

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

F. H. PLUMMER.
RECLINING OR HAMMOCK CHAIR.

No. 296,777.

Patented Apr. 15, 1884.

Fig. 1.

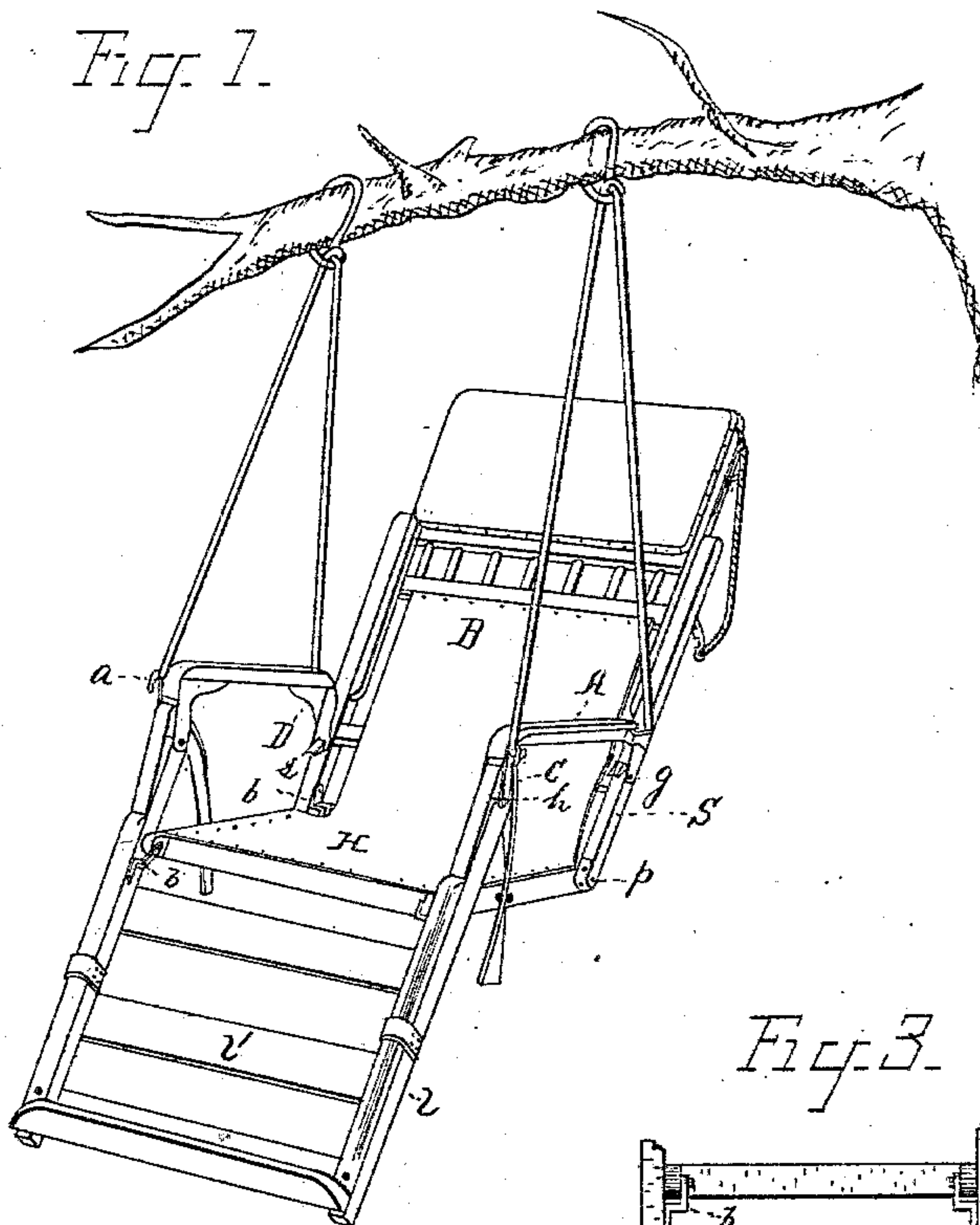


Fig. 3.

