E. COLLINS.

Reclining Chairs.

No. 141,121. Patented July 22, 1873.

Fig. 1.

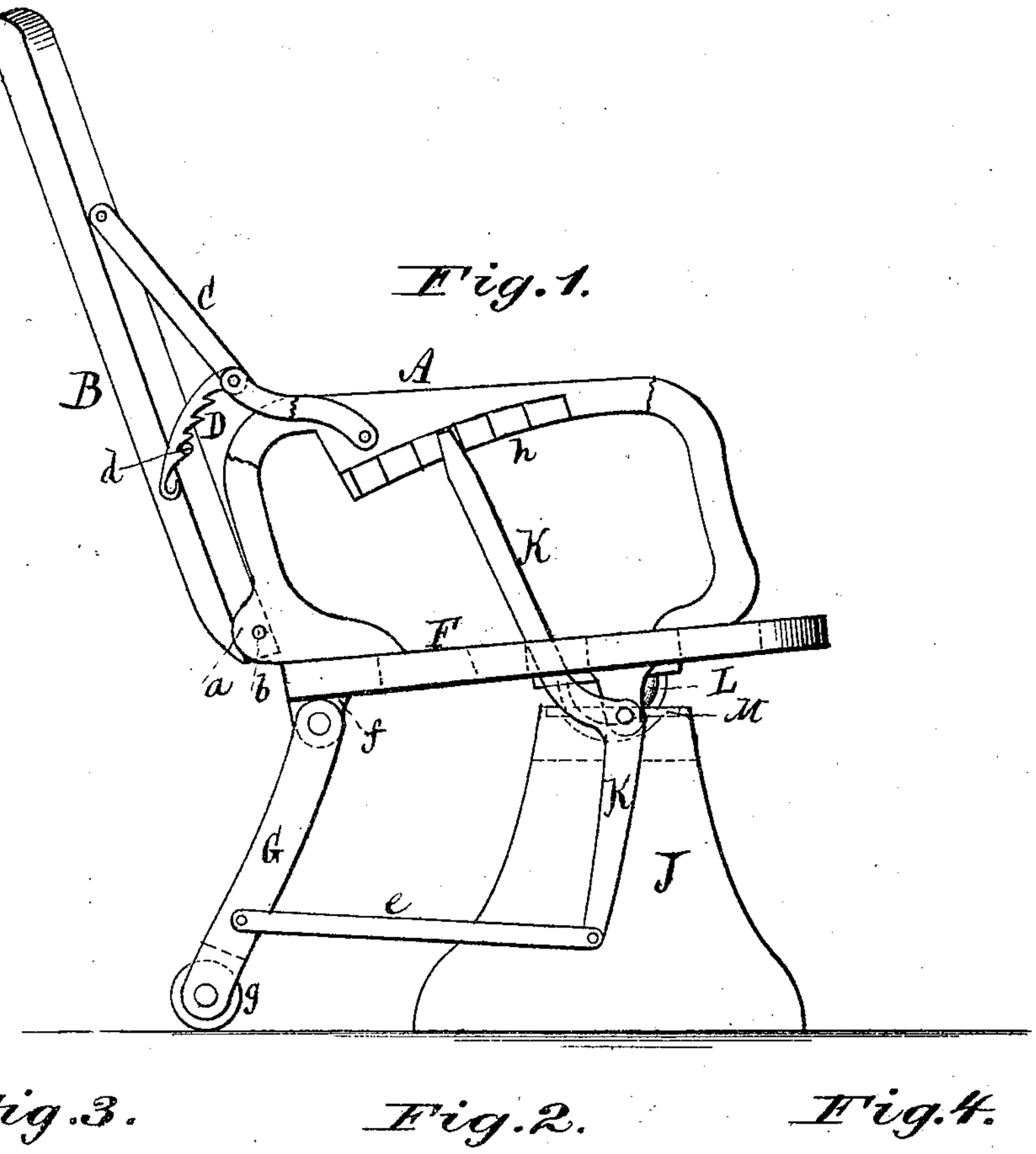


Fig. 3.

