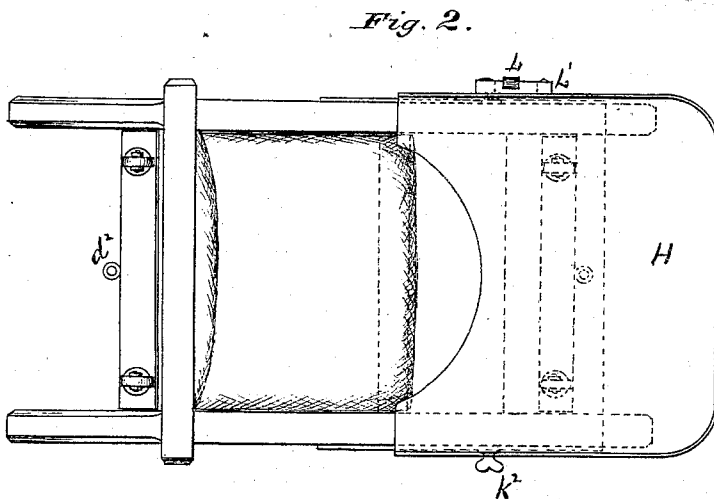
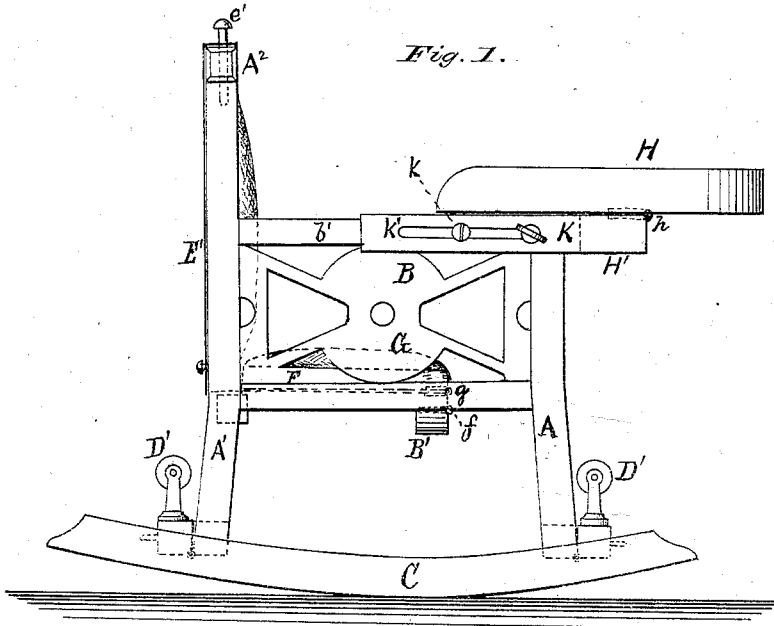


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Childrens' Chairs.

No. 138,620.

Patented May 6, 1873.



