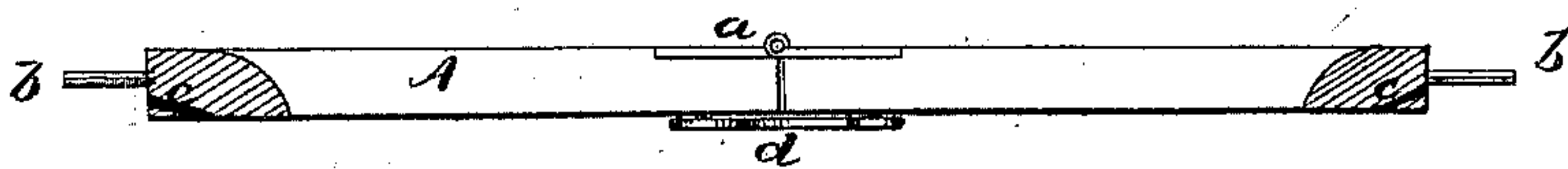
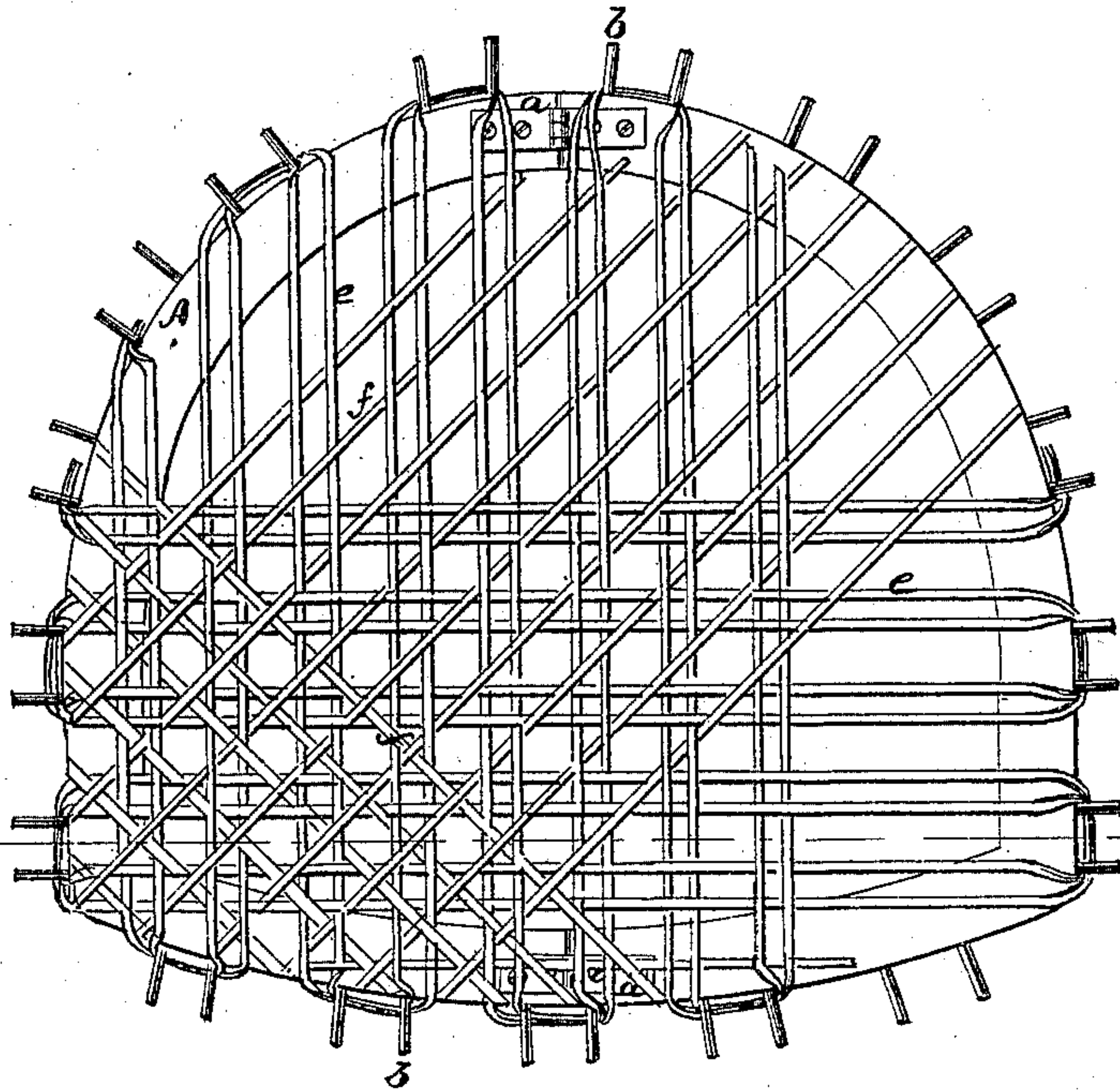


