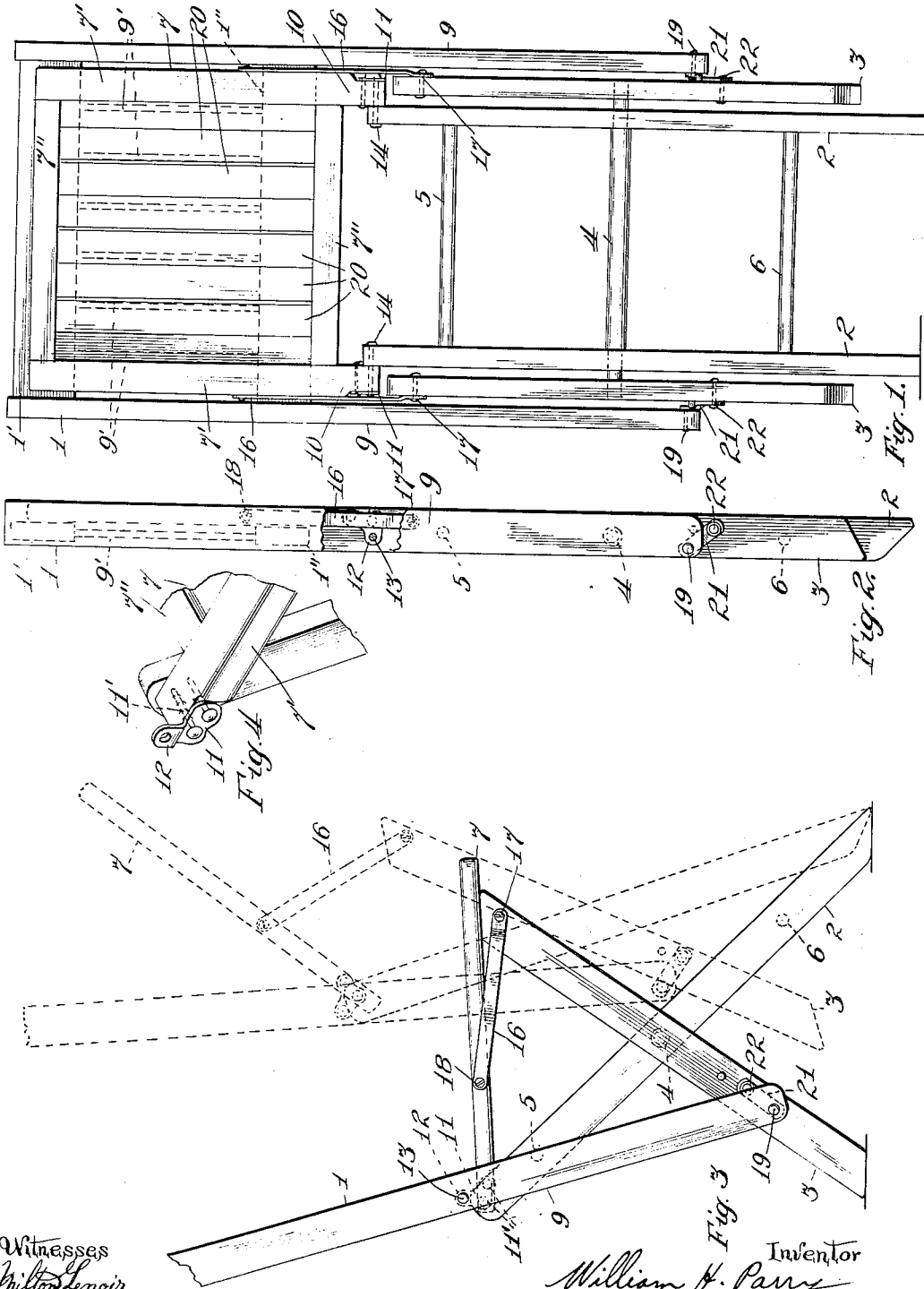


W. H. PARRY.
FOLDING CHAIR.

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FOLDING CHAIR.

1,056,210.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. PARRY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Kenosha, county of Kenosha, and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in folding chairs and has among its salient objects to provide a construction which can be easily opened or closed, and which while relatively light is characterized by its ability to stand excessive weight or strains; to provide a construction of the character referred to which has a relatively wide base, *i. e.*, the distance between the front and rear legs in extended position, whereby it is non-tipping even though all the weight is applied to the front edge of the seat and none on the back edge; to provide a construction which may be tilted back by the user as are ordinary chairs without causing the chair to fold up and without straining the weaker connecting parts; to provide a construction in which the strain and weight is borne by the seat and legs instead of by the back and pivotal connections; to provide a construction which will open and close without any danger of binding, which can be folded flat into a relatively small space and which is not affected in its operation by warping; to provide a construction which while embodying the features and advantages above mentioned may nevertheless be built from short light scrap pieces of lumber which is an important commercial advantage in a device of this character; and in general to provide an improved construction of the character referred to.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a front elevation of the chair in folded position; Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the view in Fig. 1, with parts broken away, and other parts shown in dotted lines; Fig. 3 shows the chair in open position in full lines and in partly closed position in dotted lines; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary detail showing the manner of connecting the seat to the side rails of the back frame.

