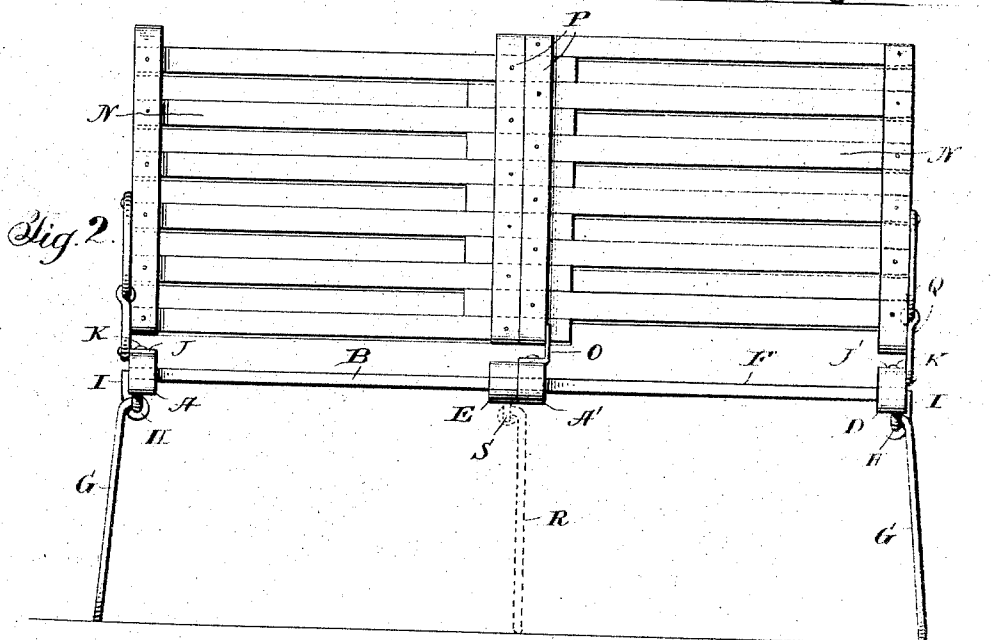


**966,891.**



Inventor:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## EXTENSIBLE SEAT OR THE LIKE.

966,891.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 9, 1910.

Application filed May 26, 1909. Serial No. 498,448.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIE DUDLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Extensible Seats or the Like, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

The present invention relates to an adjustable seat such as a chair, bench or the like, and has as its primary object the provision of a seat of the character just stated, which may be adjusted to change or alter the seating capacity.

While the invention contemplates a number of embodiments, a preferred construction of the improved seat includes a plurality of telescoping parts comprising the seat portion proper which parts when in collapsed condition will constitute a single seat and when extended will constitute an enlarged seat for the accommodation of two or more persons.

While a seat of the character involved herein has many advantages which are obvious, and is susceptible of a variety of different uses, the same will be found particularly useful as a seat for launches, boats, porches and the like, where it is desirable of utilizing the limited space in a most practical manner, and to this end the present seat is devised embodying as it does an extension and collapsible seat portion with supporting legs operable to firmly support the seat in any of its adjusted positions.

The invention further comprises in connection with an adjustable seat portion of the character described, an adjustable back portion operatively connected with the seat portion, and which itself is adjustable whereby an extended or contracted back rest cooperates with the seat portion substantially throughout the length of the latter in any of the adjusted positions of the seat portion.

Further the invention contemplates an extensible seat and back portion of a foldable or knock down type making it possible to fold the several parts including the back, seat and leg portions one upon the other in flat position.

Other improvements and the novel details in construction and arrangement of parts will be more particularly pointed out hereinafter in the detailed description, and in

the consideration of the latter, for a more clear understanding of the invention reference is respectfully directed to the accompanying sheet of drawings forming a part hereof, and wherein is shown a satisfactory embodiment of the invention for the purpose of illustration.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a front elevation of the seat in a closed or collapsed position; Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the parts in extended position; Fig. 3 is an end view; and Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the parts in folded or knock down position.

