Mason & Downe,

Folding Chair.

No. 67,780. Patented Aug. 13, 1867.

Fig. 4.

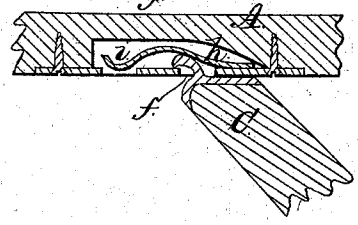


Fig. 1.

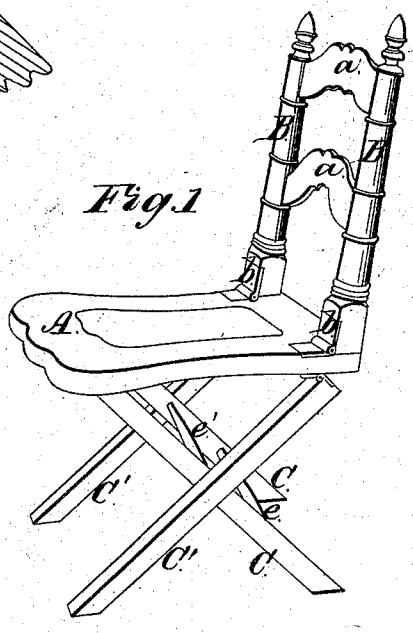


Fig. 3.

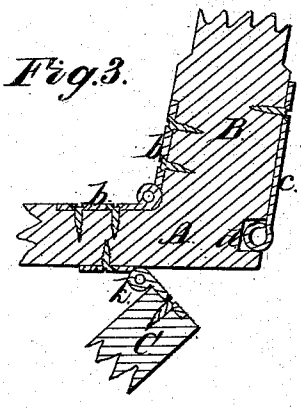
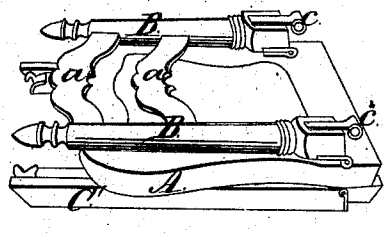


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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By T. W. Porter. Their Atty

United States Patent Office.

STILLMAN E. MASON AND EMERSON DOWNE, OF BANGOR, MAINE.

Letters Patent No. 67,780, *dated August* 13, 1867.

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 we, S. E. MASON and EMERSON DOWNE, of Bangor, in the county of Penobscot, and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful or improved Folding Chair; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the chair expanded.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the chair folded.

Figure 3 is a detached vertical section, showing the connection of the back and legs to the back part of the seat, and

Figure 4 is also a detached vertical section showing the adjustable connection of the legs to the front part of the seat when the chair is expanded.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The nature of our invention consists in a chair constructed with a seat of any desired form, to which the pillars of the back are hinged, and provided with self-acting catches to secure the pillars when expanded, the chair resting upon four legs pivoted together at their centres, one pair being hinged to the rear part of the seat, and the other pair being provided with catches by which to secure them to the front part of the seat in such manner as to hold the chair expanded when required for use; the whole folding into a compass equal to the solid contents of the several parts.

In the drawings, A represents the seat, B B are the pillars of the back, which are connected together by the bars *a a'*. These pillars are hinged to the seat by the hinges *b b*, while the springs *c c*, which, at their upper end are secured to the pillars, and are formed with a small round eye at their lower end, by catching into the recesses *d* in the back end of the seat, hold the pillars in position when they are raised. And owing to the construction of the springs the pillars may be folded down by slight pressure, the springs releasing themselves from the recesses. C C and C′ C′ are the legs upon which the chair rests; the legs C′ C′ are hinged to the back part of the seat at *k*, while the legs C C connect with the seat only when the chair is expanded, as is shown at *j*, fig. 4. The catch *f*, which is rigidly attached to the leg, being inserted in one of the slots *j* in the plate *g*, is held by the spring *h*, which is inserted in the recess *i*. This catch may be released by slight pressure in the right direction, but is so constructed that pressure upon the seat has no tendency to release it. By forming two slots *j* in the plate *g* different angles may be given to the seat to suit the wishes of the user, or to compensate for the inequalities of surface when used for out-door purposes. The rods *e* and *e′* unite and strengthen the legs C C, and the rod *e′* serves as the pivot upon which the two pairs of legs move when the chair is folded. By dispensing with the back, which includes pillars B B and bars *a a*, then the seat and legs constitute a strong and compact "camp-stool," while the addition of the back renders the chair suitable for all purposes of a seat.

This invention possesses the merit of lightness, strength, durability, compactness, simplicity, ease of adjustment, and cheapness; besides, its principle allows a wide range of style, from the plainest camp-stool to a rich parlor chair.

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

The folding chair as constructed with seat A, the hinged and pivoted legs C C and C′ C′, and the hinged back B B, all arranged to operate relatively to each other substantially in manner as described and shown.

STILLMAN E. MASON,
EMERSON DOWNE.

Witnesses:
H. L. MITCHELL,
CYRUS ADAMS.