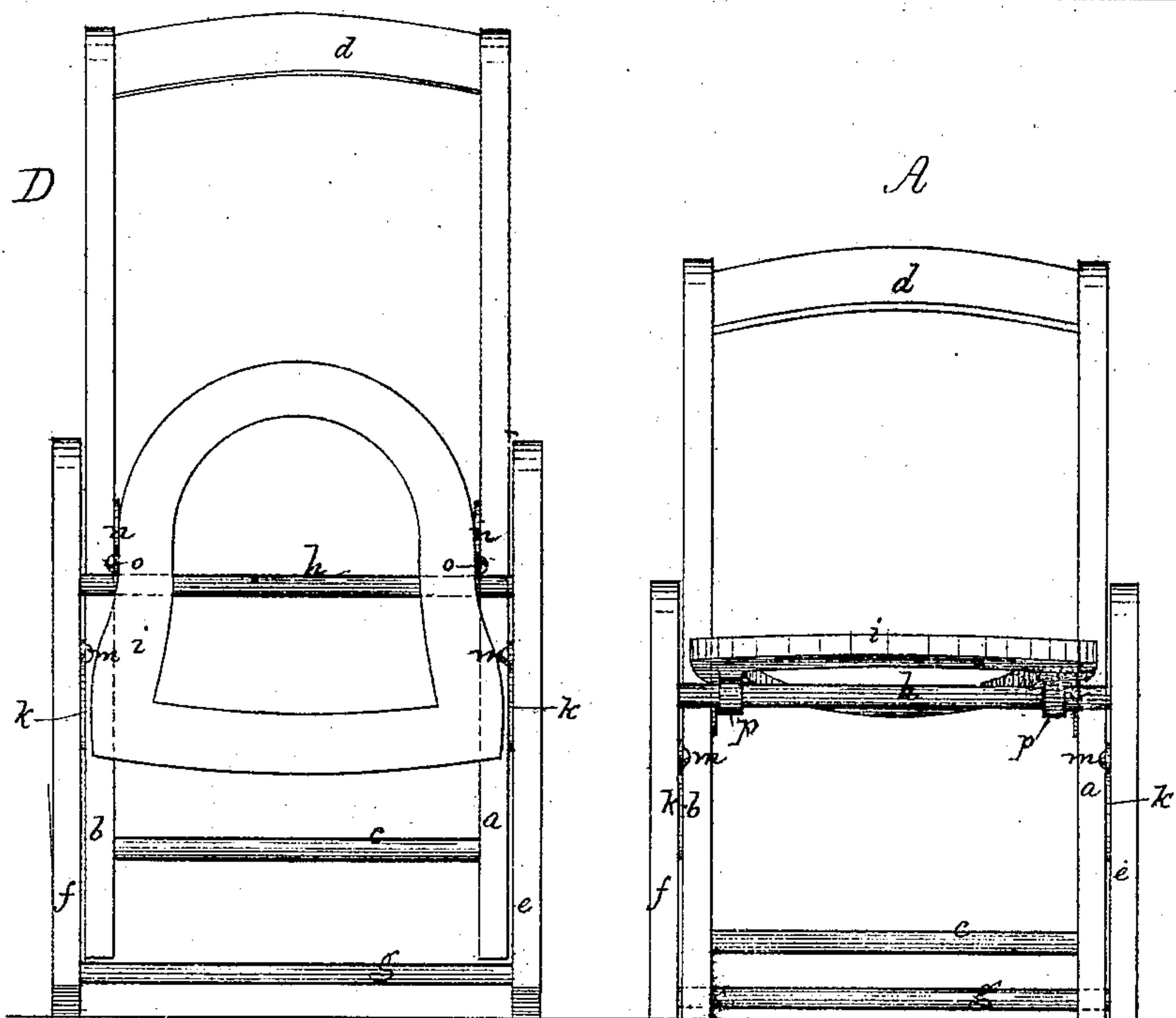