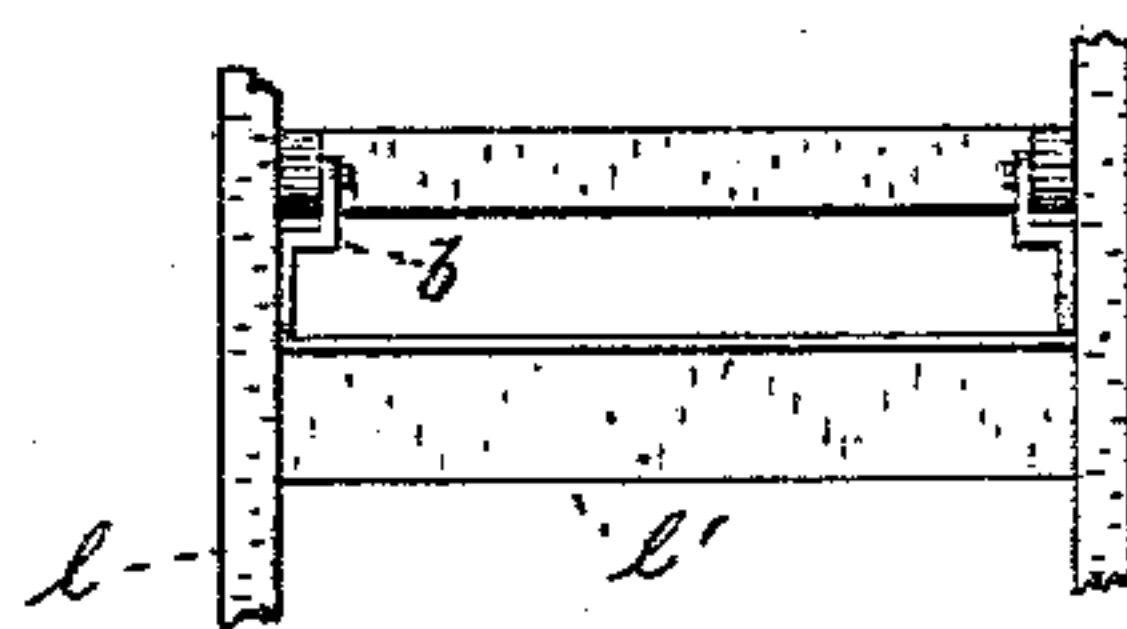
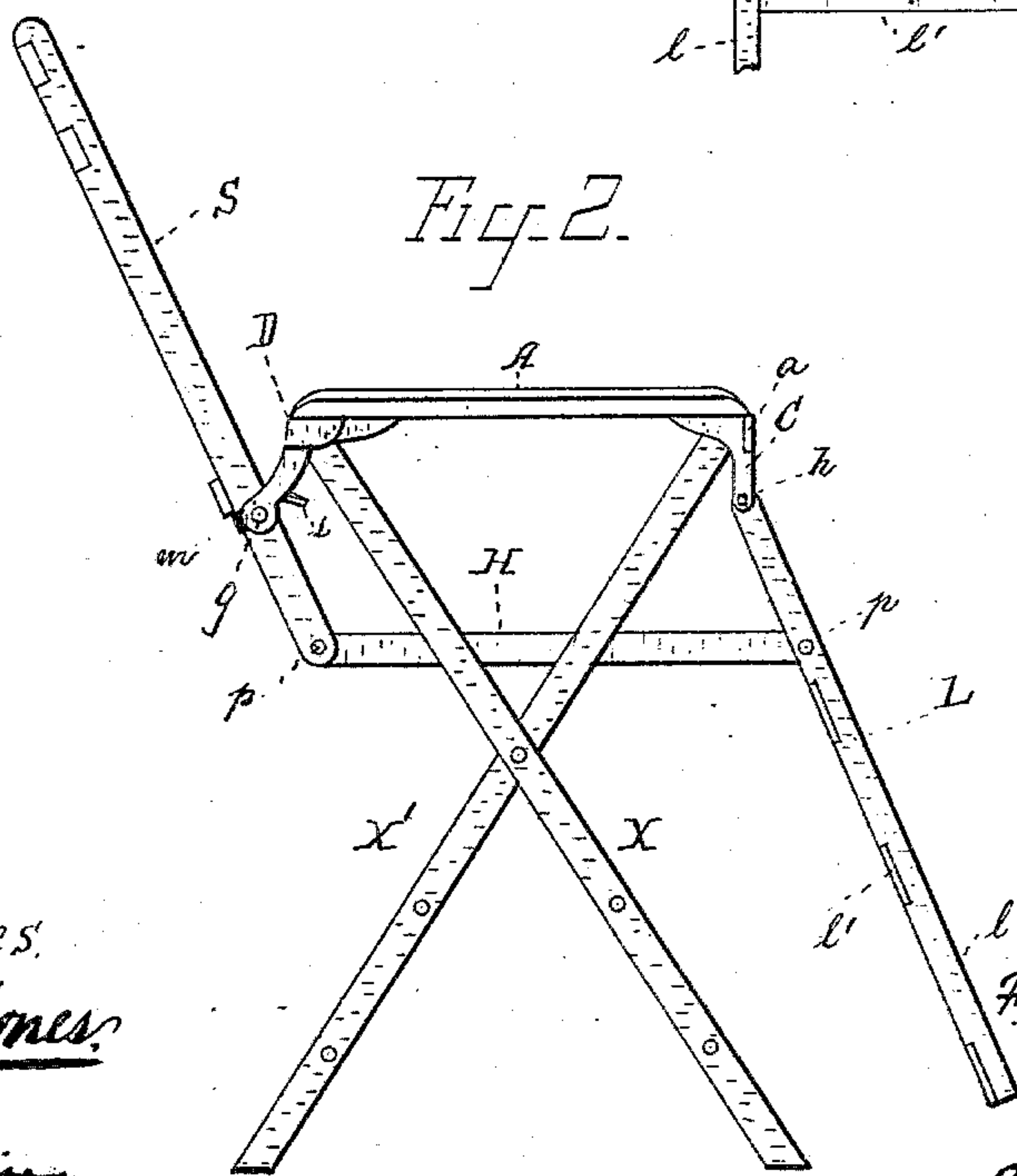


