(No Model.)

G. J. RAFFERTY & A. F. BORDEN.

OPERA CHAIR.

No. 308,700. Patented Dec. 2, 1884.

Fig. 1.

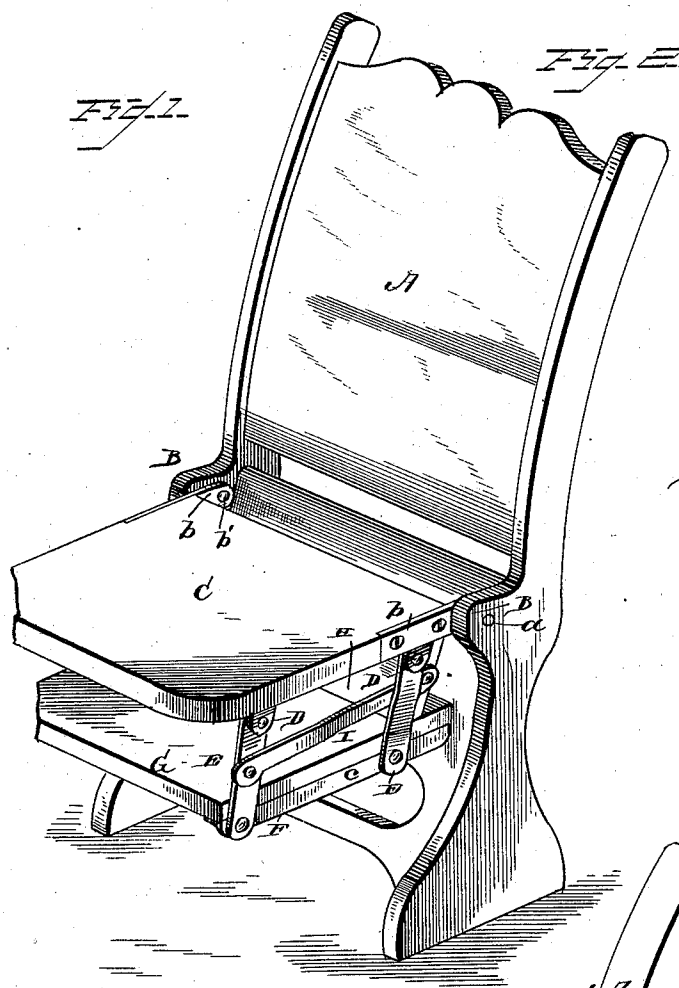


Fig. 2.

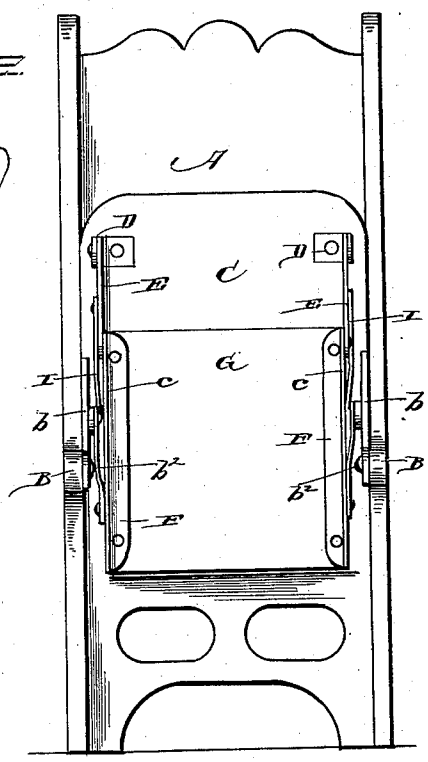


Fig. 3.

