

C. B. SHELDON.  
INVALID-CHAIR.

No. 173,071.

Patented Feb. 1, 1876.

Fig. 1.

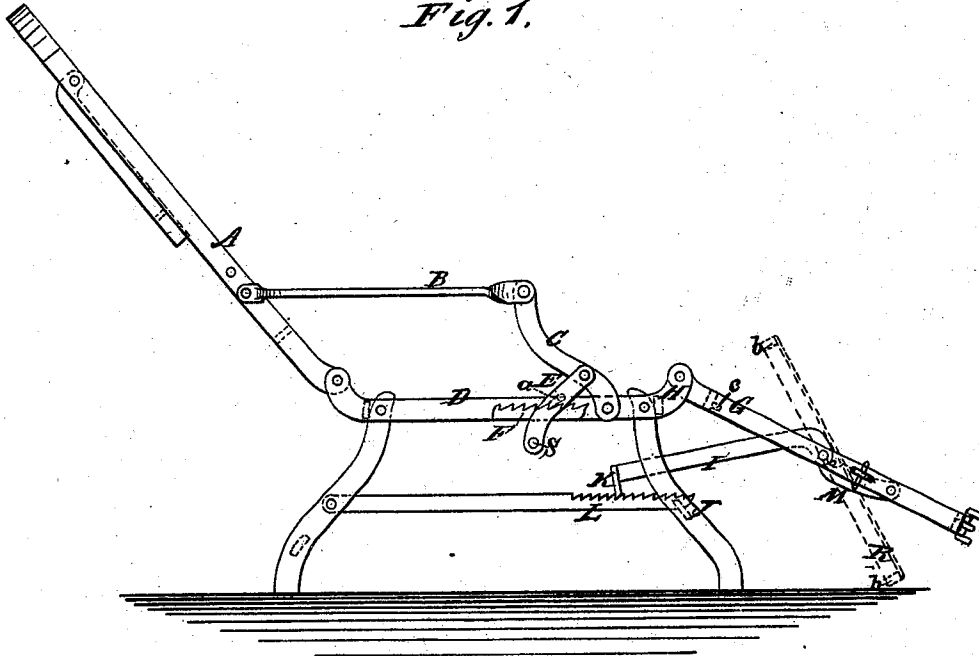


Fig. 2.

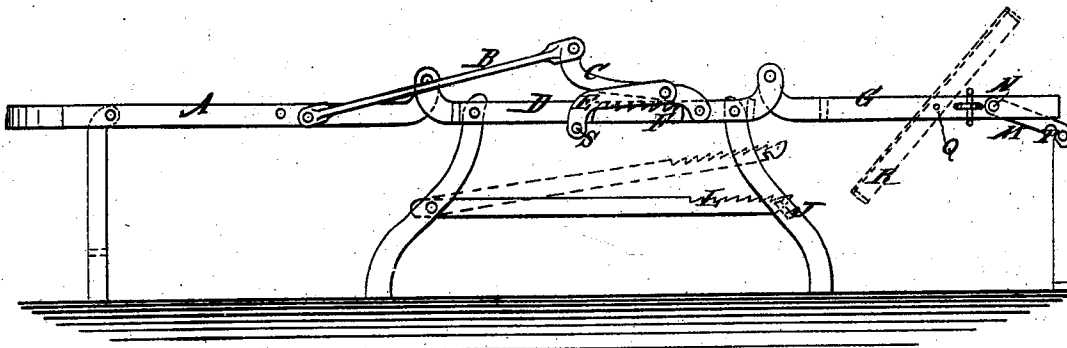
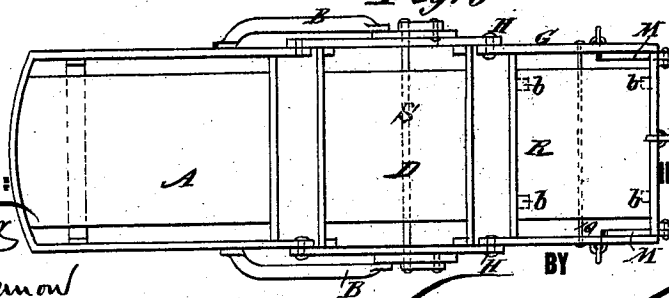


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

C. A. Evans  
John K. Hannon

INVENTOR:

C. B. Sheldon

BY

ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CEVEDRA B. SHELDON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INVALID-CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,071**, dated February 1, 1876; application filed January 6, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CEVEDRA B. SHELDON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Easy-Chair and Lounge, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of easy-chairs which have an adjustable foot-rest arranged to be raised upon its pivots to a horizontal position, and a back to fall down on a level with the seat, to form a bed or lounge, and which also fold up for storing away compactly; and the invention consists of an improved contrivance of the adjusting back-support; also, improved contrivance of the adjusting foot-support; and, also, of the cane bottom of the foot-support, all as hereinafter described.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved chair and lounge, arranged for an easy-chair. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same contrived for a lounge, and Fig. 3 is a plan view of Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the back; B, the arms, and C the front standards for the arms, the standards and the back being jointed to the seat-frame D, and the arms being jointed to the standards and the back in the usual way, so that the back can be shifted up and down.