Fig. 2.



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Inventor.
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per
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Atty.

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Fig. 4.

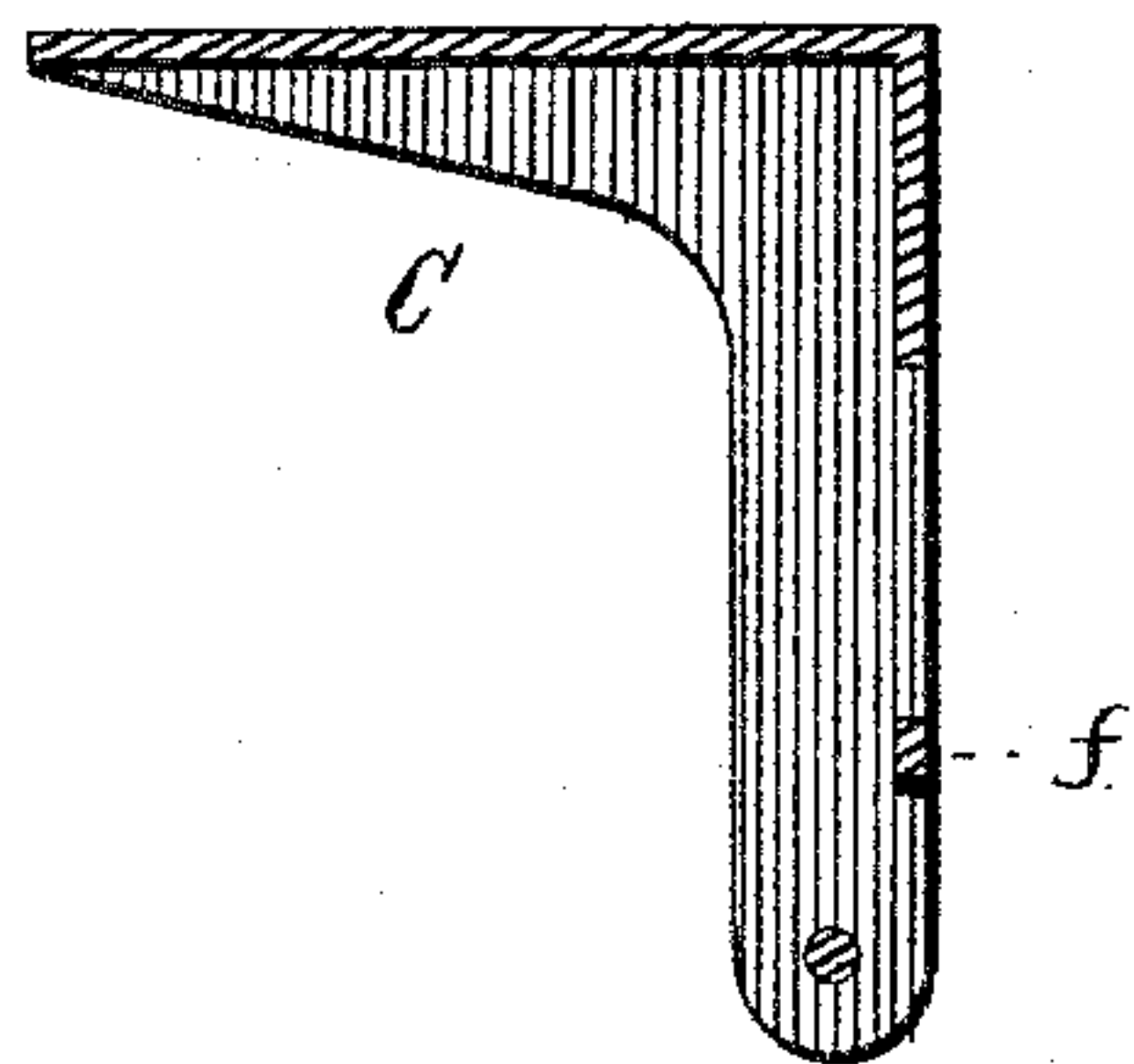


Fig. 5.

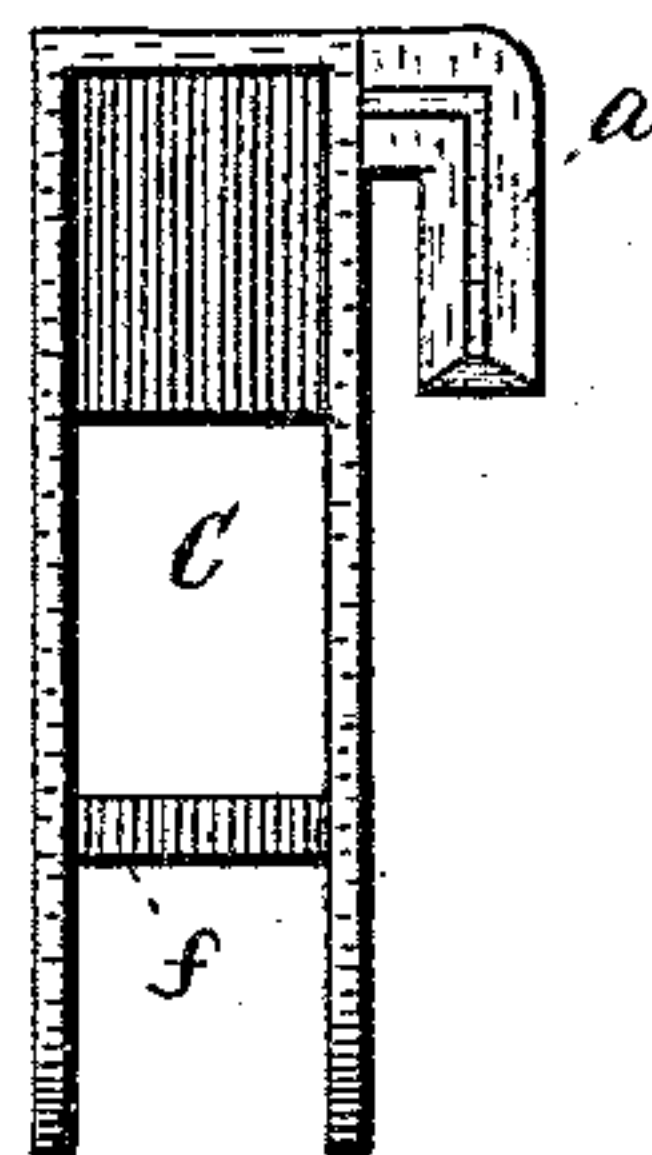


Fig. 6.