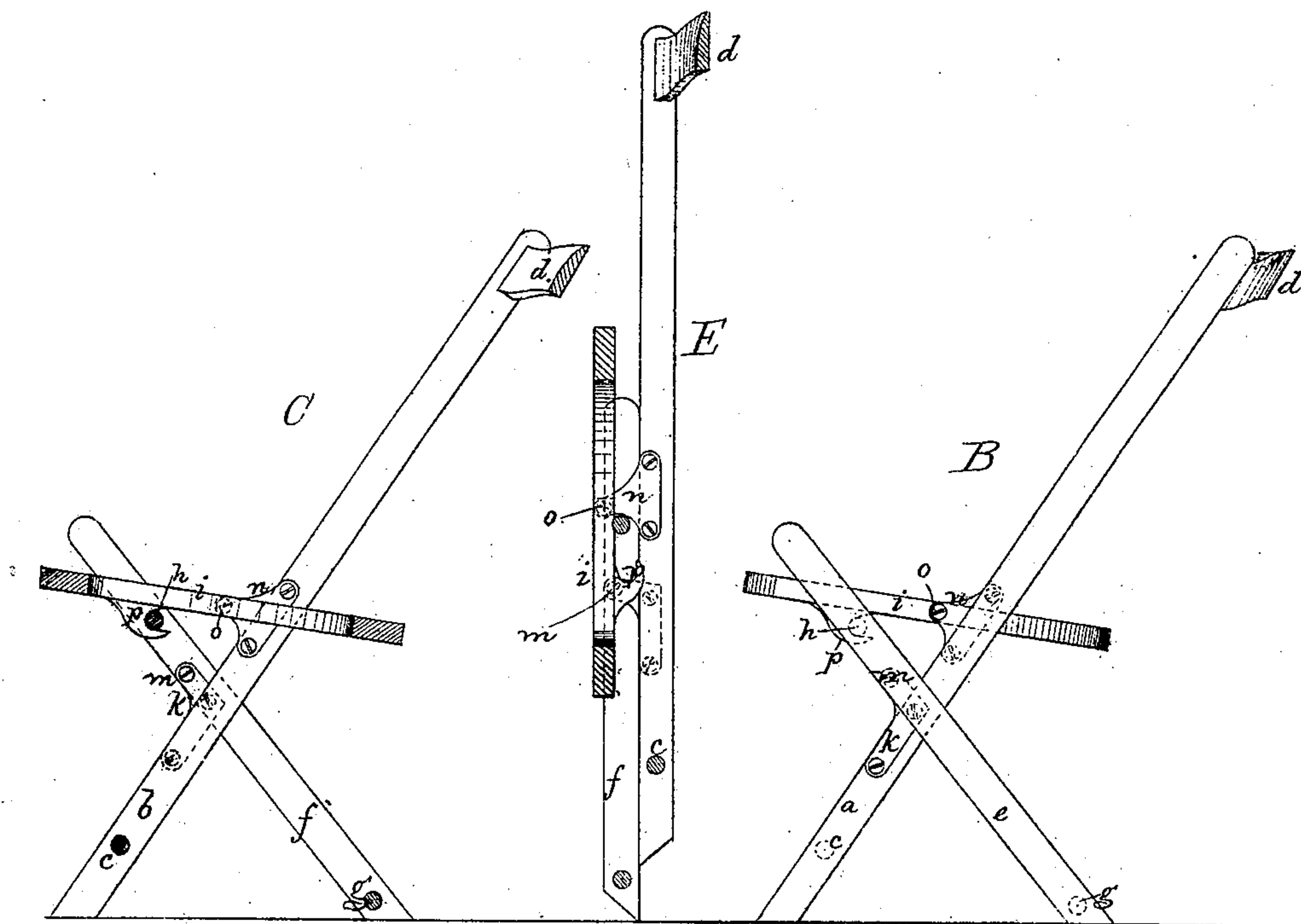


