(No Model.)

A. ANDRÉN.

CHAIR.

No. 597,665. Patented Jan. 18, 1898.

Fig. 1.

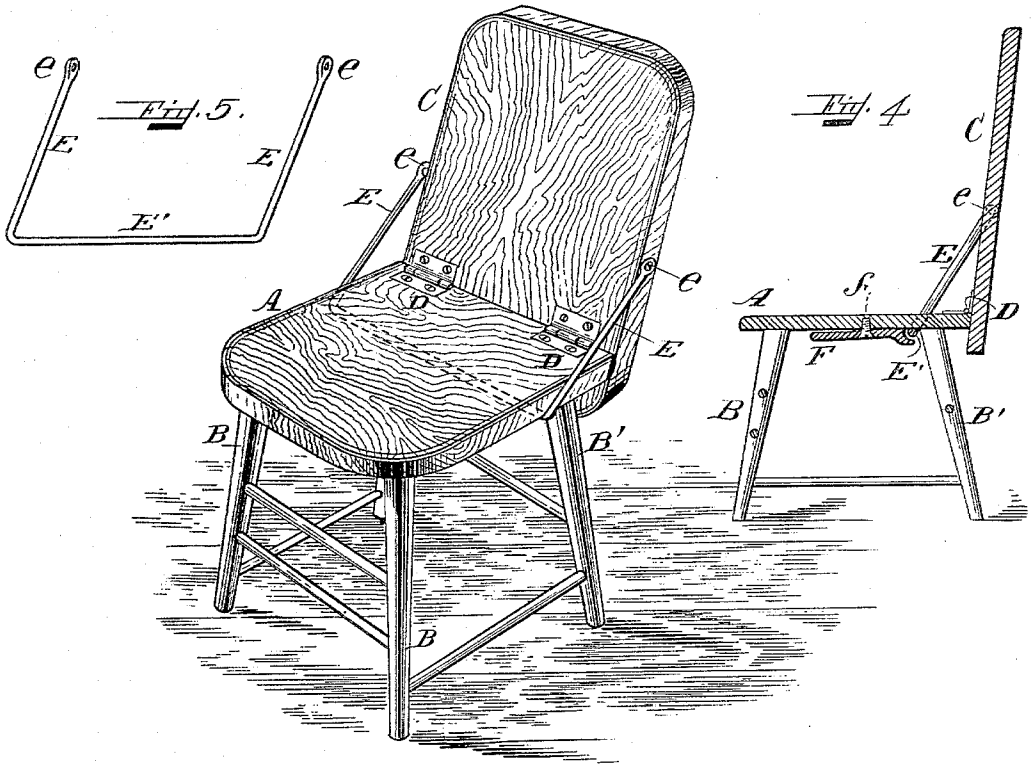


Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

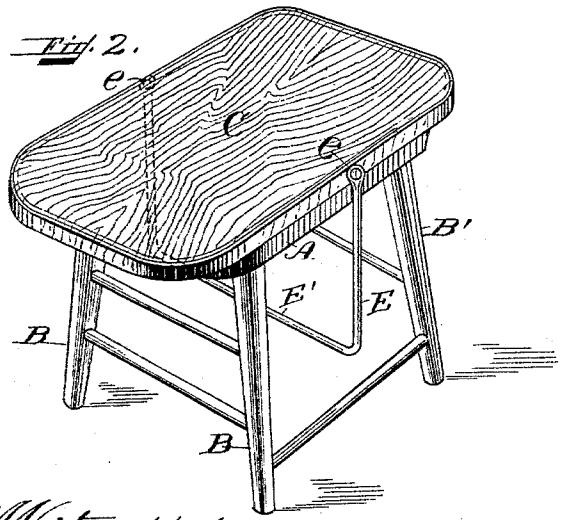
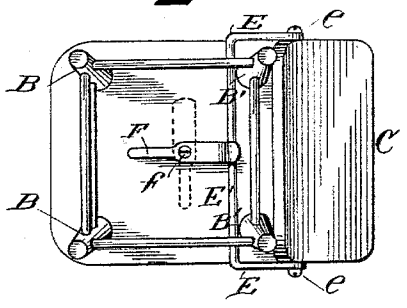


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBAN ANDRÉN, OF BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO AMABEL G. E. HOPE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 597,665, dated January 18, 1898.

