

J. F. DOWNING.
Children's Chairs.

No. 146,888.

Patented Jan. 27, 1874.

Fig. 1.

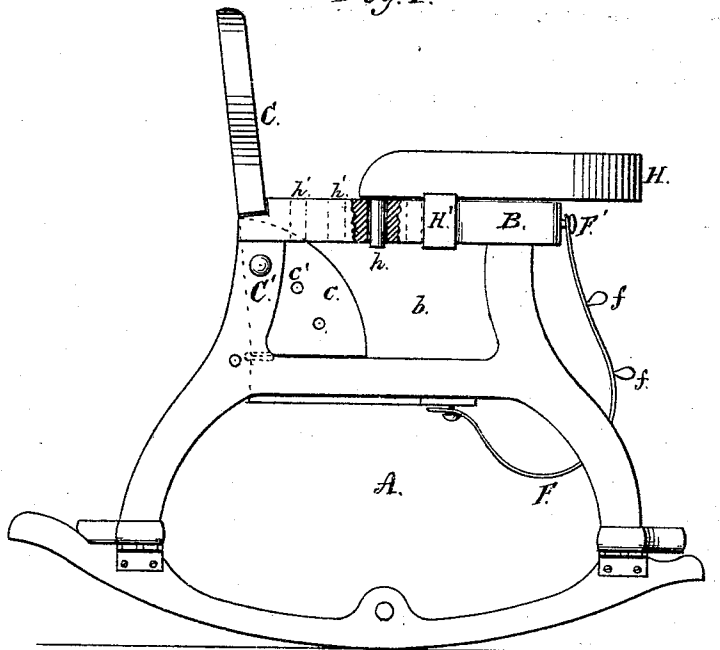
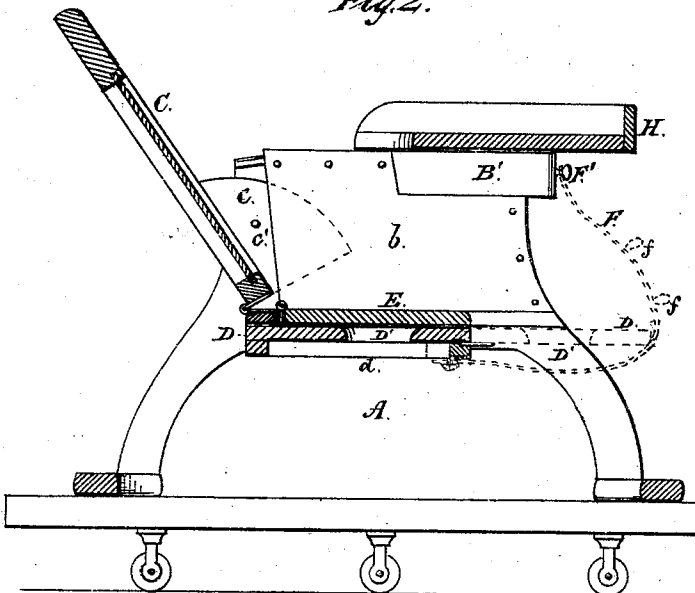


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEROME F. DOWNING, OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHILDREN'S CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 146,888, dated January 27, 1874; application filed August 11, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEROME F. DOWNING, of the city and county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Children's Chairs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view.

My present invention is an improvement on the children's chairs embraced in and covered by Letters Patent Nos. 138,620 and 140,900, and issued to me, respectively, May 6 and July 15, 1873.

The combination which constitutes the first feature of my present invention, and which relates to the means whereby the attendant is enabled at any instant to convert the chair into a lounge, embraces a hinged back, as claimed in my Patent No. 138,620, a hinged seat or cushion, and a sliding lid or leaf. This latter feature is provided with an opening at its center, and which, simply by raising the seat, permits of its being used in connection with a suitable vessel as a child's necessary-chair. My invention also consists in providing the chair with a cloth or carpet boot, which protects the limbs of a child wearing short clothes, and supports and holds free from the floor the skirts of a child wearing long clothes; and this boot is a positive advantage, as the coldest air in the room is always near the floor.