A. W. Stewart,

Folding Chair.

No. 102,180.

Patented Apr. 19, 1870.



L. B. Kidder.
M. W. Frothingham } *Witnesses*

Alexander W. Stewart
by his attys
Crosby, Hasted & Gould

United States Patent Office.

ALEXANDER W. STEWART, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 102,180, dated April 19, 1870.

IMPROVED FOLDING 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, ALEXANDER W. STEWART, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented Improvements in Folding Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

My invention relates to details of construction of that class of folding chairs in which crossing legs or leg-frames and a hinged or pivoted seat are employed, the parts being so arranged and connected that the leg-frame and seat close together or into substantially one plane, while, when the legs are spread, the seat is brought into a horizontal, or nearly horizontal, position, it being so hung and so supported, and so connected with the legs, and the legs of each pair with each other, as to form a very firm chair.

In some of these folding chairs the seat is pivoted near its front, and drops down behind when the chair is folded; and in others the seat is pivoted near its rear, and its front drops down when the legs fold; and it is to this latter kind of chair that my present improvement particularly relates, my invention consisting in a folding chair, having the seat pivoted in front of one leg-frame to the ends of ears extending therefrom, and the other frame pivoted in front of the first, or the ends of the ears extending from the first frame, and the pivoted frame being provided with a stretcher, which extends under and supports the front of the seat in horizontal position when the chair is open, (said stretcher bringing up against stops or hooks on the under side of the chair,) while, when the chair is closed, the seat and the two frames assume parallel planes.

The drawings represent a chair embodying my improvements.

A shows a front elevation of the open chair;

B, a side elevation; and

C, a sectional elevation of it.

D is a front view, and

E, a sectional view of the folded chair.

a b denote the two standards or legs, and

c d, the two stretchers of the main frame, to which frame are fixed the ears or bearing-plates, to which the seat and the other set of legs or leg-frame are hung.

e f denote the legs, and

g h, the stretchers, constituting the other frame.

i denotes the seat.

Below the seat a bearing-plate or ear, *k*, is fixed to the outer side of each leg *a b*; the two ears *k* extending out in front of the legs, and serving as bearings for pivot-pins *m*, which enter or project from the legs *e f*, the frame *e f g h* turning in these bearings, and assuming, when the chair is open, the position seen at B and C, and when the chair is folded, the position seen at E.

n n denote two ears or bearings, fastened to the inner sides of the legs or standards *a b*, and projecting in front of them, as seen at B, C, and E; and in the front ends of these two bearing-plates the seat-pins *o* are pivoted, the pivotal connection enabling the seat to assume, when the chair is open, the horizontal position shown at B and C, and when the chair is folded, the position (parallel to the two frames) shown at E.

The front part of the seat rests upon the stretcher *h* when the chair is open, and in the act of opening this stretcher raises the seat to its horizontal position.

Under the seat are the hooks or stops *p*, against which the stretcher *h* strikes and stops when the legs are opened, the front of the chair being prevented from rising too high by the webbing which connects the back of the seat to the frame *a b c d*. When the frames are folded the front of the seat falls by gravity, dropping in front of the stretcher *h*, as seen at E.

It will readily be seen that, by connecting the two corresponding legs of each frame by the stretchers, and jointing together the rigid frames thus formed in the manner shown, and the seat to one of the frames as shown, the parts have great freedom of relative movement, both in opening and closing, forming a strong and rigid chair when open, and one very compactly disposed for close packing when the chair is folded.

I claim—

The combination of the dropping seat and the folding leg-frames, when the seat *i* and one of the frames *e f g h* are respectively pivoted to the ears or bracket bearings extending from the other frame, as shown and described.

Also, in combination with the above, the bar or stretcher *h* of the leg-frame *e f g h*, said bar pushing the seat up and supporting it when the chair is opened, and retreating and letting the seat fall when the chair is folded, as shown and described.

ALEXR. W. STEWART.

Witnesses :

J. B. CROSBY,

FRANCIS GOULD.