

(No Model.)

J. W. RANKIN.
CHAIR.

No. 572,717.

Patented Dec. 8, 1896.

FIG. 1.

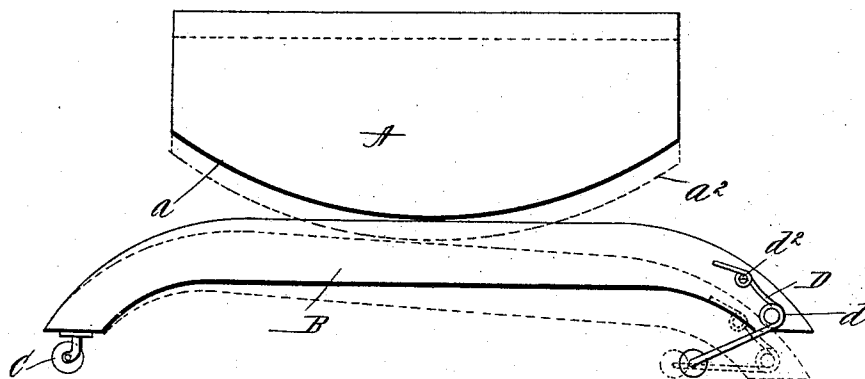


FIG. 2.

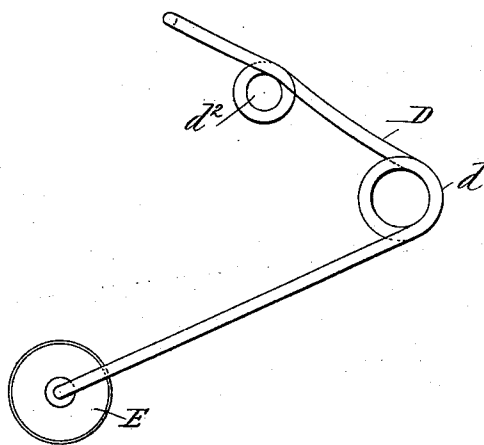
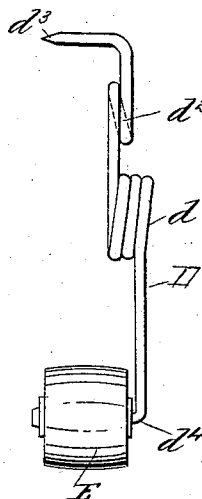


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES:

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JAMES W. RANKIN, OF DEEP RIVER, CONNECTICUT.

CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 572,717, dated December 8, 1896.

Application filed March 24, 1896. Serial No. 584,711. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. RANKIN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Deep River, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Chairs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to supports for rocking-chairs and similar articles of furniture; and the object thereof is to provide a chair or similar article having a base, the sides of which are convex on their lower surfaces and supported on side bars, the ends of which are curved downwardly, said side bars being provided at one end with a caster which is secured thereto in the usual manner, and at the opposite end thereof with a caster which is connected therewith by means of a spring.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the base of a chair and its supports; Fig. 2, a side view of one of the springs which I employ, and Fig. 3 a plan view thereof.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, A represents the side of the base of a chair, and the bottom thereof is convex, as shown at *a*, and provided on its inner side with a depending flange *a*², which is also convex in form, and at each side of the chair is placed a base-bar or support B, the ends of which are curved downwardly and the upper surface of which is practically straight.

The side bars B, but one of which is shown, may be connected in any desired manner and as usual in this class of devices, and the base A of the chair may be of any desired form or construction, and the rear ends of the side bars A are provided with ordinary casters or rollers C, and secured to the front end of the side thereof is a spring D, which consists of a strong spring-ring, one end of which is carried upwardly and backwardly and formed into another ring *d*², after which the end of the wire is passed backwardly and bent at

right angles, so as to form a prong *d*³, and the other end of which is carried downwardly and backwardly and bent at right angles to form a shaft, as shown at *d*⁴, on which is mounted a roller E.

The spring-wires D are secured to the ends of the side bars B in any desired manner, but preferably by pins or bolts passed through the spring-rings *d* and *d*² and by passing the prongs *d*³ through the side bars, and the operation will be readily understood from the foregoing description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

The springs D serve to support the front ends of the side bars above the floor and to constitute a yielding support therefor, and when the weight of the occupant of the chair is not entirely thrown thereon said front ends of the side bars B will yield with the motion of the chair, and a combined rocking and vertical motion or movement is thus produced.

My improved chair is simple in construction and operation and is much easier and more comfortable than an ordinary rocking-chair, and it is evident that changes in and modifications of the spring attachment of the side bars B may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention or sacrificing its advantages.

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

1. The combination with the base of a rocking-chair the sides of which are convex on their lower surface, of side bars, on which said base is supported, said side bars being provided at one end with casters or rollers which are secured thereto, and at the opposite ends with spring-supported casters or rollers, the supports for said casters or rollers consisting of strong wire springs which are bent centrally to form spring-rings, and one end of which is carried backwardly and downwardly, and provided with a roller, substantially as shown and described.

2. A support for rollers or casters adapted to be secured to chairs, or other articles, comprising a spring bent in the middle, to form a ring or rings and one end of which is carried backwardly and downwardly and pro-

vided with a roller, and the other being carried backwardly and upwardly and bent into a ring, beyond which the end of the spring is bent at right angles to the main portion thereof, substantially as shown and described.

5 In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in pres-

ence of the subscribing witnesses, this 18th day of March, 1896.

JAMES W. RANKIN.

Witnesses:

SAMUEL S. PARKER,
HANDEL N. PARKER.