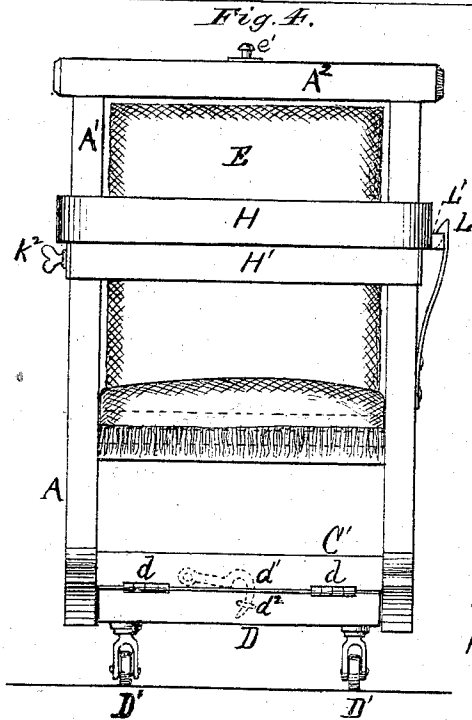
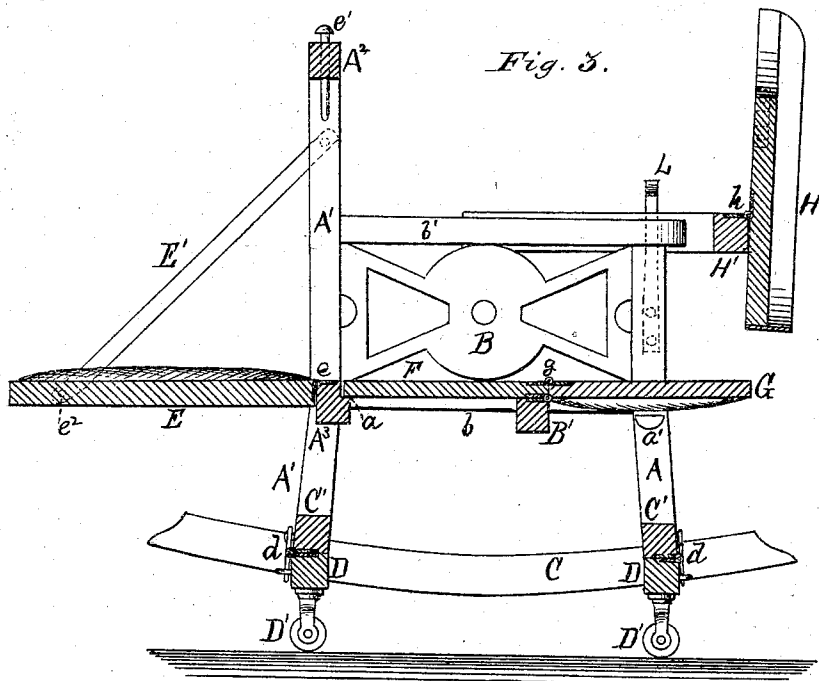
Witnesses:
Edwin James
H. C. Gordon.

Inventor:
Jerome F. Downing.
per J. E. Holmead
Attorney.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEROME F. DOWNING, OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHILDREN'S CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 138,620, dated May 6, 1873; application filed April 19, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEROME F. DOWNING, of the city and county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Babies' Chairs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view. Fig. 2 is a top view. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view, the chair being converted into a bed or crib. Fig. 4 is a front view.

My invention consists in constructing a baby's or child's chair in such manner as to admit of its being used as a rocking-chair, as a crib or cradle, as a walking-chair, and as an ordinary chair standing on casters.

The construction and operation of my invention are as follows:

A A and A¹ A¹ are the legs or posts of the chair or crib, and B B are the arms or sides, which, like the rest of the frame-work, may be constructed out of any suitable material. C C are the rockers, and are mortised onto the legs or attached thereto in any other usual manner. C' C' are horizontal cross-bars, and serve to brace the legs and rockers. To these cross-bars C' C' are attached, by means of hinges or pivot-joints *d d*, the bars D D, to which are fastened the rollers D' D'. The hind legs or posts A¹ A¹ are also connected and braced by cross-bars A² A³, which are relatively arranged, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. The lower rails *b b* of the arms B B have also secured on their under surface a cross-bar, B'. To the cross-bar A³ is secured, by hinge or pivot bearings *e e*, the back E, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. When this back E is in a vertical position as is the case when the device is used as a chair, it rests between the upper sections of the posts or legs A¹ A¹, and is retained and held by means of a bolt or pin, *e'*, which has its bearing in the upper cross-bar A² of the legs. This arrangement and mode of fastening is clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 3. E' is a strap attached to the cross-bar A², which serves to support the back E when thrown down, as shown in Fig. 3. In this strap is a series of holes or perforations, which, in connection with the