W. ALDRICH & E. T. WATKINS.

Frames for Weaving Chair-Seats.

No. 133,616.

Patented Dec. 3, 1872.



Witnesses:
H. L. Matheberg,
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Inventors:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM ALDRICH AND ELIZA T. WATKINS, OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS; SAID ALDRICH ASSIGNOR TO SAID ELIZA T. WATKINS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRAMES FOR WEAVING CHAIR-SEATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 133,616, dated December 3, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM ALDRICH and ELIZA T. WATKINS, of Gardner in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Frame for Weaving Chair-Seats, &c.; and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon making a part of this specification.

This invention is in the nature of an improvement in weaving chair-seats, &c., whereby they may be woven by hand apart from the chair, and afterward secured thereto, as will more fully appear in the description hereinafter given.

In the accompanying sheet of drawing, Figure 1 represents a plan or top view of former-frame, showing the manner of weaving the cane around the same; and Fig. 2, a cross-section of same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

A represents a frame of wood or other material divided into two equal parts. The parts so divided are held together by hinges *a a* in such manner as will allow the two parts of the frame to close or fold together. Around the outer edge of this frame is inserted, and at right angles to the same, a series of pins, *b b*, the distance between one pin and another depending somewhat upon the pattern of chair-seat it is sought to weave, due allowance being made for the diameter of the pins, or, as will readily be seen, an unequal or irregular figure will be formed. In addition to the pins *b b* small holes *c c* are formed into and around the outer edge of the frame, and when the frame is folded open in the position shown in Fig. 1 it is kept in such position by hooks *d d* secured to the under side of the frame, and which span the joints.

The frame being in this way constructed, it is operated by taking a strand of cane, tucking one end into one of the holes *c c*, passing or winding it around one pin, thence across the top surface of the frame to a pin on the other

side, and so on from side to side, across, or diagonally, or in such direction as the pattern sought to be produced with the cane may suggest or be necessary. In this way the warp *e e* is laid. Should a strand break in the process of weaving—in the middle of the pattern, for instance—it may be withdrawn and the end be secured by inserting it into one of the holes *c c*. The filling *f f* is then "wattled" or woven between the strands of warp until the surface of the frame A and the inclosed space within it are fully covered by the woven seat. The hooks *d d* are then turned back, the frame A folded together, as before stated, when the woven seat may readily be slipped off the frame entire. It is then placed under a cutter which trims off the edges, and is forced into a groove formed in the chair-seat frame, where it is confined by a spline.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that a chair-seat of any desired pattern may be quickly and substantially woven at a great saving of expense for the reason that most of the chair-seat weaving has heretofore been done in the houses of people living remote from the chair-factory, and this necessitated the transportation of the chair-frames to be seated to and from such houses, which involved expense; and another great advantage is the fact that the smallest pieces of cane can be made available as filling, which, considering the growing scarcity of rattan, is of great importance.

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

1. A frame or former for use in weaving chair-seats and other like fabrics composed of folding sections, substantially as herein described.

2. A hinged frame, A, having pins *b* and holes *c* in its sides or edges, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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