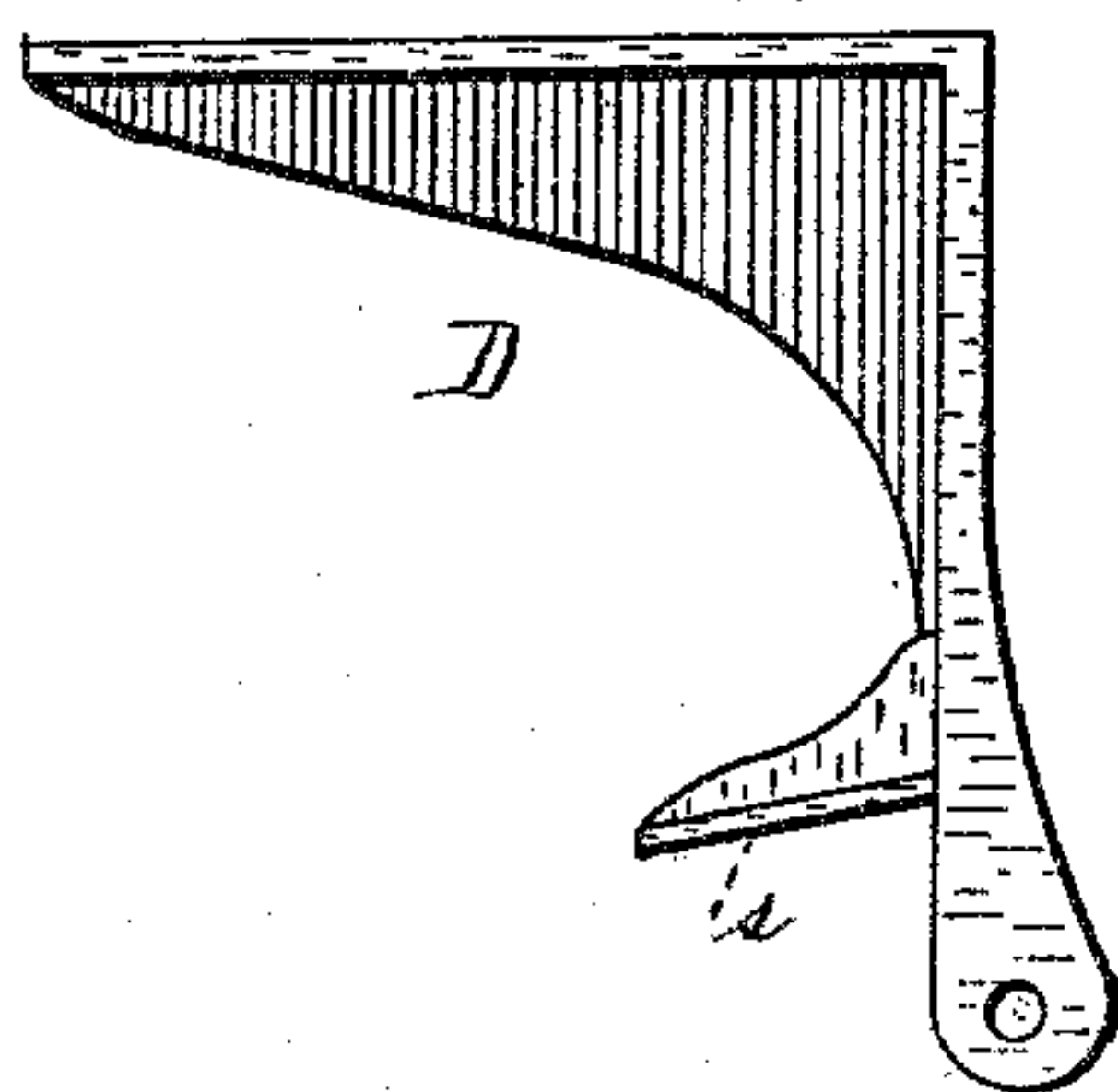


Fig. 7.

