

R. Hoffman,
Rocking Chair.

N^o 68,627

Patented Sep. 10, 1867.

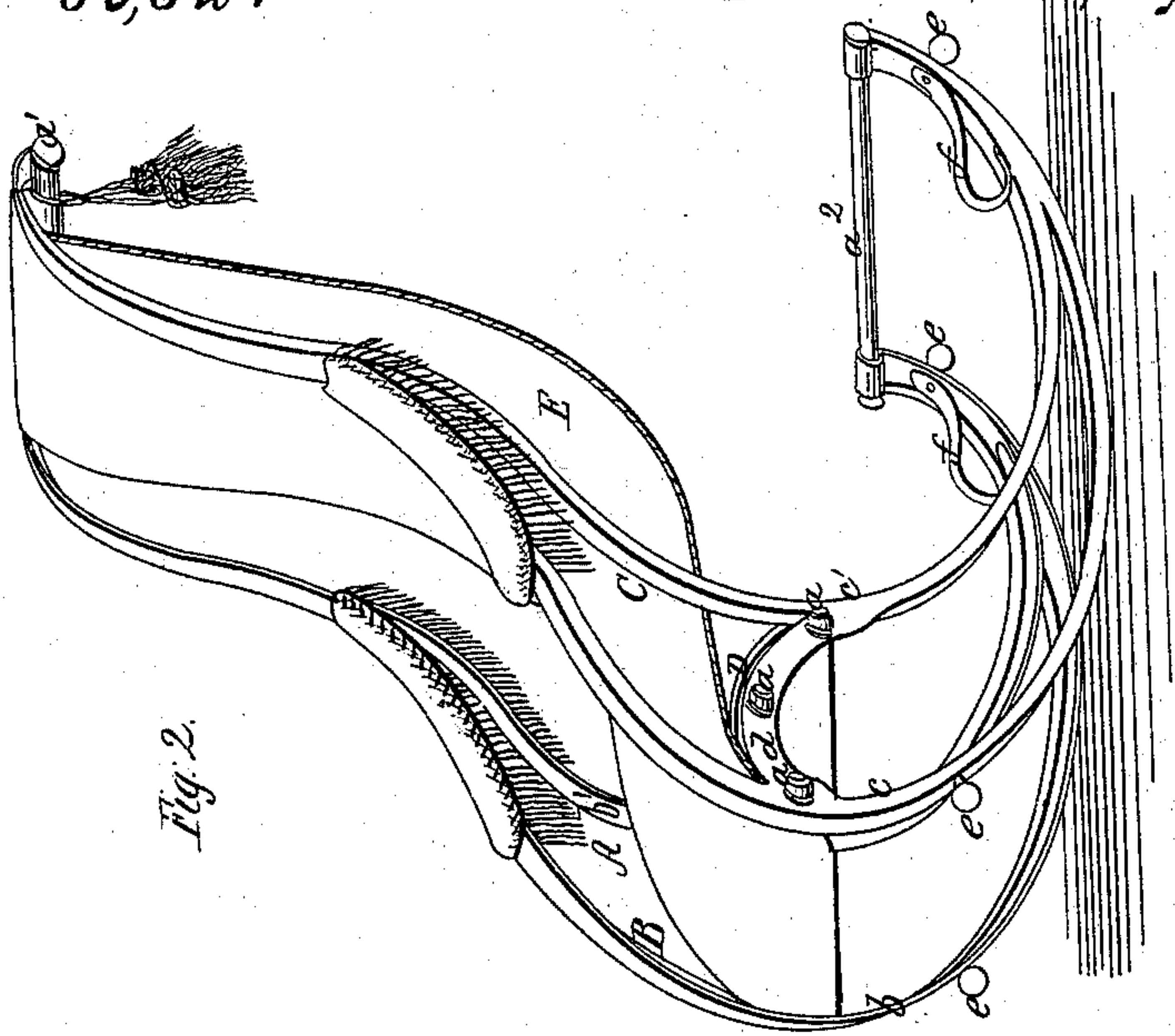


Fig. 2.