With more particular reference to the drawings like reference letters relate to corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The main seat portion or body frame comprises end supports A A', and a plurality of slats B extending therebetween. The slats B are preferably fitted to the end supports by engaging within a longitudinal slot C extending throughout a considerable portion of the length thereof. The slats are separated one from another providing spaces C', and may be secured in their separated positions by the application of glue or any suitable securing devices.

D is an end support for an extension seat portion, and may be similar to the end supports A A' just described, E being a like opposite end support for the slats F of the extension seat portion. The slats B and F are arranged in alternate relation so that they may telescope one with the other, the slats F for instance fitting within the spaces C' between the slats B. The slotted portions in the inner end supports A' and E and between the slats which are secured therein constitute guides for the slats of the other section. These end supports A' and E also comprise means for limiting the outward adjustment of the seat parts by contacting one with the other. The slats when in closed telescoping position will engage within the slots in the end frame members A and D between those slat members which are secured within said slotted portions. When the parts of the seat are in closed position the slats will not protrude beyond the outer surface of the outer frame supports A and D.

Projecting downwardly from the end support members A and D are supporting legs or rests G which are pivoted in any desired

manner as at H so as to swing upwardly and inwardly into a flat position against the under surface of the seat members.

Any desired means may be provided for limiting the outward swinging movement of the leg supports as for instance lugs I carried by the leg portions arranged to engage against the outer surface of the end supports A and D when the legs are in operative position.

The extensible back portion of the seat comprises a plurality of parts N and N, which are of substantially the same construction as the two seat parts above described and a particular description thereof is therefore unnecessary.

J and J' are bracket members secured in any desired manner as by bolts K to the upper surface of the end supports A and D, having upright portions L adapted to be pivotally secured as by pivots M to the outer surface of the outer ends N of the sections of the back portions. A similar bracket member O is secured to the upper surface of the inner end support A' of the seat portion and has a pivoted connection with the inner end portion P of the main section of the back. The parts are constructed and arranged so that the back sections may swing about their pivotal connections and rest upon the seat sections in any of the adjusted positions of the extensible sections of the seat and back. Auxiliary brace members for the back comprise hinged bracket arms pivotally secured to the outer end portions of the seat and back respectively. These bracket members are designated by the letter Q and also constitute means for limiting the outward swinging movement of the back.

The operation of the seat is obvious. Normally the seat and back portions are in collapsed or closed position and lie flat one upon the other with the leg supports folded up against the bottom of the seat portion when the article may be stored away in a very minute space. In use the leg portions G are swung about their pivotal connection into an upright position when the lugs I will engage the outer surface of the outer end supports A and D of the seat sections. In closed position the inner end supports of the seat and back sections will abut against the inner surface of the outer end supports of said sections, and the slats will contact one with another thus forming a substantially closed or solid seat and back of a very

neat appearance. In this position the seat and cooperating back may be of a size to accommodate one or more persons. Now should it be desired to accommodate the seat for more persons it is only necessary to grasp one of the end supporting frames of the seat and back and draw the same outwardly when the slats connected thereto will slide upon the cooperating slats of the auxiliary sections thereby providing an extended seating capacity which may be substantially double that which is the case when the sections are in closed position. The end supports of the seat and back portions may be curved as shown, as also the slots therein for the reception of the slats in order to provide a more comfortable seat. Again if desired an auxiliary swinging leg support R may be pivotally connected to one of the inner end frame supports of the seat as at S which is adapted to be swung down into position when the parts are extended to provide an additional leg intermediate the ends of the extended seat.

What I claim is:

An article of the character described comprising a foldable bench having a seat portion, of a plurality of sections longitudinally adjustable relative to each other, a back portion also of a plurality of sections similarly longitudinally adjustable relative to each other adapted to occupy a position approximately at right angles to the seat portion, sustaining connections for the adjoining inner ends of both the back and seat portions, hinge connections between the outer end of each of the back sections and the corresponding outer end of each of the seat sections and also between the inner end of one of the back sections and the corresponding inner end of one of the seat sections, said hinged sections permitting the back portion to fold upon or be opened from the seat portion in any position of adjustment of the latter, legs for the seat relatively shiftable in keeping with the adjustment of the seat, and means at the ends of the bench for preventing excessive opening movement of the back portion.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIE DUDLEY.

Witnesses:

G. B. HUNTER,  
LEITH BRENNER.