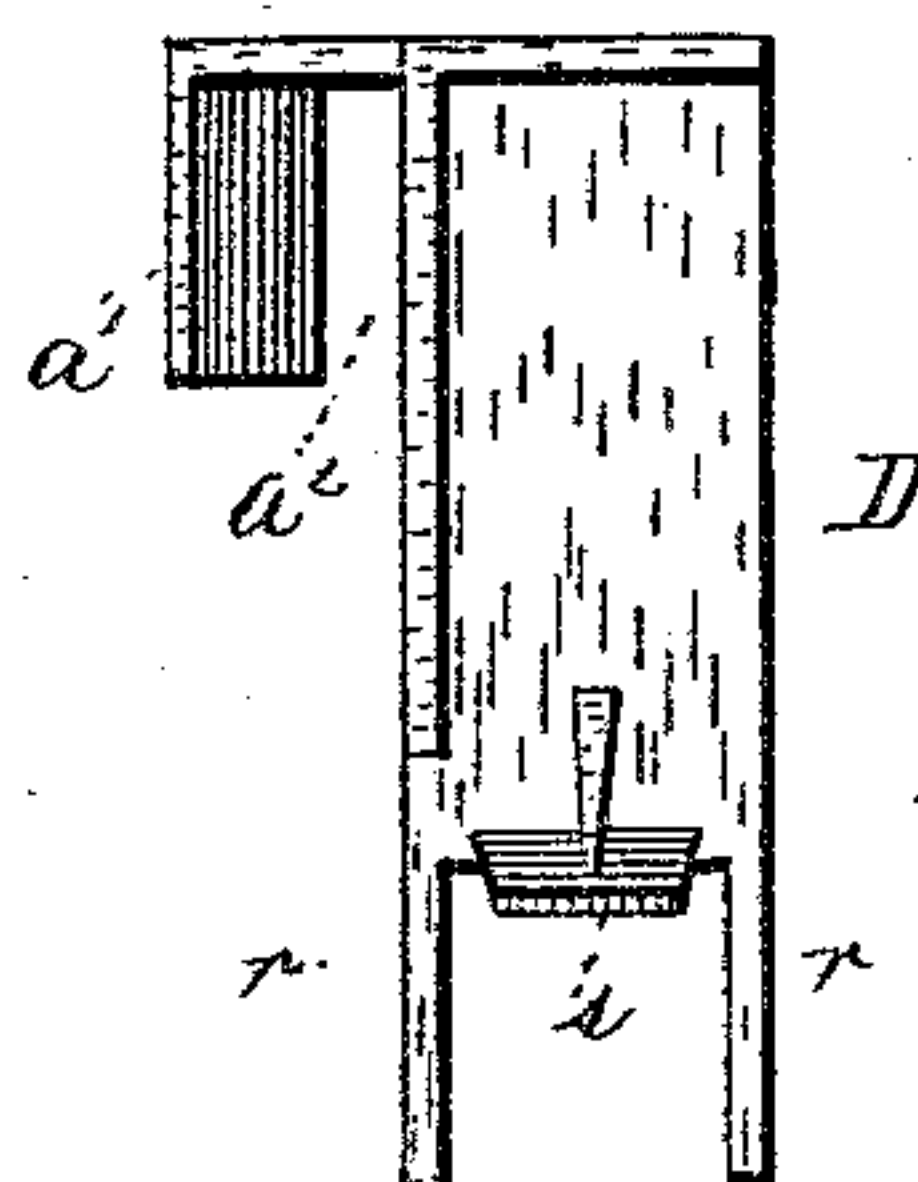
