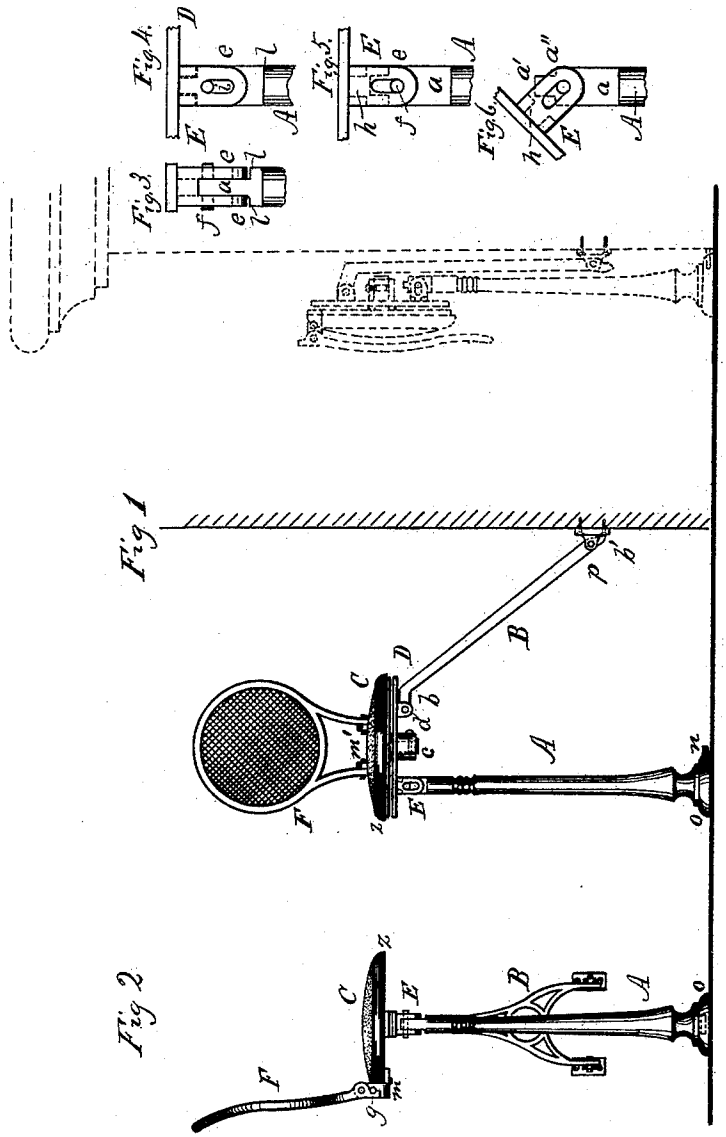
(No Model.)

E. W. BARBER & A. OSTEMAN.

FOLDING STOOL.

No. 394,325. Patented Dec. 11, 1888.



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ELIJAH W. BARBER AND ALBERT OSTEMAN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK; SAID BARBER ASSIGNOR TO SAID OSTEMAN.

FOLDING STOOL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 394,325, dated December 11, 1888.

Application filed October 22, 1887. Serial No. 253,100. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ELIJAH W. BARBER and ALBERT OSTEMAN, citizens of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Stools; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a folding stool or seat adapted for convenient use in stores or restaurants, along counters, in cars, churches, and many other places, the construction being such that it may be readily and securely adjusted in position for the accommodation of persons to be seated—as salesmen, purchasers, passengers, &c.—or, when not in use, may be neatly folded up and placed back out of the way under the edge of the counter or against the wall.

The object of the invention is to provide a more simple, neat, and effective construction of folding stool at reduced expense and adapt it for more general and popular use than heretofore attained by such devices; but few parts are used in our improved folding stool, and the construction is such that they may be conveniently and quickly adjusted, and are quite secure and safe in use.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation in full lines of the stool in position for use, and in dotted lines folded up and set back against the counter. Fig. 2 represents a front elevation. Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6 represent detail views, on an enlarged scale, of the upper portion of the post or standard and the slotted hinge-connection of the seat.