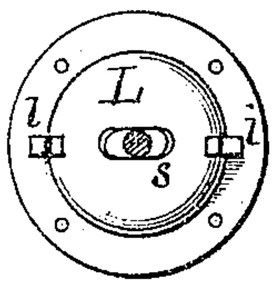


Fig. 2.

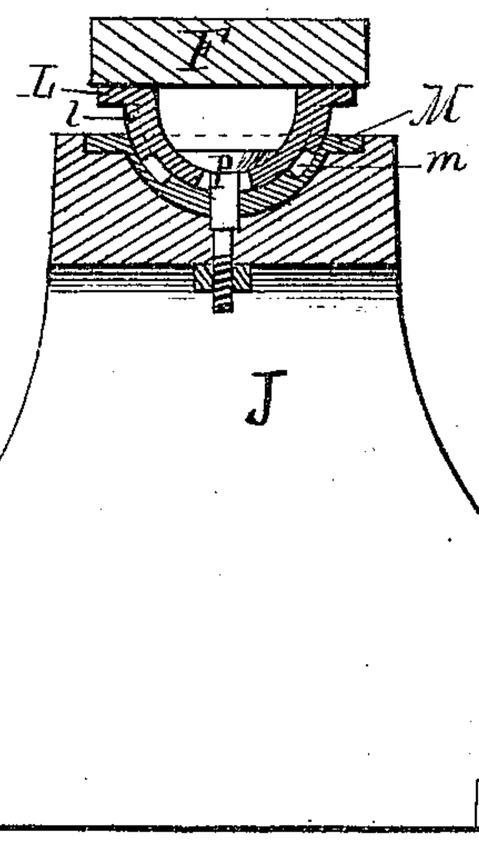
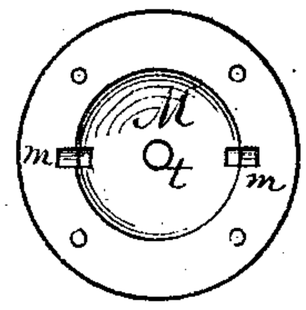


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD COLLINS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN RECLINING-CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **141,121**, dated July 22, 1873; application filed June 6, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD COLLINS, of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improved Reclining-Chair; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making part of this specification, and to the letters and figures marked thereon.

My invention relates to certain improvements in chairs, whereby the back and seat may be inclined at different angles, and the facing position of the chair may be changed; and it consists in, first, pivoting the back of the chair to the seat thereof and connecting the back to the arms by rods, to which are pivoted bars, provided with notches or hooks for engagement with projections on the back, whereby the back may be inclined and held in position at different angles; second, pivoting the rear legs to the seat and connecting them to the seat and arms by connecting rods and levers engaging with notches in the arms, whereby the seat may be inclined and held in position at different angles; third, attaching the seat to a pedestal by means of a globe-joint, so constructed as to allow the chair to oscillate backward and forward only, and provided with projections and depressions for holding the chair in position when facing in different directions.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a side view of my improved chair, partly in section. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section through the pedestal, globe-joint, and seat. Figs. 3 and 4 are views of the parts composing the globe-joint.

The chair may be constructed of any suitable material, and may be ornamented and upholstered in any desired style.

