J. S. LEAS.

Reclining Chair.

No. 163,218. Patented May 11, 1875.

Fig. 1.

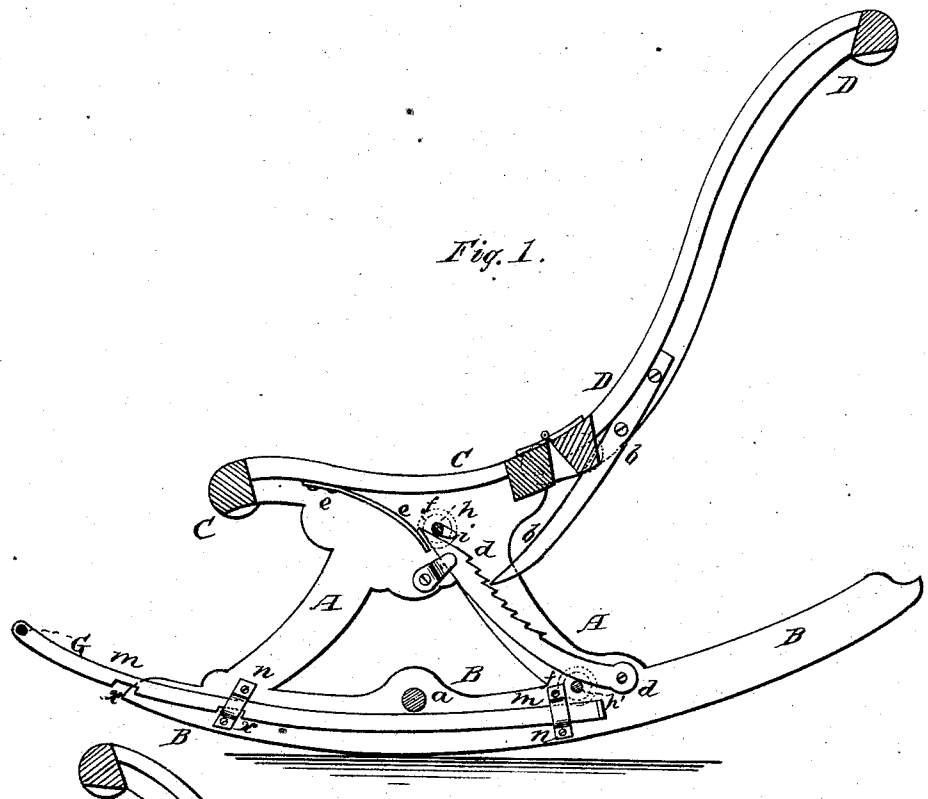
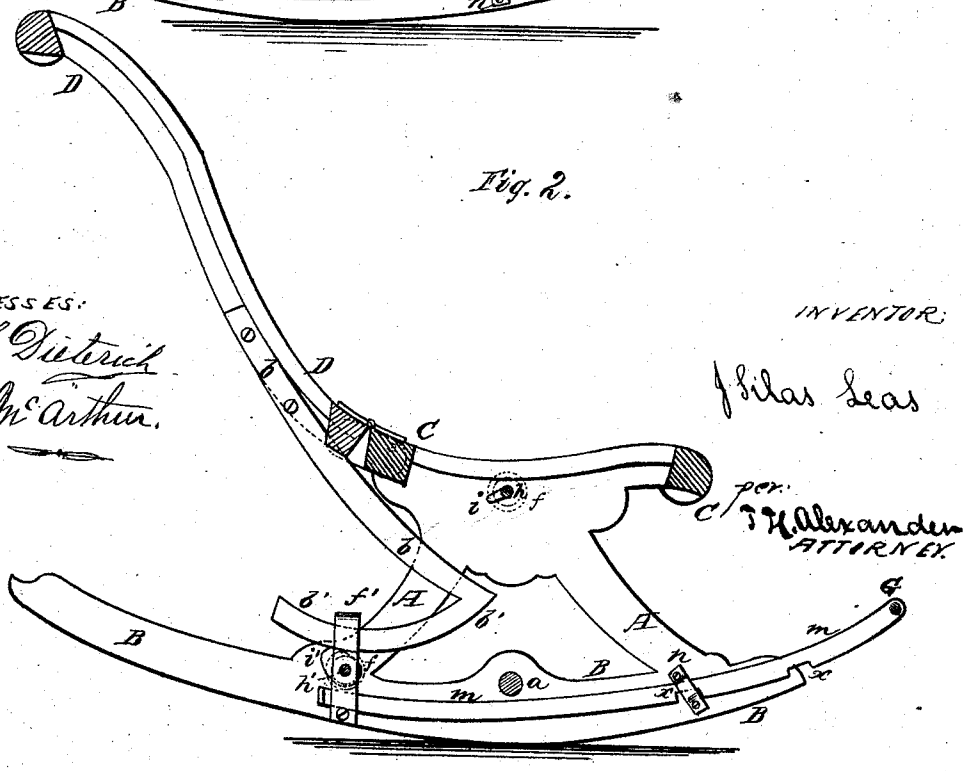


