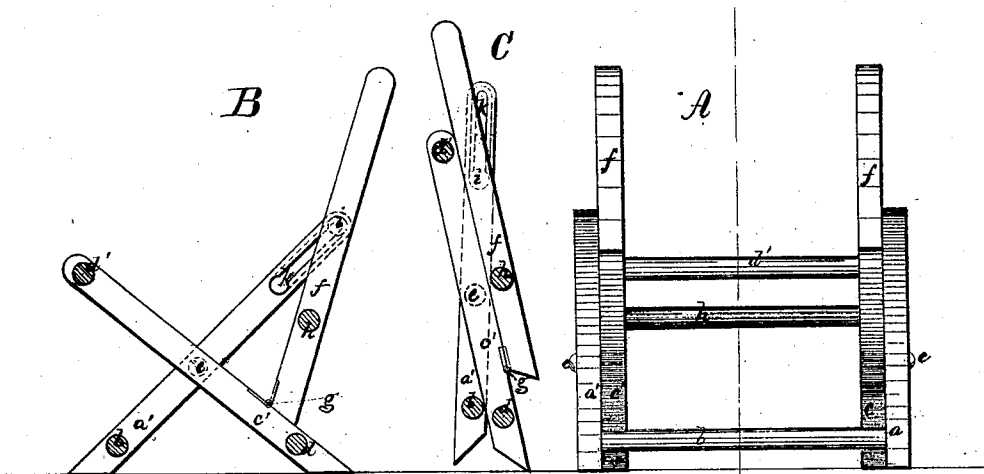


A. W. Stewart,

Folding Chair.

No. 102,179.

Patented Apr. 19, 1870.



Witnesses { *S. B. Kidder.*
W. W. Frothingham.

Alexander W. Stewart
by his atty.
Crosby, Hoarsted & Gould,

United States Patent Office.

ALEXANDER W. STEWART, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 102,179, dated April 19, 1870.

IMPROVED FOLDING CHAIR

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER W. STEWART, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented Improvements in Folding Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

My invention relates particularly to the construction of folding chairs of that class in which a folding back and two pairs of crossing and folding legs are employed.

My improvement consists in combining with two frames (formed by the two pairs of crossing legs and their connecting-stretchers) a third or back-frame, the two posts of which are hinged at bottom to two opposite legs, and are connected above to the other legs by a pin on each post entering a groove in the leg, or *vice versa*, in such manner that the folding of the leg-frames folds the back-frame against them, so that the three members on each side of the chair are compactly closed together.

This chair is designed principally for what is known as a camp-chair or stool, extensively used on steam-boats and in parks and similar public places; the seat and back being formed of flexible webbing, though my construction is also applicable to chairs having rigid folding seats.

The drawing represents the frame-work of a chair embodying my improvement, the addition of the webbing being alone necessary to complete the chair.

A shows the chair-frame in front elevation.

B is a vertical section of the open chair.

C, a similar section of the folded chair.

a a' denote two of the legs, constituting, with the stretcher *b*, one frame, which crosses and is pivoted to the other frame, composed of the legs *c c'* and stretchers *d d'*, the two frames being pivoted together by pins *e*, and, so far as they alone are concerned, closing together the same as in many other folding chairs.

Behind the pivots each leg *c c'* has pivoted or hinged to it a post or upright, *f*, (preferably hinged, as seen at *g*), the two posts *f* being connected by a stretcher, *h*, and thus constituting a rigid frame. The frame inclines rearward from the legs, as seen at B, and from the outer side of each post a pin, *i*, projects, this pin extending into a groove, *k*, in the inner face of the adjacent leg *a* or *a'*.

When the chair is open, the two pins are at the tops of their respective grooves, and any tendency of the legs to spread further is arrested by the pins abutting at the tops of the grooves.

When the legs are folded, the legs *a a'*, in their inward movement, push in the posts *f*, which, turning on their hinges or pivots, fold closely up against the legs *b b'*; as seen at C, the pins *i* sliding freely in the grooves *k*.

This arrangement of parts forms an exceedingly compact chair for packing, while the disposition of the back-frame for an open chair is such as to render it very rigid and enduring, the hinging of the posts at the bottom to the legs *b b'*, and the connection of the legs *a a'* and posts *f*, near the tops of the legs *a a'*, bracing the frame very strongly for supporting the back of the sitter.

It will be obvious that the pins may be on the legs and the grooves in the posts, and that the pins and grooves may be otherwise, somewhat differently arranged, though the arrangement shown is a very effective one.

It will also be obvious that a rigid seat may rest upon the stretcher *h*, and so as to drop behind the stretcher *h* when the chair is folded.

I claim a folding chair, having, in combination with the crossing pivoted legs, a back-frame, hinged to the legs *c c'*, as seen at *g*, and connected to and operated by the legs *a a'*, by means of slots *k* and pins *i*, as shown and described.

ALEXR. W. STEWART.

Witnesses:

J. B. CROSBY,
FRANCIS GOULD.