Application filed March 20, 1897. Serial No. 628,406. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBAN ANDRÉN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Beverly, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Chairs, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements on that class of chairs in which the back is hinged to the seat and adapted to be folded on top of the seat when the device is not used as a chair.

The invention is particularly useful for school or similar purposes where it is desired to place the folded chairs below desks or tables when not needed for use, so as to be out of the way, and thus increasing the floor-surface and giving free access to the tables or desks.

The invention, although particularly designed for school purposes—such as, for instance, cooking-schools—may to equal advantage be used for office, home, or kitchens, &c., or wherever it may be desirable to use a chair with a hinged back adapted to be folded on top of the seat when the chair is not used.

The invention relates particularly to a simple, new, and useful device for holding the hinged back in an upright or nearly so position when the chair is in use, and means for readily releasing such back and allowing it to be folded on top of the seat when not in use, as will hereinafter be more fully shown and described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, where—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved chair, showing the back in an upright or nearly so position. Fig. 2 represents a similar perspective view showing the back folded on top of the seat. Fig. 3 represents a bottom plan view of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 represents a central vertical section of Fig. 1, and Fig. 5 represents a detail perspective view of the bail which serves as the holding device for the back.

Similar letters refer to similar parts wherever they occur on the different parts of the drawings.

In the drawings, A represents the seat of a chair, to which are secured the legs or supports B B B′ B′, as usual.

C represents the back, which is hinged at or near its lower end to the rear end of the seat A by means of hinges D or other well-known pivoting devices as is common in devices of this kind.

In Fig. 5 E E E′ represent a bail, preferably made of metal. The parts E E of said bail are the sides or uprights, and the part E′ is the horizontal portion, which is arranged at a right angle, or nearly so, to the side portions E E, as shown in the drawings.

The ends of the bail sides E E are pivoted at *e e* to the back C, as shown, and the horizontal portion E′ of the bail extends freely below the seat A, as represented in the drawings.

From the above it will be seen that the back C may be readily folded on top of the seat A, as shown in Fig. 2, and when so folded the bail E E E′ hangs loosely below the seat.

If it is desired to open the chair, it is only necessary to swing the back C to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 4, when the horizontal portion E′ of the pivoted bail will rest against the under side of the seat A and against the upper portions of the rear legs B′ B′, or against any other suitable stop projection or projections, according to the style or construction of the chair, thus preventing the back from being tipped backward relative to the seat beyond a proper and comfortable position, as represented in Figs. 1 and 4. The said bail thus serves as a very simple, strong, and durable brace or holding device for preventing the back from being swung backward beyond the desired position. In practice I may use in connection with said hinged bail a suitable locking device for holding the bail locked to the seat when the chair is in use, and I have for this purpose shown in the drawings a lever or button F, pivoted at *f* to the under side of the seat A and adapted when turned to the position shown in full lines in Figs. 3 and 4 to serve as a forward stop against the horizontal portion E′ of the bail, by which the back C is prevented from being closed as long as said button or lever F is in such locked position. To release such lever or button from the bail portion E′, it is only necessary to swing it to one side, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3, when the back C may be swung forward and folded on top of the seat A, as shown in Fig. 2.

I do not wish to confine myself to such exact construction of the locking device as shown, as any other equivalent or well-known locking device may be used for the purpose, or it may be altogether dispensed with, if so desired, without departing from the essence of my invention.

I am aware that chairs with folding backs have been used in which the back and seat have been connected by toggle-jointed links or by links pivoted to the sides of the seat and adapted to be detachably secured to the sides of the back, and I wish to state that I do not claim such constructions as my invention; but

What I wish to secure by Letters Patent and claim is—

1. A chair having a seat and a back hinged or pivoted thereto, combined with a swinging ⌊-shaped bail pivoted at its ends to opposite sides of the back and having its horizontal portion lying below the chair-seat and adapted to abut against the under side of the said seat and rear chair-legs and serve as a support for the back when the chair is in use.

2. A chair having a seat and a back hinged or pivoted thereto combined with a ⌊-shaped bail pivoted to the back and having its horizontal portion extended laterally below the seat and adapted to serve as a stop against the under side of the seat when the chair is in use and a stop device for preventing the closing of the back substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, on this 18th day of March, A. D. 1897.

ALBAN ANDRÉN.

Witnesses:
GEORGE W. WHITE,
LAURITZ N. MÖLLER.