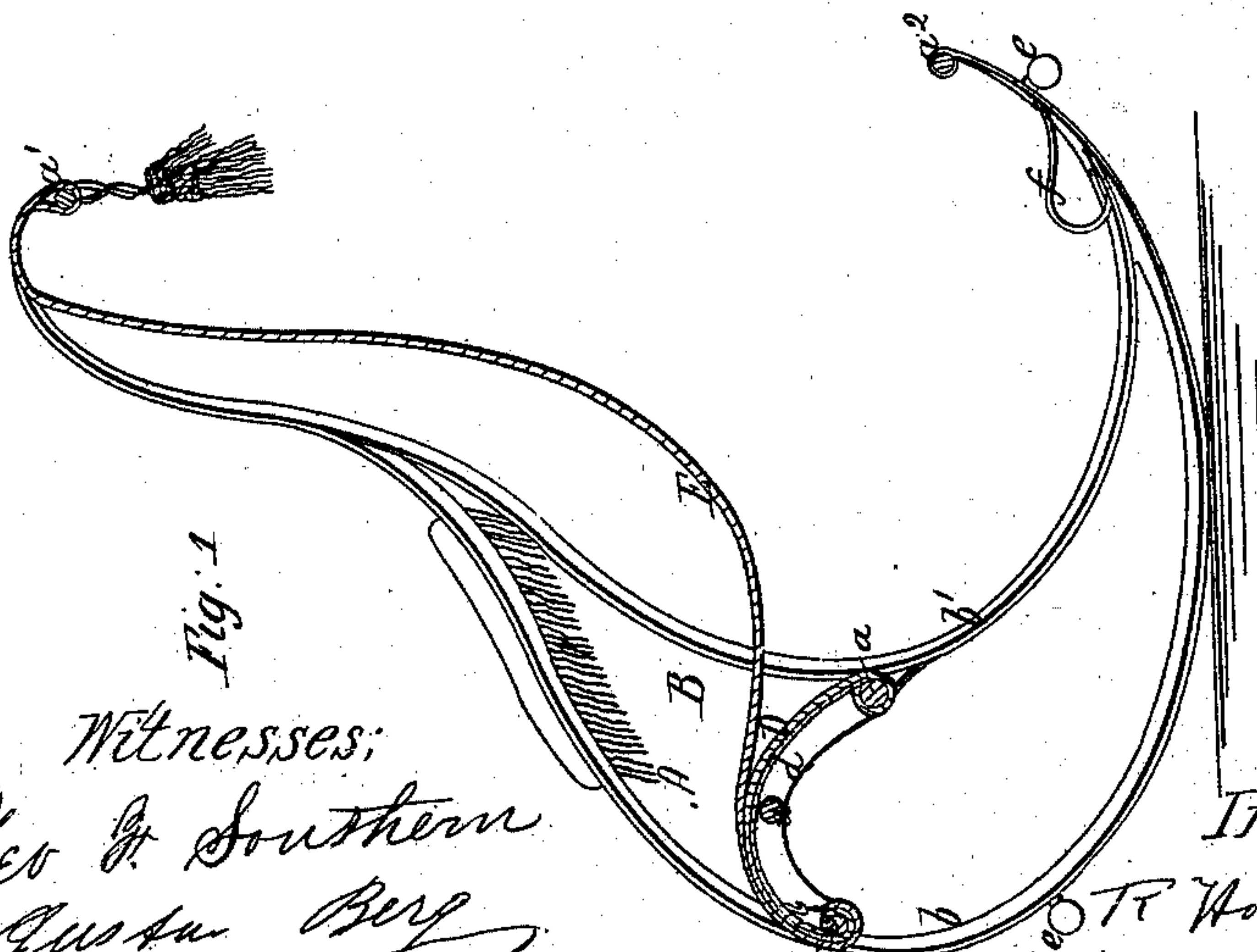


Fig. 1.

Witnesses:
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his attys

United States Patent Office.

