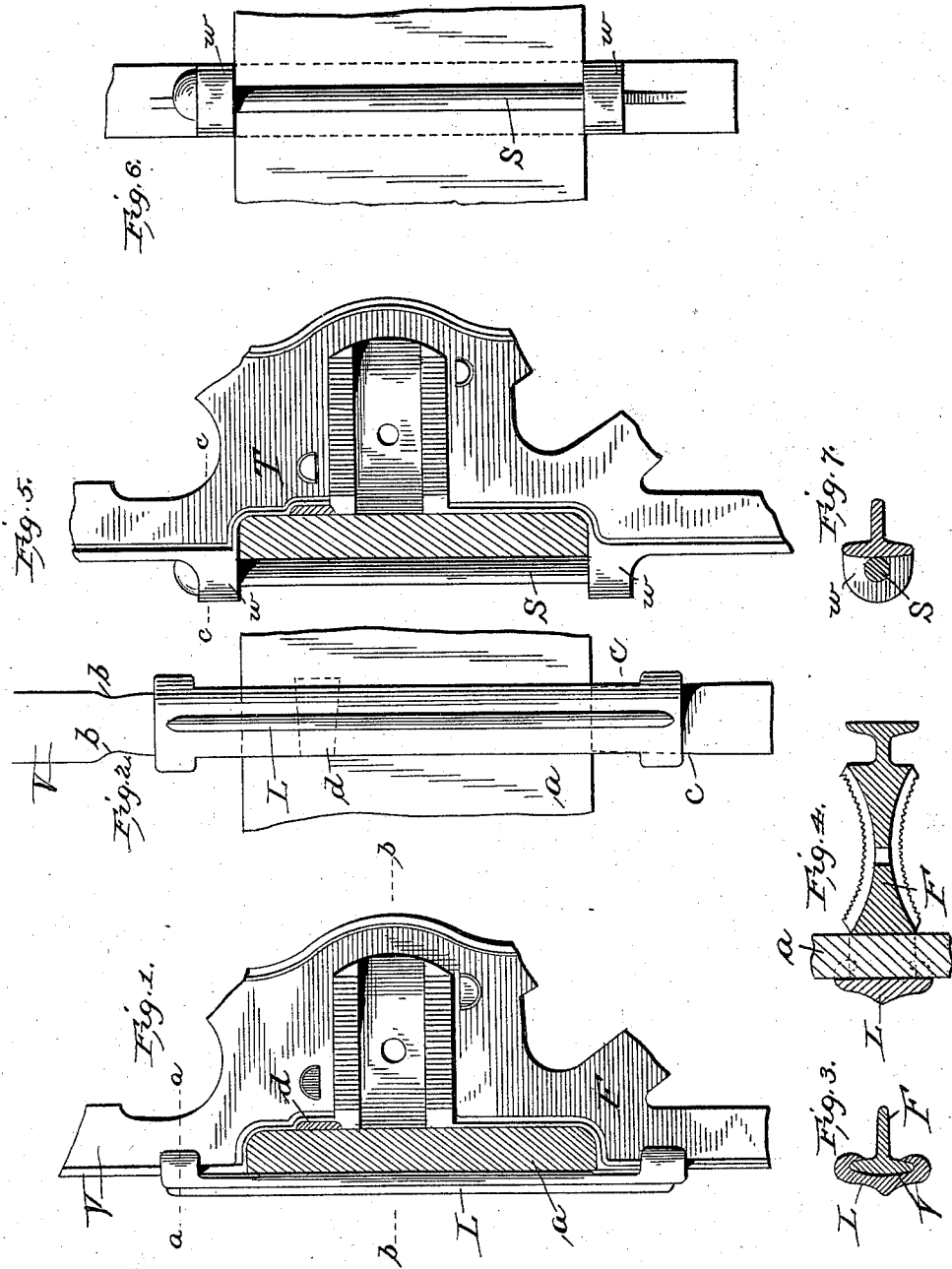


(No Model.)

A. D. LINN & R. W. IRWIN.
FOOT BOARD FOR CHAIRS.

No. 576,205.

Patented Feb. 2, 1897.



Attest

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLEN D. LINN AND ROBERT W. IRWIN, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN,
ASSIGNORS TO THE GRAND RAPIDS SCHOOL FURNITURE COMPANY, OF
SAME PLACE.