pin or button *e'* attached to the upper section of the back, permits of the same being adjusted and held at any desired angle in relation to the seat. To the horizontal cross-bar B' is hinged or connected, by pivot-joints *f f*, the seat F, which, when in position, rests with its rear face on the shoulder or flanged recess *a* of the cross-bar A³. To the seat F is secured, by means of a hinge or pivot joint, *g*, the leaf G, and which, when the device is used as a chair, folds over on the seat forming, as it were, a double seat; but when the leaf is turned out, as is the case when the device is used as a crib or cradle, its forward section rests on and is supported by buttons or shoulders *a' a'* on the inner face of the front legs of the chair, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. The face of the leaf G, which will be uppermost when folded over for use as a chair-seat, as well as the back may be cushioned, which, when the device is used as a chair, renders the same more comfortable, and which also adds much to its neatness of appearance. H is a lid or table, and is secured by hinge or pivot joint connections *h h* to a bar, H'. This bar H' has secured to its ends two slotted plates, K K, which are also attached to the upper rails *b' b'* by means of screws *k k*, said screws so passing through the slots *k' k'* as to allow of the table being freely moved backward and forward. The table is retained in a stationary position by means of the thumb-screw *k²* or other equivalent device. L is a thumb-latch, attached to one of the front legs A of the chair, which, when the table is turned down for use, engages automatically with the bearing-plate L' attached to the table H. The back E is provided with a strap, E', or metallic bearings to support its outer end when turned down for use as a section of a crib, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

From the foregoing description the operation of my improvement as well as the readiness with which the device can be converted from an ordinary nursery-chair into a child's walking-chair or a crib or cradle will readily be understood. In Fig. 1 and Fig. 3 the several features of the chair are in position for use as a child's nursery-chair. In the first of these figures it is a child's rocking chair, while in the other the bars D D are turned down so as to bring the rollers or casters D' D' in con-

tact with the floor, which elevates the rockers free from all contact therewith. These rollers are thus turned down whenever the chair is to be used as a walking-chair, or at any other time, when desired. It will be seen also by reference to Figs. 1, 3, and 4 exactly how the back is secured by the bolt e^1 , and how the plates K K having been adjusted on the rails $b' b'$ of the arms B B are fastened by the thumb-screw k^2 , and also how the table is locked in a horizontal position by the spring-latch L and plate L'. When it is desirable to change the chair into a walking-chair, you simply have to turn the leaf G and seat F over in front, which leaves the entire interior frame-work of the chair unobstructed, the child supporting itself between the lower ribs $b b$ of the arms and the front and rear cross-bars B' and A³ of the legs. The rollers or casters D' D' are now turned down and the bar D so fastened as to prevent its turning by means of the hook d^1 and eye d^2 . When the chair is thus arranged the child can readily support itself and push the chair along with it as it walks. When the chair is to be used as a crib or cradle you withdraw the bolt e^1 and throw the back down, as shown in Fig. 3, its outer end being supported by the strap or band E'. The leaf G is then unfolded and thrown down on the buttons or shoulders $a' a'$, and in connection with the seat F and back E forms a continuous flat surface for a pallet, pillow, or bed to be placed on. The spring-latch L is now unfastened and

the table turned to a vertical position so as to form, as it were, a head for the crib. Instead of the seat F being hinged to the cross-bar B' it may be hinged to the cross-bar A³, and when it is desired to use the chair as a walking-chair the seat and the leaf G may be swung between the legs A¹ A¹ and under the back.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In combination with the frame of a child's chair the back E, seat F, and leaf G, each connected by hinged or pivot joints in such manner as to permit of the device being used either as a chair or crib, substantially as described.

2. The back E, seat F, leaf G, rockers C C, and hinged bars D D having rollers D' D' attached, the whole being so constructed, combined, and arranged as to permit of the chair being used for the different purposes specified.

3. In combination with the upper sections $b' b'$ of the arms B B of a child's chair, the bar H', slotted arms K K, thumb-screw k^2 , hinged table H, latch L, and plate L', the whole being arranged to operate substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JEROME F. DOWNING.

Witnesses:

E. D. WEBB,
H. F. TINKER.