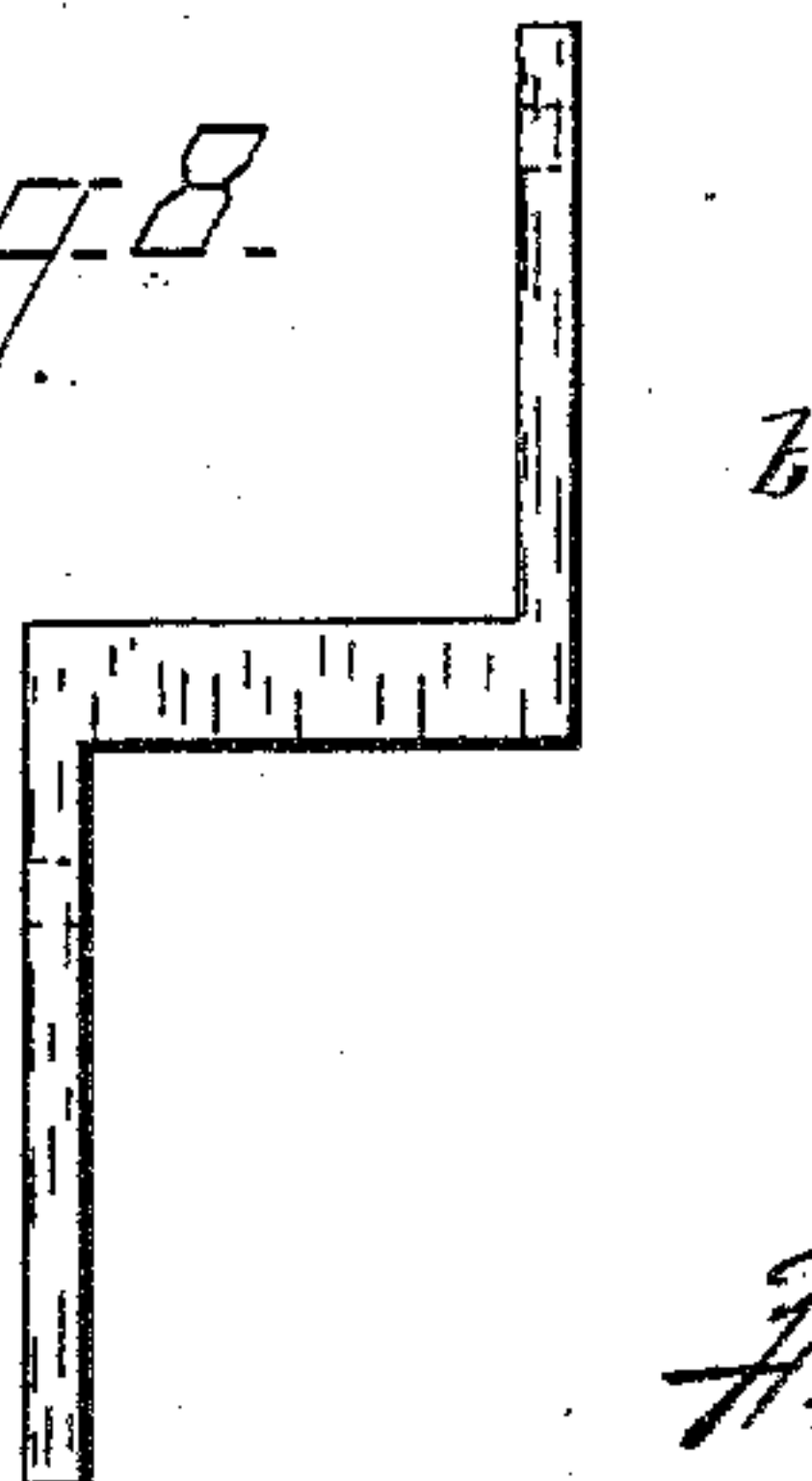


