(No Model.)

J. H. WOODMAN.

SEAT AND BACK OF CHAIRS, SETTEES, CAR SEATS, &c.

No. 271,757. Patented Feb. 6, 1883.

Fig. 1.

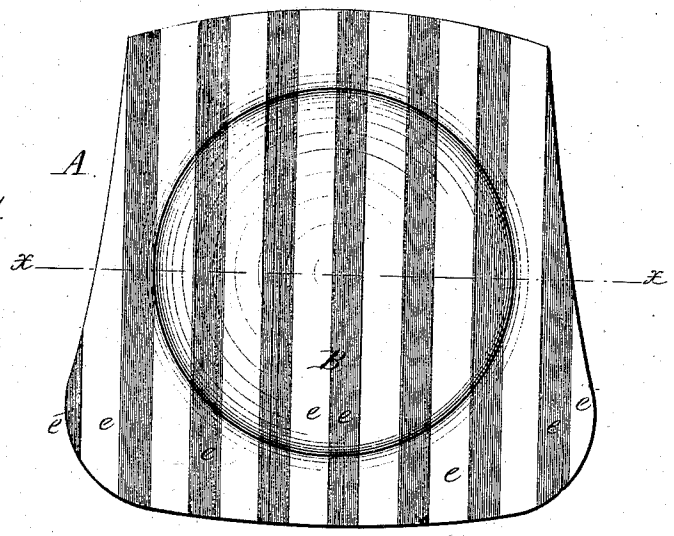


Fig. 2.

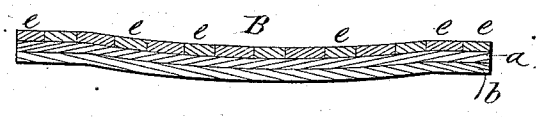


Fig. 4

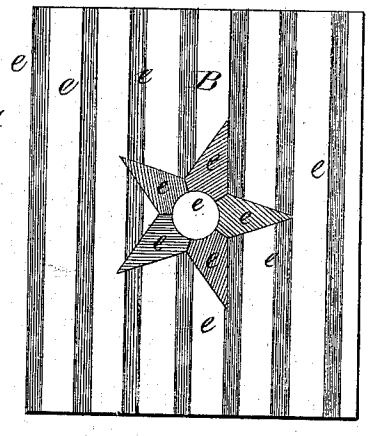
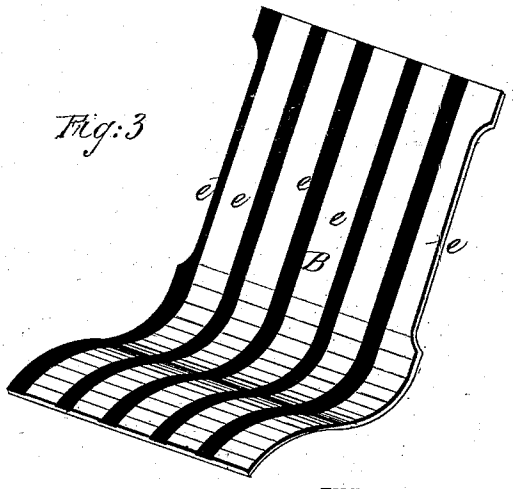


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOEL H. WOODMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SEAT AND BACK OF CHAIRS, SETTEES, CAR-SEATS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,757, dated February 6, 1883.

Application filed April 3, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOEL H. WOODMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Seats and Backs of Chairs, Settees, Car-Seats, &c., of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in that class of seats or backs for chairs which are composed of an inflexible foundation and a surface sheet of veener glued or cemented thereto.

Heretofore in the manufacture of said seats or backs for chairs a foundation has been ordinarily made by arranging two sheets of wood with their grain running in different directions, and gluing or cementing them together. A smooth surface is then given to said foundation by gluing thereto a thin solid sheet of veneer. Afterward the whole seat or back was submitted to heavy pressure, and thereby molded or shaped into any desired form. When the glue had become dry the seat or back was removed from the press, and when perfect was ready for use; but in this process of shaping the surface veneer (owing to flaws or too great strain) often split, and thus left a crack or ragged edge, which unfitted the article for use. In such case the only remedy left was to strip off the whole cracked sheet of veneer and substitute therefor a perfect sheet. The cracked sheet was then cast aside as useless, and in this way a vast amount of material was lost and the cost of manufacture greatly enhanced. Moreover, a whole new sheet of veneer was also required should the surface be fractured at any time subsequent to the manufacture of the seat.

The object of my improvement is to avoid these difficulties and to so construct chair seats or backs as that no part of the surface veneer may be wasted in the manufacture, and (in case of any subsequent injury to said surface veneer) that repairs may be readily and cheaply made.

My invention consists in constructing the surfaces of said chair seats or backs of parallel strips or blocks of veneer glued together at their edges and attached in like manner to an inflexible foundation.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a top view of my improved chair-seat; Fig. 2, a transverse section of the same on line *x x* of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a perspective view of a combined seat and back, and Fig. 4 a seat in which the pieces of veneer forming the surface are arranged in an ornamental design.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the views.

The sheets of wood *a b* are arranged with the grain of one at right angles with that of the other, and are glued or cemented together. This forms the foundation of the seat or back, and is an old device. A layer of glue or cement is then spread upon the upper sheet and the surface B is applied. This surface consists of very thin strips or blocks *e* of veneer, which, after having glue or cement spread upon their edges, are placed in close juxtaposition upon the top of the foundation *a b*. The whole is then subjected to pressure and molded or shaped to such configuration as may be desired. When the adhesive material used has set or become dry the article is removed and ready for use.

It will be seen that by the use of blocks or strips of veneer, instead of whole solid sheets of the same, the danger of splitting the surface is almost if not entirely avoided. At the same time the very smallest pieces of veneer are utilized, and all waste in the manufacture thereby avoided. Furthermore, should one of the strips or blocks be injured at any time, that particular strip or block may be disconnected from the adjacent ones, ripped off, and another substituted therefor without interfering with any other part of the surface. It may be added that by the use of these strips or blocks any fanciful or ornamental design may be worked upon the seat or back.

I am aware that in the construction of chair seats and backs the use of strips of wood joined at their edges is not broadly new. I am also aware that chair-seats have been constructed of two or more solid sheets of veneer glued together, and that slits or slots have been formed in said seats. I am furthermore aware that strips and blocks of veneer glued to flexible backs have been used for floor and wall coverings. I therefore disclaim all said inventions; but

What I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In seats or backs for chairs, the combina-

tion, with an inflexible foundation, of parallel adjacent strips or blocks of veneer, glued to said foundation and to each other, as and for the purposes described.

2. As an article of manufacture, a chair seat or back consisting of an inflexible veneer foundation, *a b*, and a surface of parallel and adjacent strips or blocks of veneer, *e*, glued to said foundation and to each other, as and for the purposes set forth.

JOEL H. WOODMAN.

Witnesses:
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