FOOT-BOARD FOR CHAIRS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 576,205, dated February 2, 1897.

Application filed May 21, 1896. Serial No. 592,444. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALLEN D. LINN and ROBERT W. IRWIN, citizens of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Foot-Boards for Chairs, &c., of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

Our invention relates to the foot-boards ordinarily used in connection with chairs which are arranged side by side, as in theaters, churches, and like situations, the chairs being connected and braced by means of boards at the rear, which also serve the purpose of foot-rests for the persons occupying the row of seats immediately in the rear.

Heretofore, so far as we are aware, it has been customary to make the chairs with the standards having openings formed therein during casting, through which the foot-boards were passed, and the experience has been that this construction calls for a great deal of labor, as it amounts to stringing a series of chairs upon the boards, requiring a waste of time and money in fitting the boards to the different circles which the connected chairs are required to assume. We have aimed to overcome all these numerous and serious objections by casting the standards with an open mortise or recess adapted to receive the foot-board, the board being secured in the said recess or mortise by a locking device very readily applied and as easily removed when its removal becomes necessary or desirable.

In the accompanying drawings we have illustrated our invention, Figure 1 representing a section of the standard, showing the foot-board attached by one kind of fastening, while Fig. 2 is a view taken from the rear of Fig. 1, showing the same kind of fastening device. Fig. 3 is a section on the line *a a* of Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a section on line *b b* of the same figure. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing a different form of fastening; and Fig. 6 is a rear view of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a section on line *c c* of Fig. 5.

Instead, as has been the custom heretofore, of casting mortises in the standards for re-

ceiving the foot-boards, we form the standard F with the recess in its rear face adapted to receive the foot-board *a*. The recess is of such a depth as to receive the foot-board snugly, so that the face of the board is flush with the rear face of the standard F. The standard is provided with a T-flange V at the rear, as shown in Fig. 3, and this flange is cut away at the points *b*, Fig. 2, so as to reduce its width, and immediately below the recess, at the point *c*, the flange is made tapering, as also shown in Fig. 2. After the foot-board has been inserted in the recess we lock it in place by means of a clamp, shown at L, (Figs. 1 and 2,) this clamp being of a suitable length to extend over the recess in the standard, its ends being provided with flanges on each edge, and these flanges are adapted to engage and grip the edges of the flanges upon the standard. The clamp is located in position by engaging its lower end with the flanges of the standard at the bottom of the recess, and at this point the upper end is in line with the reduced portion *b* of the flange V, which at this point is of less width than the opening between the overhanging edges of the upper end of the clamp, and thus it readily engages with the flanges, and as the clamp-piece is moved downward the parts are securely locked and there is no danger of displacement. No screws or other fastening devices are necessary, but instantly the board is securely fastened.

In order to take up any slackness or looseness that there may be, we provide a wedge-seat *d* in the casting in one wall of the recess, as shown at T, and by driving a wedge in this seat the board is prevented from having any movement which might be caused by shrinkage or other reasons.

In Figs. 5, 6, and 7 we show a modified form of the fastening device. In this the standard is provided with a recess for the foot-board, and projecting from the rear of the standard are two ears *w*, and after the foot-board has been positioned in the recess a dowel S is passed through openings in the ears *w*, as shown in Fig. 5, and this prevents any displacement of the foot-board. The dowel is headed as shown. We may use with

this form the same wedge-piece as indicated at T.

Instead of making a recess in the standard, as shown in Fig. 5, the ears *w* may be prolonged to form small brackets of a sufficient depth to receive the foot-board and dowel for holding it in place.

What we claim is—

1. In combination with a standard having a recess in its rear and adapted to receive the foot-board, a holding device for closing the open side of said recess, and a wedge-piece located between the foot-board and the standard, substantially as described.

2. In combination with the standard hav-

ing a recess in its rear adapted to receive the foot-board, flanges upon said standard above and below the recess, said flanges having reduced portions, and a holding-bar for closing the open side of the recess having flanges adapted to grip the edges of the flanges upon the standard, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ALLEN D. LINN.
ROBERT W. IRWIN.

Witnesses:

L. T. GIBSON,
J. H. MEGREW.