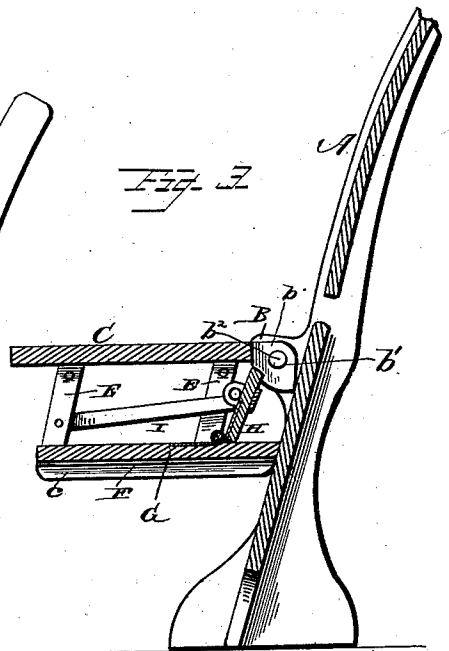
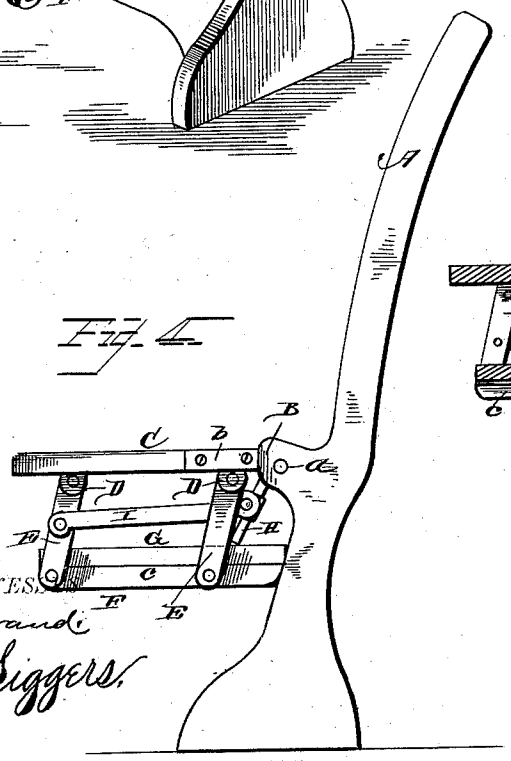


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:
F. L. Ourand.
E. G. Siggers.

INVENTORS
Geo. J. Rafferty
Albert F. Borden
by C. A. Snow & Co
Attorneys

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer. Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE J. RAFFERTY AND ALBERT F. BORDEN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNORS TO THE RAFFERTY-BORDEN FOLDING RACK COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

OPERA-CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 308,700, dated December 2, 1884.

Application filed March 14, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE J. RAFFERTY and ALBERT F. BORDEN, citizens of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Opera-Chair, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

Our invention relates to chairs, and more particularly to that class known as "opera-chairs;" and it has for its object to provide a chair of this character with a folding shelf or receptacle for hats and other articles, of improved construction, whereby the chair and the shelf may be readily folded to allow ingress and egress.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the improved construction and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a chair constructed in accordance with our invention. Fig. 2 is a front elevation showing the chair folded. Fig. 3 is a cross-section, and Fig. 4 is a side elevation.

In the accompanying drawings, in which like letters refer to corresponding parts in the several figures, A represents the back or body portion of the chair, which may be of any preferred or suitable construction.

B represents outwardly-projecting ears or lugs, which are provided with perforations or openings *a*, said lugs being formed upon the front edges or faces of the sides of the back or body portion A, near the vertical center of the same.

C represents the seat, which is provided on its rear sides with metal plates *b*, provided with perforations or openings *b'* at their ends for the passage of bolts b^2, by means of which the seat is pivoted to the lugs B of the back or body portion A.

D represents downwardly-projecting ears or lugs, which are secured to the under side of the seat C, at or near the corners of the same. In each of these lugs D is pivoted a metal plate, E, which is pivoted at its lower ends to a strip or plate, F, which is secured to the under side of a folding shelf, G, the plates F being bent downwardly to form a flanged portion, *c*. To the rear upper side of the folding shelf G is hinged a strip, H, which is provided at its ends with pivoted plates I, which are pivoted at their forward ends to the plates D. By the employment of this strip H hats or other articles placed upon the folding shelf are prevented from sliding too far to the rear of said shelf, thus obviating the annoyance and inconvenience of reaching to the rear end of the said shelf for the article placed thereon.

In folding the chair, in order to allow increased space for the passage of persons, the seat is raised and pushed back, resting against the back or body portion A, and as all the parts are pivotally connected the folding shelf will by its own weight drop or fold against the under side of the seat, the back strip folding and resting below the lower end thereof. When the seat is to be lowered for use, the seat is drawn outwardly from the back A, and will by its own weight drop into place, the folding shelf being lowered by the same movement, its rear end bearing against the back A, which forces it into the position shown in Fig. 1.

It will be apparent from the above description that a chair constructed in accordance with our invention is simple and easily operated. It will also be seen that by the use of the folding shelf a ready and convenient receptacle is afforded for the disposition of hats and other articles while the same are not in use.

Having fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an opera-chair, the combination, with a pivoted seat, of a folding shelf pivotally connected to the under side thereof by means of metal plates, and a back or strip located between said shelf and seat, and pivotally connected to the forward plates of the seat, substantially as set forth.

2. In an opera-chair, the combination, with a pivoted seat provided upon its under side with depending lugs, of a shelf located beneath

said seat, and having a strip of metal secured to its sides, plates connecting said shelf and seat, and a back portion or strip located between said shelf and seat, and pivoted to the forward plates connecting the seat and shelf, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE J. RAFFERTY.
ALBERT F. BORDEN.

Witnesses:
B. F. TELLER,
JAMES R. P. WALKER.