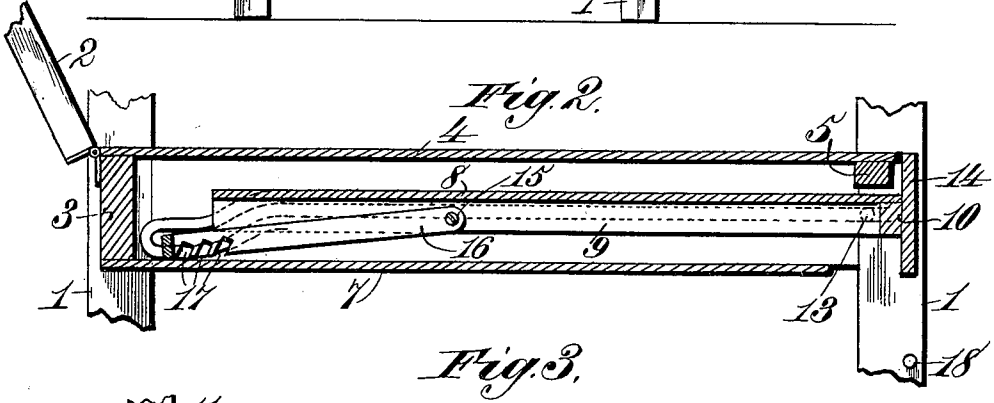


Fig. 3.

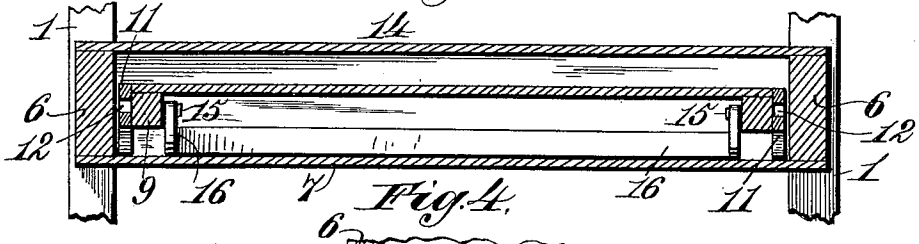
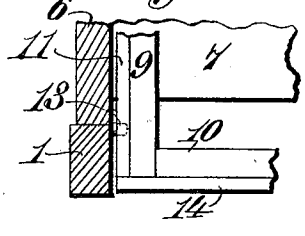


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HEALY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO THE AMERICAN CHAIR MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF BRANDT, PENNSYLVANIA.

FOOT-REST FOR CHAIRS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 636,725, dated November 7, 1899.

Application filed September 25, 1899. Serial No. 731,668. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HEALY, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the borough of Manhattan, State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Foot-Rests for Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to foot-rests for chairs, and has for its objects to provide certain improvements in the construction of the same whereby the parts may be retracted beneath the seat of what is commonly known as a "Morris" chair and completely concealed from view thereunder without altering the usual appearance or construction of said chair, the parts of said foot-rest when projected into position for use automatically assuming the supporting position. These objects I accomplish in the manner and by the means hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a Morris chair, showing my improved foot-rest thereon projected into position for use. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the seat portion of the chair. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section of the same. Fig. 4 is a detail top plan view of one front corner of said chair with the seat proper removed.

Similar numerals of reference denote corresponding parts in the several views.

In the said drawings the reference-numeral 1 denotes the legs, and 2 the adjustable back, of an ordinary Morris chair, the latter being hinged to the rear cross-piece 3, as shown, the solid chair-seat 4 being supported between said cross-piece 3 and front cross-piece 5 and projecting a little beyond the latter, as seen in Fig. 2, and being also supported by the side bars 6, as shown in Fig. 3.

