

No. 838,299.

PATENTED DEC. 11, 1906.

A. W. BROWNE.

HEAD REST.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 18, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

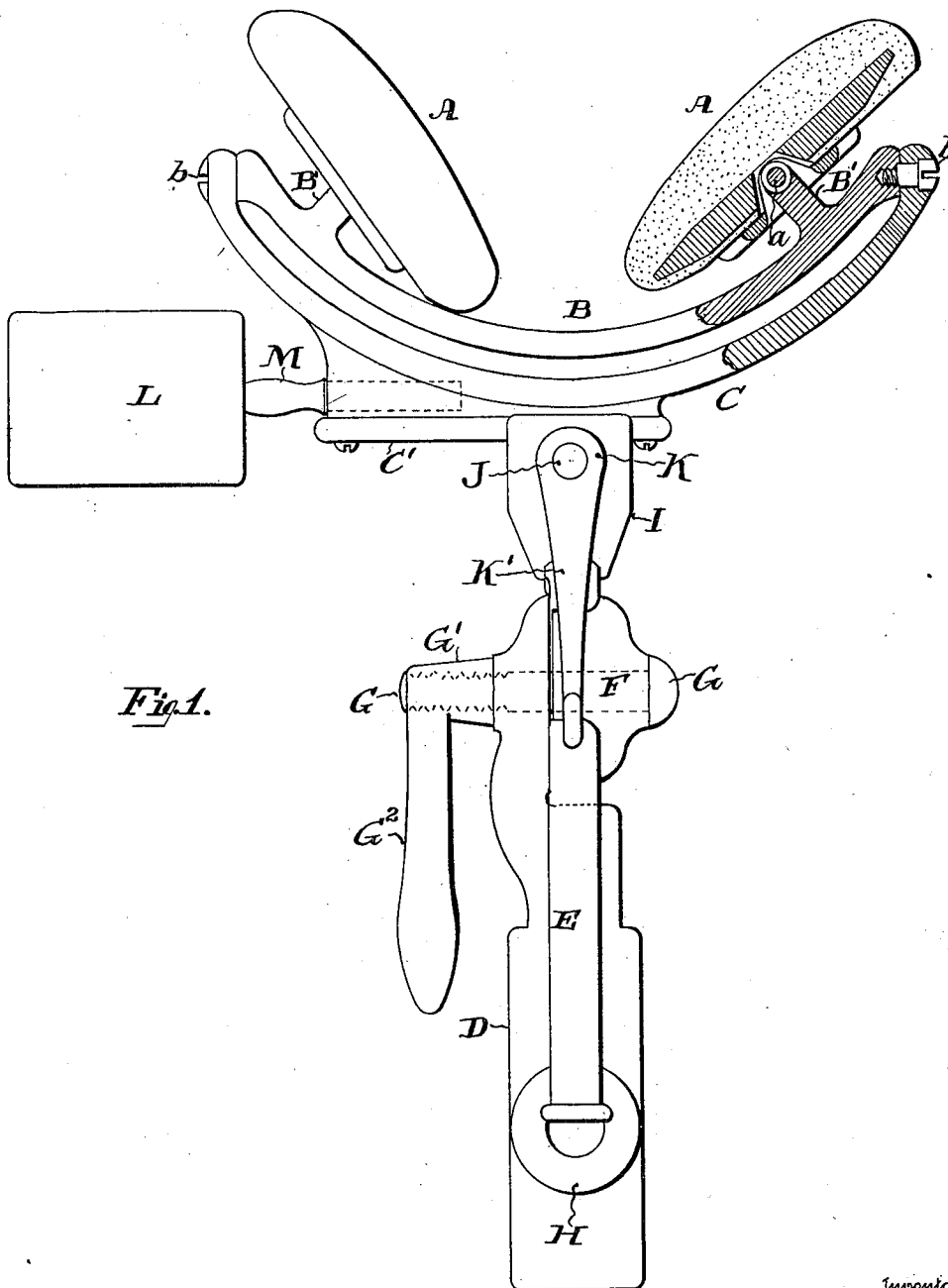


Fig. 1.