RICHARD HOFFMANN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 68,627, dated September 10, 1867.

IMPROVED ROCKING-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 I, RICHARD HOFFMANN, of 336 Eighth avenue, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful improvement in Rocking-Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal vertical section of this invention.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in a rocking-chair, the frame of which is composed of two side pieces, which are made of thin and elastic strips of metal or wood, or other suitable material, and united together by cross-bars, which can be readily removed, if desired, in such a manner that a chair is obtained, which is very comfortable and easy to sit in, and which can be easily packed up in a comparatively small compass for transportation. The side pieces of the frame are so constructed that each runner with its arm-piece is formed out of one strip, which is curved, and secured to another strip forming one-half of the back frame and one of the hind legs of the chair, and suitable stops are secured in the runners in front and rear, whereby the chair is prevented from being tipped over in either direction. Said stops consist of buttons secured to springs, whereby the same are rendered yielding, and hard blows or shocks in stopping the motions of the chair are avoided. The back of the chair is formed of a piece of stout cloth, canvas, leather, or other flexible material, which extends from under the seat up to the top cross-bar, and which is so adjusted that it forms a comfortable curve to support the person sitting in the chair, and that the centre of gravity will be in the proper relation to the runners.

A represents a rocking-chair, the frame of which is composed of two side pieces B C. These side pieces are formed each of two flat strips $b b' c c'$ of elastic sheet metal, or of tough wood, or other suitable elastic material, or they may be made of cast iron, and provided with ribs for the purpose of strength, and they are curved in such a manner that the strips $b c$ form the runners and arm-pieces, and the strips $b' c'$ the sides of the back frame and the hind legs, and these latter strips are curved in such a manner that they support the former, and that a chair-frame is obtained which is light and elastic in all its parts. The two side pieces of the frame are united by cross-bars $a a' a^2$, which are provided with nuts at one or both ends, so that by taking off said nuts the rods can readily be removed whenever it may be desired to pack up the chair in a small compass for transportation or other purposes. The cross-bars a have their bearings in arched strips d , which are secured between the strips $b b'$ and $c c'$, as clearly shown in the drawings, and these cross-bars serve to support the seat D, which is curved in the proper manner, and which is so arranged that it can be turned up for the purpose of cleaning the chair. The back E is formed of a piece of stout cloth, canvas, leather, or other suitable flexible material, which extends from under the seat D up to the top cross-bar a^1 , and which is so adjusted that it sags down and forms a comfortable support for the person sitting in the chair. This flexible back can also be readily adjusted by unfastening one of its ends and giving to it more or less slack, and one end may be secured to a rod, which may be so adjusted that by turning the same the back receives more or less slack, and by these means said back can be easily brought in such a position that the centre of gravity of the person sitting in the chair is thrown in the proper relation towards the runners, a point which is of the greatest importance in a good rocking-chair, for, if the centre of gravity is too far in front the person sitting on the chair is liable to slide down from the seat, and if the centre of gravity is too far in the rear the chair is liable to tip over behind, or at least to assume an uncomfortable position. At or near the ends of the rockers of my chair are secured the stops e , which are composed of buttons, which are so placed that they confine the oscillating motion of the chair within certain limits, and prevent the chair being tipped over accidentally, either backward or forward. The buttons e pass through holes in the rockers, and they are secured to the loose ends of springs f , which are fastened to the inner surfaces of the rockers, and which render the stops yielding, so that in case one of them strikes the floor, a hard blow or shock is avoided, and the rocking motion of the chair is stopped gradually. By these means a chair is obtained which is light, cheap, very comfortable, and easily packed for transportation.

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

1. Constructing the side frames of a rocking-chair of elastic strips $b b' c c'$, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination of removable cross-bars a a^1 a^2 with the elastic side pieces B C of a rocking-chair, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The flexible back E, in combination with the seat D, top cross-bar a^1 , and side pieces B C, constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The yielding stops e , in combination with the runners of a rocking-chair constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose described.

RICHARD HOFFMANN.

Witnesses:

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G. BERG.