The back B is pivoted to or near the rear side of the seat by any suitable form of pivot or hinge joint. In the form shown in Fig. 1 the back is attached by means of pins, *b*, engaging with holes in enlargements or lugs, *a*, in the rear lower corners of the arms A. The upper portion of the back is connected to the arms by rods or bars C, having their upper ends pivoted to the sides of the back B and their lower ends pivoted to the arms A. About midway between the ends of each bar C is pivoted a bar, D, having hooks or notches on its lower edge for engagement with projections on each side of the back. These projections may be simply pins or studs, *d*, as shown in Fig. 1, or they may be in the form of staples, so as to surround the bars D and prevent their displacement. When the back is to be inclined the bars D are raised until disengaged from the projections, allowing the back to recede the desired distance, when they are released so as to again engage with the projections and hold the back in the desired position. If found desirable, in order to facilitate the manipulation of the bars D, they may be formed with handles extending forward of the fulcrums, so as to be easily accessible to the occupant of the chair. On the under side of the seat F, at or near the rear corners, are lugs *f*, to which are pivoted the upper ends of the legs G, on the lower ends of which are caster-wheels *g*. To each leg G is pivoted one end of a connecting-rod, *e*, the other end of which is pivoted to the short arm of a lever, K, which has its fulcrum forward of the center of the seat and its long arm extending upward and engaging with notches, *h*, formed on the arms A. The notches may be concealed and the upper ends of the levers protected by means of straps, bars, or cushions, in any suitable manner. When the long arms of the levers K are moved forward the legs G are forced backward, and when the long arms of the levers are moved backward the legs G are drawn forward by the action of the connecting-rods *e*. Instead of front legs for the chair the forward portion of the seat rests upon a pedestal, J, and is attached thereto by a globe-joint, consisting of two bowls, L M, connected by a bolt, P. The pedestal may be made of any suitable material. The bowls are made of cast metal, with flanges for bolting them in place—the lower one to the pedestal, and the upper one to the bottom of the seat. The upper bowl L has its central perforation elongated so as to form a slot, *s*, as shown in Fig. 3. The lower bowl M has its central perforation *t* corresponding with the form and size of the bolt P. This bolt

has a rounded head, corresponding with the concave portion of the bowl L, and may have a screw-thread cut on its lower portion so as to be fastened by a nut. The bolt is passed through the slot *s* before the bowl L is secured to the seat. On the convex surface of the bowl L, near the flange, are two lugs or tongues, *l*, diametrically opposite each other and in line with the direction of the slot *s*. These tongues *l* engage with corresponding depressions or grooves, *m*, in the concave surface of the bowl M, shown in Fig. 4. There may be any desired number of these grooves *m*, but the two shown are sufficient for illustration. When the parts are secured together in place the tongues *l* and slot *s* lie in such a direction as to allow the chair to oscillate backward and forward only, and not from side to side, as in some chairs provided with globe-joints. When it is desired to incline the seat the occupant grasps the levers and moves them forward until the desired inclination is reached, when the levers are released and allowed to engage with the notches so as to hold the chair in such position. In restoring the seat to a horizontal position the levers are moved backward so as to draw the legs forward, as before described. There is sufficient play between the bowls L M to allow the chair to be raised so as to disengage the tongues *l* from the grooves *m*, but when the tongues are opposite the grooves the weight of the chair is sufficient to keep them engaged. When it is desired to change the facing position of the chair, or to entirely reverse such position, the chair is raised until the tongues are clear of the grooves and then rotated on the pin or bolt P, as a center, until the tongues are opposite or over the desired grooves, when it is released and its weight keeps it in position. If desired, the notched or hooked bars may be pivoted to the back B and engage with projections on the bars C; but I prefer to connect them in the manner shown.

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

1. The combination of the seat F, arms A, back B, and rods C, provided with the notched bars D for engagement with projections *d* on the back, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

2. The legs G pivoted to the seat, and connected to the seat and arms by rods *e* and levers K engaging with notches in the arms for holding the seat in different positions, substantially as shown and described.

3. A globe-joint for connecting the seat with the pedestal, consisting of the bowls L M, formed with projections and depressions *l m*, and secured by a bolt, P, whereby the chair may oscillate backward and forward, and may be held in position when facing in different directions, substantially as shown and described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 27th day of May, 1873.

EDWARD COLLINS.

Witnesses:

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J. F. WILLIAMS.