D. Howarth,

Folding Chair,

No. 63,897, Patented Apr. 16, 1867.

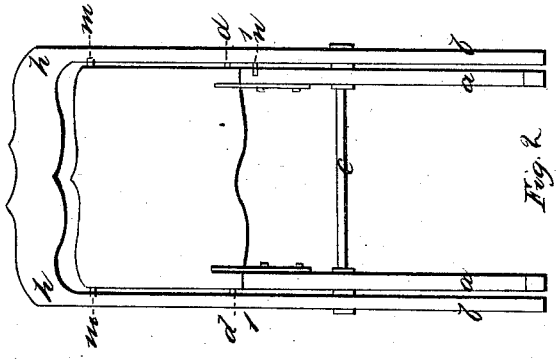


Fig. 2

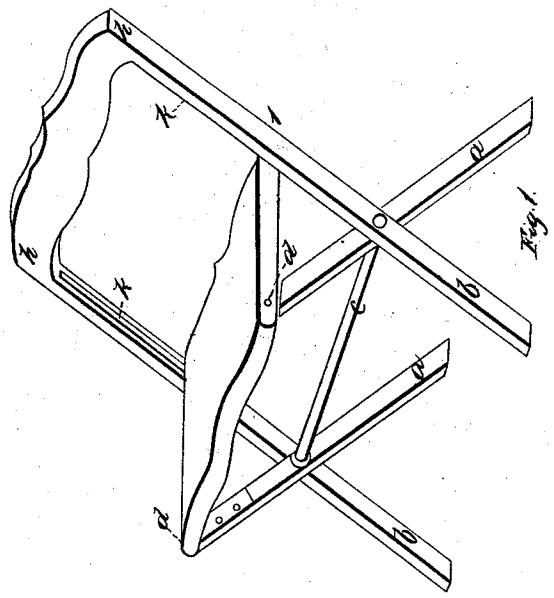


Fig. 1

Witnesses.

William Henry Clifford

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Inventor.

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DAVID HOWARTH, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

Letters Patent No. 63,897, *dated April* 16, 1867.

IMPROVED FOLDING CHAIR.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, DAVID HOWARTH, of Portland, in the county of Cumberland, and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improved Folding Chair; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows a view in perspective of my invention, and in which the chair is represented unfolded.

Figure 2 the same front view closed or folded.

My invention has relation to those kinds of chairs that may be folded, when not in use, so as to occupy a diminished space. I am aware that numerous patents upon chairs have been granted, so as to accomplish a like result in various ways, but I am not aware of the existence of any device for this purpose similar to mine. Disclaiming all previous combinations or arrangements for this purpose, I will describe my own invention, with reference to the drawings, as follows:

a and *b* show the four cross-legs of a chair; *a* being connected with *b* by the rod or pivot *c*, and attached to the seat by a joint, *d*. The two legs *b*, as is seen from the drawing, form the sides of the back, and are intended to be rigidly connected at *h*. On the inside of the portion of *b* above the seat are made the grooves *k*. In fig. 2 are seen the two pins *m*, which are rigidly inserted into the back end of the edges of the seat, and also slide in the grooves *k*. The grooves extend no further down the insides of *b b* than is indicated by 1 1. *n* shows another pin to aid in supporting and sustaining the seat when the chair is in use. I do not claim folding the chair by means of the cross-legs turning on a pivot, *c*, nor by means of the joints *d*, for these are not new.

The operation of my invention is as follows: To fold the chair push the lower end of *a a* toward *b b*; *a a* being on the inside of *b b*, will, when the legs are brought parallel, pass inside of *b b*, as seen in fig. 2. By this movement of *a a* the pins *m m* are slid up along the grooves *k k* till they are in the position seen in fig. 2, when also the seat is by the operation of the joint *d* moved to a flat position or parallel with and between *b b*, and the chair is then no thicker than the thickness of *b b*, and can be easily carried in the hand and placed or packed in a small space. Chairs have been made folding in a manner somewhat similar to this, but with a flexible seat, such as of cloth or carpeting, such cloth being doubled and hanging from the place where it is attached to the back legs and from the top of the front legs; such seat is moreover nailed or otherwise attached to the back legs at 1. In my invention the seat is of wood or some inflexible material, thus securing more strength and durability, and enabling the parts to operate as set forth.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The cross-legged chair as described, when, by means of the pivot *c*, joints *d*, grooves *k k*, and pins *m m*, it may be folded in the manner described and set forth.

DAVID HOWARTH.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM HENRY CLIFFORD,

HENRY C. HOUSTON.