Witnesses

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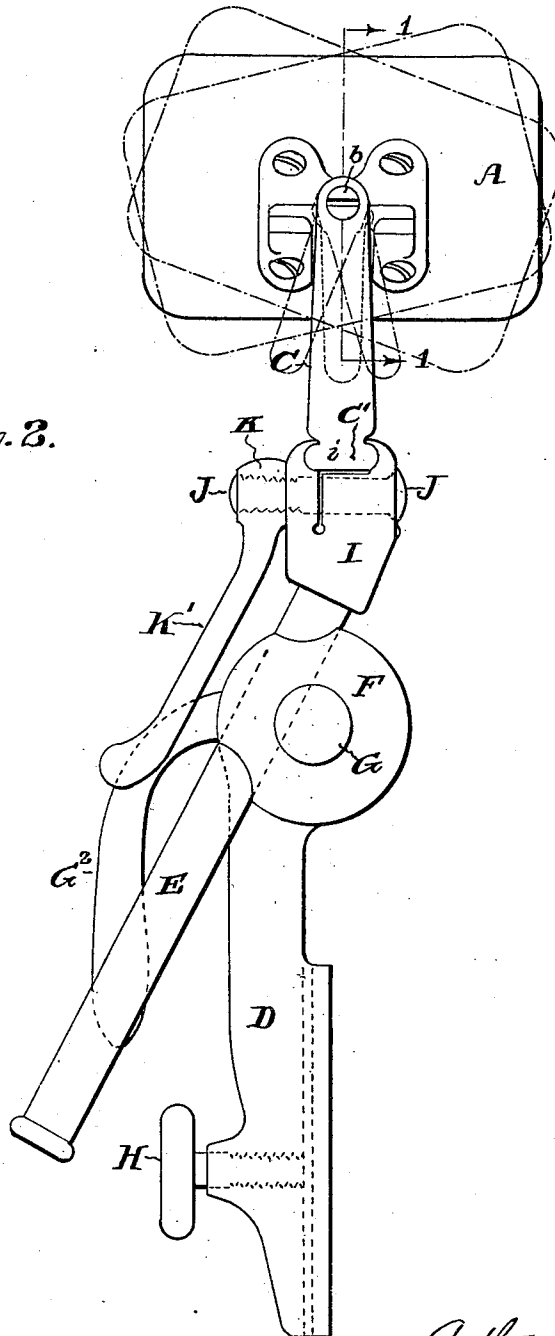
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HEAD-REST.

No. 838,299.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR W. BROWNE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Prince Bay, in the county of Richmond and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Head-Rests; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to head-rests for chairs, particularly dental chairs; and it consists in a certain improvement, herein-
after fully described and claimed, applicable to that class of head-rests comprising a pair of pads and designed to more or less automatically conform to and support the head of a person seated in the chair to which the head-rest is attached.

The object of my invention is to simplify and perfect the self-conforming function of head-rests of this class. This object is attained by so constructing a head-rest that its pair of pads are capable of being freely swung together or in unison about a horizontal axis substantially in a line with the front and rear of the chair and also capable of being rocked independently of each other about axes disposed substantially at right angles to and in the same horizontal plane as the axis about which the pads swing in unison, the movements of the pads being confined to the directions herein mentioned.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating a suitable embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a view in rear elevation of the head-rest, with a portion in central vertical section, on the line 1 1 of Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a view of said head-rest in side elevation.

The improved head-rest comprises a pair of similar pads A A, each centrally pivoted to a carrier B, adapted to extend crosswise of the chair and pivoted at its opposite ends to a supporting-bar C, connected to the chair-back by a suitable supporting-arm. The carrier B is capable of freely swinging in a line with the front and rear of the chair about a horizontal axis, formed in this instance by the pivots *b b*, thus providing for the pair of pads moving in unison in this direction, while the pivotal connections between said pads and carrier permit of their inde-

pendent rocking movement in a line substantially at a right angle to the swinging movement of the carrier.