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

P. C. Dieterich

W. C. McArthur.

INVENTOR:

J. Silas Leas

per:

T. H. Alexander

ATTORNEY.

THE GRAPHIC CO. PHOTO-LITH. 39 & 41 PARK PLACE, N.Y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. SILAS LEAS, OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN RECLINING-CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,218**, dated May 11, 1875; application filed November 25, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. S. LEAS, of Rock Island, in the county of Rock Island and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Reclining-Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a reclining-chair, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 represent central vertical sections, showing opposite sides of my chair.

A A represent the side pieces of my chair, each being provided with a rocker, B, and made with said rocker either in one or more pieces, as desired. The side pieces A A are suitably connected to form the seat-frame C, and the rockers are connected about midway under the seat by a round, *a*. D represents the frame of the chair-back, hinged to the rear rail of the seat-frame C. From each side of the back frame D, on the inner side, projects a curved metal bar, *b*, downward and forward, the lower end of which bar is pointed, and takes into a ratchet-bar, *d*. This ratchet-bar is pivoted at its lower rear end to the inner side of the side piece or rocker, and its upper end is held in position by means of a spring, *e*. Immediately above the upper ends of the curved ratchet-bars *d d*, and through the side pieces A A, passes a shaft, *h*, provided on one or both ends with a knob, *f*, and near each end it is provided with a lug or projection, *i*. By turning the shaft *h* by means of the knob *f* the lugs *i* will press the ratchet-bars *d d* away from the ends of the bars *b b*, so as to allow of the back D being lowered, and as soon as the pressure is removed from the shaft *h* the springs *e* throw the rack-bars *d* into position again, and thus the back D may be adjusted and held at any angle desired.

It will readily be seen that the back D can be raised without the use of the shaft *h* and its lugs *i* simply by taking hold of it and lifting it up. It is only for lowering the back that the shaft *h* need to be used.

In place of the above-described device for adjusting the back D, the bar *b* may have a curved or segmental extension, *b'*, projecting toward the rear, and passing through a loop, *f'*, said segmental bars being held at any point desired by means of eccentrics *i'*, made fast on a shaft, *h'*.

G represents a foot-rest, which is attached at its ends to the front ends of two curved bars, *m m*, which pass through guide-loops *n n*, attached to the inner sides of the rockers B B, so that the foot-rest can be drawn out more or less, and project any desired distance in front of the chair. It is held firmly in the desired position by means of notches *x x*, made in the lower edges of the bars *m m*, to catch on the loops *n*. This foot-rest may be applied to any reclining or invalid chair, whether of the construction above described or any other.

I am well aware that it is not new to regulate the hinged back of a reclining-chair by means of a pawl and ratchet, and then I shall confine myself to my special arrangement of devices for this purpose.

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

1. The combination, with the chair-frame A B C and hinged back D, of the bars *b*, hinged or pivoted ratchet-bars *d*, and springs *e*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The shaft *h*, provided with lugs or projections *i i* and knob *f*, or its equivalent, in combination with the pivoted ratchet-bars *d*, springs *e*, and bars *b*, as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

J. SILAS LEAS.

Witnesses:
ELLSWORTH MAPES,
C. M. YANGON.