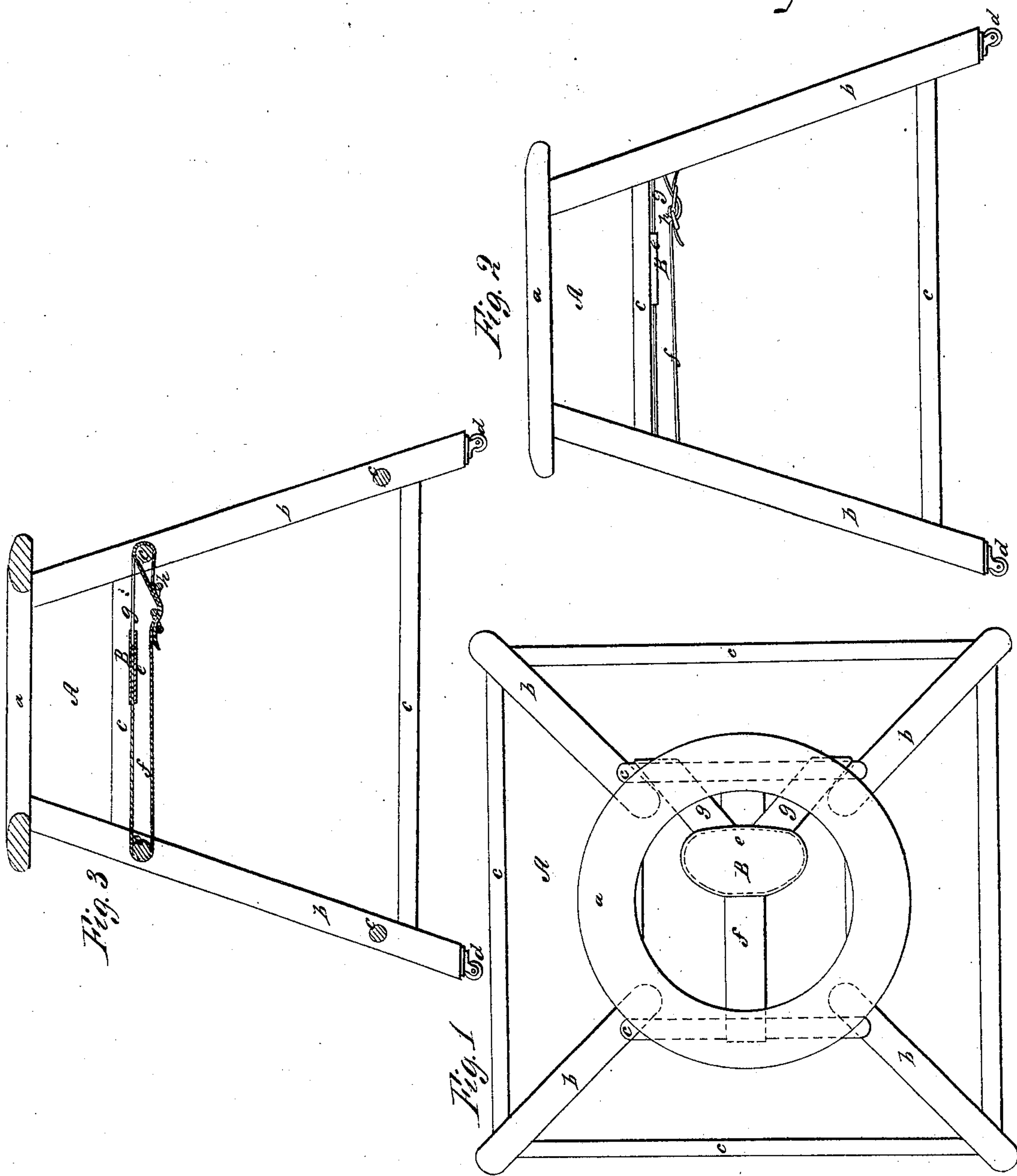


E. J. Gorham,

Baby Walker,

No. 39,392,

Patented Aug. 4, 1863.



Witnesses;
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. GORHAM, OF BANGOR, MAINE.

IMPROVED INFANT'S PEDOMOTIVE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 39,392, dated August 4, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. GORHAM, a resident of Bangor, in the county of Penobscot and State of Maine, have made a new and useful invention, which may be termed an "Infant's Pedomotive;" and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view, Fig. 2 a side elevation, and Fig. 3 a vertical section, of it.

The purposes of my invention are not only to give support to a child or infant while being taught to walk, but to preserve his legs in their normal or natural condition, or prevent them from becoming crooked or bent at such time, and also to serve as a means of tending the child, or remove more or less of the care of it from his parents, guardians, or others.

My said invention consists of an adjustable and elastic saddle or seat, or the same and a stand combined, made and arranged together, and provided with wheels or casters, substantially in manner and so as to operate as hereinafter described.

In the drawings, A denotes the stand, which is composed of a circular ring, *a*, four legs, *b b b b*, and their cross connection-bars *c c c c*, each leg at its foot being furnished with a caster, *d*, such as is usually applied to a table or chair legs. The legs flare outward as they descend, in order not only to prevent the stand from being upset by a child whenever such stand may be pushed against an obstacle, but to prevent the child from going in contact with a stone or other means of injuring him. The adjustable saddle B extends from one of the upper cross-bars, *c c*, to its opposite, and is composed of a central seat, *e*, of leather or other proper material, and three elastic straps, *f g g*, attached to and radiating from it. One of the straps, *f*, is much longer than either of the rest of them, the two shorter ones, *g g*, being fastened at their outer ends to one of the upper cross-bars. The longer strap extends to and partially or half-way around the opposite cross-bar, and from thence is carried backward to and half-way around the first cross-bar, and thence to and through a buckle, *h*, affixed to such strap, the whole being as shown in the drawings. By the said construction of the stand and the arrangement and application of the elastic seat to it we

not only attain elasticity of the seat without danger of overstraining the straps, but we can take up or let out the longer strap as occasion may require in order to bring the infant's feet in proper contiguity with or bearing upon the floor on which the apparatus may be resting at any time. Thus by means of the elastic and adjustable seat we can control the amount of weight of the body of the child on his legs, for, by lowering or letting out the longer seat-strap, we shall throw more of the weight of the body on the legs of the child, and this can be done by degrees until the legs may have become sufficiently strong to bear the whole weight of the body. The elastic seat also affords an agreeable means for the child to exercise himself by vertical movements.

By means of his feet the child can propel the pedomotive along over a floor or carpet, and thus move from one position to another, the ring *a* and the elastic seat serving to keep the child in place within the apparatus, as he is to sit on and straddle the seat or saddle with his legs depending therefrom.

I do not claim a baby-walker composed not only of a stand to encompass and support the child, but one or more straps to go around its waist, the same being as shown in the Patent No. 16,862; nor do I claim any invention either as referred to or described in Patent No. 16,942, for a strap to go around the waist of a child is an impediment to the proper action of his lungs, stomach, and other internal organs. In my invention the child is supported on a spring saddle or seat so made as to enable him to sit upon and straddle it, the spring being within and making part of the seat and not separate from it; and, furthermore, it is adjustable in a peculiar manner and for the purpose as described, it being supported in and affixed to cross-bars extending across the frame and some distance below its annular top, which supports the arms of the child.

I therefore claim—

My improved infant's pedomotive as constructed, with its saddle made and arranged within and applied to the stand substantially in manner and so as to be adjustable as hereinbefore described.

EDWARD J. GORHAM.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,
F. P. HALE, Jr.