In the particular embodiment of my invention herein indicated the pads are pivoted at *a* upon the outer extremity of posts B' B', extending from the carrier B, the axes of these pivotal connections being substantially in the same plane as the horizontal axis about which the carrier swings, said carrier and its supporting-bar being correspondingly bent, curved, or bowed to permit of this arrangement.

Any suitable supporting-arm or other means of adjustably supporting the head-rest may be employed. The one illustrated in the drawings comprises a vertically-adjustable and extensible arm consisting of a lower section D, having vertically-sliding connection with a chair-back, and an upper section or rod E, having vertically-sliding or extensible connection with the lower section. A two-part clamp F, clamp-screw G, and nut G', having a handle G², serve to lock the upper section to the lower section, while a screw H serves to clamp the lower section to the chair-back.

At times it is desirable to move the head-rest laterally, and as the form of supporting-arm shown does not afford this movement the same may be accomplished by providing a laterally-adjustable connection between the head-rest and its supporting-arm. Such a connection may consist of a split clamp I, carried by the upper section E of the supporting-arm, the jaws *i* of said clamp engaging a horizontal guide C' on the under side of the supporting-bar C. A screw J and nut K, having a handle K', serve to clamp the head-rest in position.

A dentist's arm-rest may be used, if desired, the same consisting of a pad L, swiveled upon a rod M, detachably fitting in a socket of the supporting-bar C.

When the head-rest is in use, the supporting-arm is first adjusted to properly locate or position the head-rest as a whole, after which the pressure of the patient's head upon the pads will cause them to automatically assume positions for best supporting it. In other words, after the supporting-arm has been suitably adjusted and clamped the supporting-bar C is rigidly held in position; but

the pair of pads are free to swing in unison rearwardly or forwardly until the carrier B is in a position to meet the direct line of pressure of the patient's head, and the pads will independently adjust themselves to lateral or turning movement of the patient's head until direct lateral pressure is met. The pads will maintain these positions and resist pressure upon them as long as such pressure continues; but the instant the patient desires to place his head in a new position the pads promptly readjust themselves and again meet all direct pressure. The improved head-rest thus comfortably conforms to and supports the patient's head in the most advantageous positions, readily accommodating itself to changes in position, all automatically and without any attention from the dentist except the initial positioning of the head-rest as a whole by adjustment of the supporting-arm.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a head-rest for chairs, the combination of a pair of pads, means for supporting the same, means for permitting said pads to be freely swung in unison about a horizontal axis in a line substantially with the front and rear of the chair, and means for permitting said pads to be rocked independently of each other about axes disposed substantially at right angles to and in the same horizontal plane as the axis about which the pads swing in unison, the movements of the pads being confined to the directions herein mentioned.
2. In a head-rest for chairs, the combination of a supporting-bar, a support for the

same, a carrier pivoted at its opposite ends to said supporting-bar so as to freely swing substantially in a line with the front and rear of the chair, and a pair of pads pivoted to said carrier and capable of freely rocking independently of each other transversely to the swinging movement of said-carrier.

3. In a head-rest for chairs, the combination of a supporting-bar, a support for the same, a carrier pivoted to said supporting-bar, so as to freely swing, a pair of pads pivoted to said carrier, the pivotal connections between said pads and carrier and between said carrier and supporting-bar being substantially in the same plane and the former extending transversely to the latter.

4. In a head-rest for chairs, the combination of a supporting-bar, a support for the same, a bent, curved or bowed carrier pivoted at its opposite ends to said supporting-bar so as to freely swing, posts rising from near the opposite ends of said carrier, and a pad pivoted to each post, the pair of pads being thus capable of freely rocking independently of each other transversely to the swinging movement of said carrier, the pivotal connections between said pads and posts being in substantially the same plane as with the pivotal connections between said carrier and supporting-bar.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ARTHUR W. BROWNE.

Witnesses:

SEYMOUR CASE,

M. E. DERICKSON.