Immediately beneath the chair-seat 4 is a bottom piece 7, coextensive in length and width with said chair-seat, except at the front, where it terminates some little distance to the rear of the front edge of said chair-seat, as seen in Fig. 2, said chair-seat 4, rear cross-piece 3, side bars 6, and bottom piece 7 forming an inclosure open at the front end only, sufficient space being left between the chair-seat 4 and bottom piece 7 for the reception of the foot-rest, which I will now describe. Said foot-rest consists of the top plate 8, side bars 9, front cross-piece 10, and two guideways 11, one of the latter being fixed to the outer side of each of the side bars 9 and forming by their slots 12 tracks for the reception of pins 13, fixed in the front legs 1 of the chair, as shown in Fig. 4. It will be observed that the rear ends of the guideways 11 project somewhat to the rear of the foot-rest proper and are bent downwardly a short distance and then extend for the rest of their length parallel with but in a lower plane to the foot-rest proper. Attached to the front cross-piece 10 of the foot-rest is a strip 14, extending vertically in front of the cross-piece 5 and the front edge of the bottom piece 7, thereby completely closing and concealing the inclosure formed by the parts 4 and 7 when the foot-rest is retracted, as seen in Fig. 2.

Pivoted at 15 to the inner sides of the side bars 9 of the foot-rest is a U-shaped supporting-brace 16, adapted when the foot-rest is projected to engage, by means of racks 17 thereon, with a cross-bar 18, extending transversely between front legs 1, as seen in Fig. 1.

From the above description the operation of my improved construction will be understood to be as follows: The parts being in the position shown in Fig. 2, the foot-rest will be retracted within the body of the chair, the main portion of the foot-rest lying between the chair-seat 4 and bottom piece 7, while the front strip 13 of said foot-rest completely closes and conceals the same from the front, the same lying immediately beneath the projecting front edge of the seat 4, the view from the sides being shut off by the side bars 6. Now when it is desired to bring said foot-rest into position for use the same is accomplished by drawing out on strip 14, the rear edge of the supporting-brace 16 sliding along the bottom piece 7 until it has been drawn out far enough to pass beyond the front edge of said bottom piece 7, when it will drop upon cross-bar 18, two of the slots of its racks 17 automatically engaging therewith, thus providing for the support of the front end of the foot-rest. Meanwhile as the rear curved ends of the guideways reach the pins 13 the rear end of the foot-rest will be automatically

raised to the level of the chair-seat 4, as shown in Fig. 1, and the foot-rest will be in position for use.

It is apparent that by providing racks 17 in the brace 16 a means of adjustment is provided for the front end of the foot-rest.

I have shown in Fig. 1 an improved form of seat-cushion adapted particularly for my improved construction, the same consisting of two separate sections 19 and 20, united at their front adjacent edges, the construction being such that when section 20 is folded onto section 19 a front view presents what is apparently a single cushion for the chair-seat, while by unfolding the two the section 20 will lie on top of the foot-rest, thus forming an unbroken surface from the rear of the chair-seat 4 to the front edge of the foot-rest.

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

1. The combination with a chair formed with a seat, side bars, and a bottom piece beneath said seat coextensive in width therewith but terminating at its front end to the rear of said seat, the whole forming an inclosure open at its front end, of a foot-rest adapted to be retracted within said inclosure, means for supporting the rear end of said foot-rest when extended, a brace pivoted to the foot-rest and adapted to fold rearwardly beneath the same when the latter is retracted, racks on said brace, said brace resting and moving on the bottom piece of the chair when the foot-rest is in any but its projected position and adapted to drop automatically from said bottom piece and engage through its racks the chair-frame when the foot-rest is projected, thereby supporting the front end thereof, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with a chair formed with a seat, side bars, and a bottom piece beneath said seat coextensive in width therewith but terminating at its front end to the rear of said seat, the whole forming an inclosure open at its front end, and pins on said chair-frame, of a foot-rest having guideways thereon engaged by said pins, said guideways projecting to the rear of the foot-rest and shaped to automatically raise the rear end of said foot-rest to the chair-seat level when completely projected, and a brace pivoted to the foot-rest, adapted to fold rearwardly beneath the same when the latter is retracted, and to automatically drop from said bottom piece and engage the chair-frame when said foot-rest is projected to support the front end thereof, said brace and guideways resting and moving on the bottom piece of the chair when the foot-rest is in any but its projected position, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN HEALY.

Witnesses:
WILLIAM SULLIVAN,
GEO. E. KITTLE.