Referring to the drawings—1 designates the back comprising side rails, the lower

ends of which serve as braces for the back, transversely extending bars 1' and 1'' and vertically extending slats 9' connected at their upper end lower ends to the transverse bars 1' and 1''.

2 designates the front legs and 3 the rear legs which are pivotally connected intermediate their ends by a main rung or dowel pin 4. The lower ends of these legs are preferably beveled as shown in Fig. 3 so that the chair will be more effectively braced against slipping and at the same time rest more firmly on the floor. For purposes of added strength the front legs 2 are provided with upper and lower rungs or dowels 5 and 6 respectively.

The seat 7 comprises side bars 7' cross bars 7'' and central slats 20. The side bars 7' of the seat have rearwardly extending extensions or lugs 10 which are pivotally secured to the side rails 9 in such a way that the seat is slightly spaced away at either side from the side rails 9 to permit the seat to be opened and folded without binding. To this end brackets 11 are fastened as shown at 11' to the outer edges of the extensions 10. Each of these brackets is provided with an upstanding offset ear 12 which is pivoted by a pin 13 to the inner face of the adjacent rail, 9.

The inner edges of the lugs 10 of the seat are pivotally connected by bolts 14 to the upper ends of the front legs 2. In order that the rear legs 3 may swing to folded position with the seat, short metal links or straps 16 are pivoted as shown at 17 to the upper ends of the rear legs 3 and also to the side bars 7' of the seat, as shown at 18. These links 16 are merely connections for swinging the rear legs to closed position and are not intended to assist in supporting the weight on the seat of the chair.

It will be noted that the side rails 9 project some distance below the main body of the back and at their lower ends are pivotally secured to offset link 21 by pins 19. The other end of the links 21 are pivoted to the rear legs 3 so that they will swing the back member into alinement with the seat when the latter is folded. To prevent the link 21 from swinging too far when the chair is folded, I provide short pins 21' secured to the rear legs 3.

As will be seen in Figs. 1 and 2 the legs and seat lie between the side rails 9 of the

back when the chair is folded and in this position the parts are all in substantially the same plane, the side rails 9 being of about the same width as the combined width of the slats 9' and the seat 7. When the chair is in open position the weight on the seat is borne by the legs and central dowel and there is no downward strain on the back members. It will be further noted that while the back is inclined at the proper angle for comfort the lower ends of the legs are spread relatively far apart so as to obtain a wide base; accordingly when the chair is open, the back is more nearly vertical than the legs.

The chair is opened or folded by merely swinging the seat into the desired position.

The invention is not limited to the details of construction shown except as set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a folding chair, the combination with front and rear legs, a dowel-member pivotally connecting the central portion of said legs, a seat having a rearwardly extending lug at either side, pivotal connections between the upper end of the front leg and the inner sides of said lugs, a bracket-member secured to the outer side of each lug, each bracket-member having an offset ear portion, a back-member having a main body portion and a pair of side rails, pivotal connections between said side rails and said ears, said side rails projecting a considerable distance below the plane of the seat, links pivotally connecting the lower ends of said side rails to the lower portions of the rear leg, and other links pivotally connected at one end to the upper parts of the rear legs and at their other ends to the seat at points intermediate the front and rear edges of the latter, the seat being disconnected from but supported by the rear legs at its front edge when in open position and the parts of said chair lying in substantially the same plane when in folded position.

2. In a folding chair, the combination with front and rear legs pivotally connect-

ed intermediate their ends, a seat pivotally connected at its rear edge to the upper end of the front legs, a back member having a pair of elongated side rails, pivotal connections between the rear edge of said seat and an intermediate portion of said side rails, pivotal connections between the lower ends of said side rails and the lower portion of said rear legs, links pivotally connected at one end to the upper part of the rear legs and at their other ends to the sides of the seat at points intermediate the front and rear edges of the latter, means for limiting the folding movement of said parts, said legs, seat and back lying in substantially the same plane when in folded position.

3. A folding chair comprising a pair of straight front legs; a pair of short straight rear legs straddling the front legs and pivoted thereto at approximately the mid length of each pair; a flat seat frame having a rearwardly extending lug at either side; pivots connecting the upper ends of the front legs to the inner surfaces of said lugs; brackets secured to the outer surfaces of said lugs, each bracket having an outwardly offset ear; a straight back frame embodying side rails; pivot pins connecting said ears to said side rails intermediate their length; links pivoted at one end to the lower ends of said side rails and at the other end to the rear legs below the point of connection to the front legs; other links pivoted at one end to the upper ends of the rear legs and at the other end to the side bars of the seat intermediate the ends thereof and constituting the only connection between said seat and rear legs; the members being so proportioned and connected that when folded the parts lie parallel and within the width of the side rails of the back; and when unfolded the lower ends of the front and rear legs extend beyond the front and rear margins of the seat frame.

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Witnesses:

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