The post or standard A is provided with an enlarged base, *o*, having secured to its inner edge a piece of rubber or leather, *n*, to prevent the counter or wall from being defaced, and at the top with shoulders *l* and a tongue or tenon, *a*, which latter is provided with an angular projection, *a'*, extending from its end, and with lateral shoulders *a''* to receive slotted hinge E. The seat C, which may be suitably cushioned and covered with cloth or leather, is preferably connected centrally by a swivel-joint composed of a socket, *c*, attached to or cast with the platform-bar and a pintle attached to the seat, which pintle is held in place by a pin placed transversely through one side of the socket and working in an annular groove in pintle to platform D, and such platform is connected to and supported by standard A and brace-bar B, as follows:

The slotted hinge E is secured by a top plate or lug to the under side of platform D, and has the downwardly-projecting ears *e*, having a suitable slot or opening between them to receive tenon *a*. They also have elliptical or elongated openings *i* extending transversely through them for the passage of pivotal bolt *f*. Tenon *a* is provided with the ordinary bolt-hole. An angular-shaped socket, *h*, projects up from the slot, between ears *e* into the body of hinge E, and is made of suitable shape and size to receive projection *a*. Shoulders *h* are also provided for resting upon shoulders *a''* of tenon *a*. The slotted hinge E is secured to platform D in front of its center, the bolt *f* having heads or nuts to connect it to post A.

Lug *d* is secured to platform D back of its center, and there is pivoted to it the outwardly-bent end *b* of brace-bar B. The lower end, *b'*, of bar B is beveled or cut obliquely, so as to act as a stop when the bar is let down, and just above the beveled end the bar is pivoted to lugs *p*, projecting from a cast plate, which is secured to the lower part of the counter or wall to hold bar B.

The folding back F is pivoted to lugs *m'*, projecting from a block or plate, *m*, secured to one edge of the seat, and a stop, *g*, at the lower end of the back makes contact with a pin or lug on block *m* when the back is raised to support it in the desired position. When out of use, the back is turned down over the seat, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

Our construction and connection of parts provide for connecting the seat to the platform by a swivel-joint, which is often most desirable; but evidently the seat could be rigidly secured to the platform, where a cheaper

construction is preferred. Though the projection a' and socket h are preferably angular and of about the form shown, they may be conical or cylindrical. When the seat is let down into position for use, the projection and socket prevent it from falling down when the weight is brought upon its outer edge, z. Though the slotted hinge E is here shown as attached to the seat-platform, we propose to also attach it to the standard, while a suitable tenon with projection to fit into the socket is secured to the seat-platform, thus reversing the position of parts shown in the drawings. This latter arrangement of parts is to be understood as falling within our invention.

The slotted hinge, with socket and projection, forms a slip-joint, which permits proper play and adjustment of parts and yet suitably connects the seat with the standard, and this slip-joint may be modified in various ways, so long as a socket and a corresponding projection for fitting into it are retained, without departing from our invention. With a socket provided on either the seat or standard, and a corresponding projection for fitting into it provided on the other part, and a suitable connecting link or links the seat can be supported upon its standard or released therefrom and folded up.

When it is desired to fold the seat, it is raised and released from shoulders a'' and projection a' and tilted downward, the back is turned down, and at the same time the standard and bar B are pushed back against the counter or wall, and the seat assumes the vertical position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1. The elliptical openings i in ears e permit free play and easy adjustment of the parts; but any suitable link or links connecting the socket part with the tenon and projection fitting the socket may be used.

Having described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a folding stool supported by a hinged standard and a hinged brace, the combination of a platform-bar, a slotted connecting-hinge, a socket, and a projecting end of standard having shoulders and a tenon to fit said socket, as described.

2. In a folding stool supported by a hinged standard and a hinged brace, the combination of a platform-bar having ears or lugs depending at each end, a socket to receive vertical pintle on which seat revolves, a socket to receive tenoned end of standard, a hinge for brace-bar, and a slotted hinge forming a slip-joint for standard, as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ELIJAH W. BARBER.
ALBERT OSTEMAN.

Witnesses:
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