My improvement of this part of the chair consists of the ratchet-bars F, attached to the sides of the seat-frame, in combination with the arms E, rigidly attached to, and connected by, a rod, S, passing beneath the seat, the said arms carrying upon the inner sides pawls *a*, which engage with the ratchet-bars. The arms E are pivoted to the standards C, so as to allow the pawls *a* to rest from their own gravity, and that of the hanging-rod S, naturally upon the ratchets, for holding the back up. With this arrangement the pawls cannot, in any way, fall or otherwise escape from the ratchets, and let the back fall, as when they are pivoted on the seat and engage a notched bar on the standard, and when raising the back they engage self-actingly, to secure it when raised to the height wanted, whereas in the other arrangement they have to be engaged every time by hand, which is objectionable. The rack-bars F I attach to the seats

of the chair, below the upper edge of the bars D, leaving room thereby between the point of the engagement of the pawl with the ratchet and the upper side of the seat, to prevent all catching in the clothing. The arms E extend some distance below the seat, and thereby bring the pawls near the center of gravity of the said arms, thus diminishing the chances of accidental displacement. The bar S, connecting the arms, holds the pawls in proper lateral position, makes them both operate simultaneously, and its weight, being below the point of suspension, gives steadiness to the devices, and insures the automatic engagement of the pawls with the ratchets. G is the foot-rest frame, which is pivoted to the chair-seat, in the ordinary way, at H, and has legs I, to hold it up for a bed, and also to hold it at different inclinations for a foot-rest to the chair. Commonly these legs have had a series of notches in the under side to catch on the cross-bar J, to hold the rest up more or less; but the arrangement is unsatisfactory, as the notches have to be a certain width for the thickness of the bars, and a certain distance apart for strength, which, together, prevent making the adjustment as fine as is desired. I therefore attach a thin pawl-blade, K, to the ends of these legs, and attach firmly-notched ratchet-bars L to the chair-legs, to receive the same, and thus obtain the fine adjustment desired. These legs have to be attached to the foot-rest at the middle; to serve well for the braces; but in this location they do not serve well for legs to the lounge, because it will tilt up in case a person sits down on the end projecting over the legs; therefore I connect the legs to it by the links M, pivoted to the frame at N, so as to swing out under the end rail to support the lounge, and swing back the other way, under the pivot-rod Q, to brace up the foot-rest. For the latter purpose the links are notched at P to fit on the pivot-rod securely.

When the foot-rest frame G folds over on the chair-seat it turns bottom up, which has made it necessary to make the cane part R double, to render it suitable for sitting on when the chair is to be used without the foot-rest. To save the cost of duplicating it, I now make the cane part reversible on pivot-rod Q, or any

approved device, so that it can be kept right-side up while the frame is turned over.

To hold the reversible foot-rest in proper position, I construct it with recesses *b* upon its unfinished side, and construct one of the bars of the containing-frame with lugs *c* on a line with its longitudinal center.

The recesses in the seat are by this arrangement out of sight, and upon the unfinished side, and one set of lugs is made to perform double duty by receiving a different set of recesses in the different positions of the rest, to hold the latter parallel in its frame.

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

1. The arms *E*, pivoted to the front standard *C*, and having pawls *a* upon their inner sides, in combination with the ratchet-bars *F*, placed below the upper edge of the seat-bars, and the

connecting-rod *S* beneath the seat, rigidly attached to the pendent extremities of the arms, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The pawl-plate *K* on the foot-rest braces *I*, in combination with ratchet-bars *L*, attached to the chair-legs, substantially as specified.

3. The foot-rest braces *I*, connected to the foot-rest *G* by the links *M*, arranged to swing out under the end bar of the foot-rest frame, and back under the pivot-rod *Q*, substantially as specified.

4. The reversible foot-rest *R*, having recesses *b* upon its unfinished side, in combination with the frame *G*, having a single set of lugs, *c*, located in the central line of the bar, as and for the purpose described.

CEVEDRA B. SHELDON.

Witnesses:

SOLON C. KEMON,

CHAS. A. PETTIT.