The construction and operation of my invention are as follows:

A is a child's chair, and is constructed of any suitable material, the frame-work and hinged rockers having rollers on their inner surface, &c., being all substantially similar to the chair described in my Patent No. 138,620, and before referred to. B B' are the arms of the chair, and may be provided with inner facings or side pieces *b b*, as shown in Fig. 2. When these side pieces are used, they must be relatively so arranged in connection with the arms B B' as to allow of the passage between their outer faces and the inner faces of the arms of the curved bearing-plates *c c* of the back C. This back C is hinged, as described in my Patent No. 138,620, and is provided with

bearing-plates *c c* at its sides, whose curved faces permit of their ready passage in and withdrawal from behind the facings or linings *b b* of the arms. Near the upper section of these bearings *c c* are a series of holes, *c' c'*, which, in connection with the bolts C' C', passing through openings at the rear of the arms, provide a means of fastening the back, and permit of its being secured in an upright position, as shown at Fig. 1, or of its being adjusted and held at any desired angle of inclination, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. D is a leaf or slide, which is under the cushion E, and rests and slides on suitable recessed cleats or bearings *d d*, secured on the under surface of the section of the frame which supports the seat. This leaf or slide is provided with an opening, D, at its center, which permits of its being used in connection with any suitable vessel as a child's necessary-chair. E is a hinged cushion, and is in all respects similar to the cushion shown in my Patent No. 138,620, excepting that it is hinged to be lifted toward the back, instead of toward the front, of the chair, as in that patent, and is so arranged in connection with the sliding leaf D that the chair can be converted into a lounge without lifting the seat, as the sliding leaf is extended or thrown out to support the limbs of the child, instead of the cushion, as in my former patent.

With this arrangement, supposing the child to fall asleep while sitting in the chair, the same being in an upright position, as shown in Fig. 1, to convert the chair into a lounge you simply have to withdraw the bolts C' C' and lower the back, fastening it at any desired point, and then draw out the sliding leaf D to support the lower limbs of the child; all of which is done without moving or in the slightest degree disturbing the child. Of course, when the leaf D is drawn out, in order to render it comfortable for the child, the opening D' should be suitably covered.

This chair also can be used as a walking-chair by throwing up the cushion E, and drawing out the sliding leaf D, as then all the interior frame of the chair is open and unobstructed, as in my former patents.

Having thus fully described the arrangement of hinged back, cushion, and sliding leaf, and explained how, without removing the child, he

chair can readily be converted into a lounge, I will now briefly describe the other features connected with my improvement.

F is a "boot," and may be constructed of carpet or any other suitable material. One end of this boot is attached to the section of the frame-work of the chair which supports the seat, and the other end is fastened, by loops *f f*, to buttons or other bearings *F' F'*, inserted at the front faces of the arms, as clearly shown in the drawing. This boot is provided at its sides with a series of these loops, which permit of its being let out or taken up, as occasion requires, so as to accommodate itself to children of different ages. The table H is provided with a swivel-pin bearing, *h*, and a check-plate, *H'*. In the face of the arm B is a series of socket-bearings, *h'*, and into either of which the swivel-pin *h* can be inserted, and which not only provides a means of its ready adjustment, but also furnishes such a bearing as allows of its being swung round in front or held at the

side, as the pleasure of the occupant or attendant may desire. When swung around in front of the chair, it is prevented from being carried beyond a given point by the check-plate *H'*; and when in position at the front of the chair, it can be fastened by the ordinary hook and eye.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The hinged back C, sliding leaf D, and hinged cushion E, constructed, combined, and arranged to operate substantially as described.

2. In combination with a child's chair, the boot F, arranged to operate substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JEROME F. DOWNING.

Witnesses:

EDWIN A. SIMONDS,
S. D. C. LANGLEY.