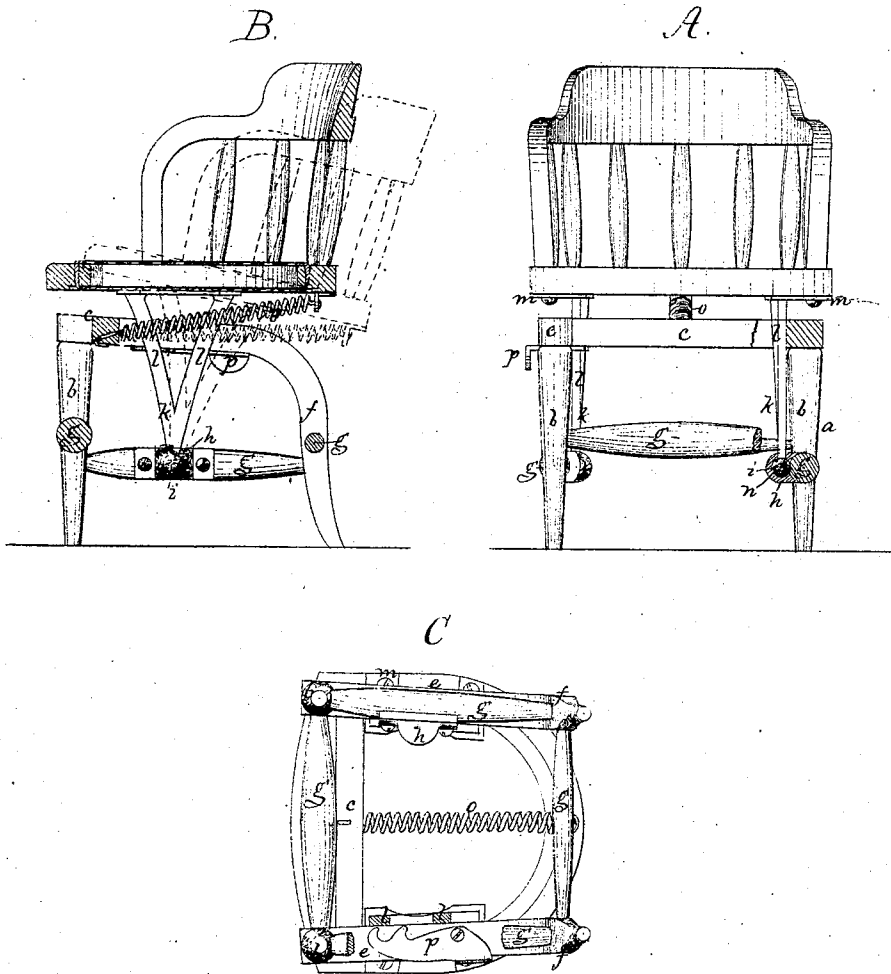


G. C. Winchester.
Impt in Chairs.

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PATENTED JUL 18 1871



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Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE C. WINCHESTER, OF ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 117,132, dated July 18, 1871; antedated July 6, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. WINCHESTER, of Ashburnham, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of my invention, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

United States Letters Patent No. 60,978 were granted, January 1, 1867, on the invention of M. V. B. Howe and myself, for an improvement in chairs. In such patented chair the seat is supported upon a stationary stool (near the back of the seat) by means of ball-and-socket joints, which permit the seat to tip or rock freely, the front of the seat, when in a horizontal position, resting upon the top of two posts projecting up from the top of the stool-frame over the front legs of the stool.

My present invention may be considered as an improvement upon the invention shown in such patent, as the seat in my improved chair is supported and tips upon the stool by means of ball-and-socket joints. Instead, however, of applying these joints to the top of the stool, and so that the chair rocks on pivots over the stool, I pivot the seat upon side stretchers, extending from the front to the rear legs of the stool and near the bottom of the legs, so that the seat is tipped back or thrown into inclined position with much greater ease and comfort to the sitter than where the seat rocks on pivots over the stool. It is in this improved construction that my invention primarily consists.

The drawing represents a chair embodying my improvements.

A shows the chair in front and sectional elevation. B is a vertical and central section of it. C is a bottom view of it. *a* denotes the stool, made up of the front legs *b*, top rails *e*, back legs *f*, (the top rail and back leg at each side being made of one piece of wood bent into shape, as shown in said patent No. 60,978,) cross-bars or rods *g*, and a stretcher, *c*, this stretcher *c* uniting

the two rails *e* near the front ends thereof, as seen in the drawing. To the inner side of each side bar *g* is fixed a socket-piece, *h*, having a socket formed to receive a globular foot, *i*, on the bottom end of a leg, *k*, which bifurcates just above the foot into two parts, *l*, depending from opposite ends of a plate, *m*, screwed to the under side of the seat, as seen at A and C. The seat is supported upon and with reference to the stool by the two bifurcated leg-pieces *k*, which extend down inside of the rails *e*, and have their ball-shaped feet *i* resting in the socket-bearings *n* in the pieces *h*, and each socket is lengthened at top so as to permit a rocking movement of the legs and the chair-seat supported by them, the front member of each leg bringing up against the inner side of the stretcher *c* when the seat is brought into horizontal position, and the extent of tipping-back movement of the seat being determined by any suitable stops or by the contractile power of a coiled or spiral spring, *o*. This spring *o* is located under the seat, and is attached at its front end to the stretcher *c*, and at its rear end to the rear part of the seat, as seen at B, and when the seat is tipped back (as seen by the dotted lines at B) the stress of the spring tends to throw it forward again. The seat may be retained in position, more or less inclined or tipped back, by a latch or swing-catch, *p*, having teeth, any one of which may be thrown in front of the adjacent leg-piece *l*, so as to prevent the said leg from moving forward.

A chair made as shown and described is exceedingly strong, is easily manipulated, and is very simple as regards the construction and arrangement, which have reference to the tipping seat.

I claim—

A tipping chair, having the globular feet *i* pivoted in socket-pieces *h*, and having also the lever-latch *p* for locking the seat in a tipped position, and a retractile spring, *o*, applied as shown and described.

Witnesses: GEO. C. WINCHESTER.
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