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK H. PLUMMER, OF HENNIKER, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO G. W. & M. L. STEARNS, OF LEBANON, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

RECLINING OR HAMMOCK CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 296,777, dated April 15, 1884.

Application filed November 14, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK H. PLUMMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Henniker, in the county of Merrimac and State of New Hampshire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Reclining or Hammock Chairs; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a reclining-chair which may be used interchangeably as a house-chair or a hammock-chair, the legs being easily removed in the latter case before suspension by cords or otherwise. A further object is to provide a swinging leg-rest which shall move with the shifting chair-seat. A further object is to suspend the chair-body from front and back bracket-hinges attached to the chair-arms, so that the proper leverage and a perfect balance are obtained by the occupant, whether the chair is upright or in the form of a couch, or in any intermediate position, without any effort or mechanism to hold it in the desired position.

My invention also consists in details of construction, which will be described below and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my chair when used as a hammock, the legs being removed. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a house-chair. Fig. 3 is a detail view, showing the front lugs for pivoting the chair-seat and leg-rest together. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of one of the front bracket-hinges. Fig. 5 is an end view from the rear. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of one of the rear bracket-hinges. Fig. 7 is an end view from the front. Fig. 8 is a detail view of one of the pivoting-lugs attached to the front and rear of the chair-seat.

In the drawings like letters refer to like parts.

It is desirable to state in the outset that the cross-legs X X', which have rounds, may be easily inserted or removed. If inserted, it is well to fasten them slightly by some ordinary

means, so that the chair can be lifted by the arms without their falling out.

The chair-body is composed of the back B, the seat H, and the leg-rest L. The sides S S of the back are pivoted to the rear of the moving seat at *p p* through metallic lugs *b b*, the form of which is shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 8—a form of lug which can be reversed at will. The seat is also pivoted to the leg-support in the same way. (See Figs. 1 and 3.)

The leg-support L consists simply of the side bars, *l l*, and the cross-slats *l'*. As said leg-rest is hinged to the front bracket-hinges, C C, at *h h*, it is moved out and in by the shifting seat H, supporting the limbs, and connecting said seat with the front bracket-hinges, C C.

The chair-arms A A are rigid, never changing their position as the chair-body is inclined, being screwed to the bracket-hinges, solid castings. Underneath said arms are the front and rear hinge-brackets, C C D D. Those in front are shown in Figs. 1 and 2 and in detail in Figs. 4 and 5. They are constructed to receive the inner chair-legs and the upper ends of the side bars of the leg-rest, the pivot at *h* forming a hinge below the partition *f*. At the outer sides are bent arms *a*, for receiving one end of a rope when the chair is used as a hammock. The rear bracket-hinges, D D, receive the outer chair-legs in the socket-arm *a'*, and extend down to form a hinge with the chair-back at *g* on each side. A short distance above the hinge is an inclined stop, *s*, for a purpose hereinafter explained. This form of hinge-bracket has a slot, *a''*, cut in the back of the leg socket-arm *a'*, for receiving the other end of the rope when the chair is used as a hammock. (See Fig. 7.) Below the stop the bracket is cut away to form hinge-arms *r r*, and within these the side bars of the chair-back play, the stop preventing the bars from being pushed back far enough to destroy the balance. Within these hinge-arms three sides of the bars S S are protected by a metal strap, (see *m*, Fig. 2,) which takes the strain of the hinge-bolt and prevents the bars from breaking. The seat and back of the chair may be lined with leather-board or more expensive material.

In Fig. 1 I have shown a head and foot rest;

but as they form subjects of separate applications they are disclaimed here.

Referring to the chair-arms again, it will be seen that they are of such height from the seat as to always serve as a comfortable support, their position always being the same, irrespective of that of the moving chair back, seat, and leg-rest, as said arms are rigidly fastened to the bracket-hinges.

Referring to the legs, it will be noticed that they extend above the sides of the chair-seat in a marked degree. This prevents the chair-body from swaying to any extent—a fault noticeable in all chairs of this kind where the legs do not extend above the seat. It will also be seen that the outer leg, X, is so arranged as to clear the lower ends of the sides of the chair-back when they swing up toward the arms. A reverse arrangement would not permit of this. The inner legs, X', permit the seat to move freely, but yet prevent swaying. The lower end of the chair-back never goes much beyond the outer legs, X. It will be further seen, except as one means of supporting the chair-body, the legs are not essential, the moving parts operating as well when a rope is used to make a hammock-chair.

The operation of my chair is as follows: When the occupant reclines, the chair back, seat, and leg-rest move correspondingly, the back and leg-rest always assuming a parallel position, or nearly so, through the agency of the moving seat. As the center of weight shifts, the moving parts are so joined together as to adapt themselves to it at once. The upper portion of the chair-back can never be pushed rearward too far, as the stops s, which are cast with the brackets D, prevent; hence there will be no danger. (See Figs. 1, 2, and 6.) The center of weight being carried forward until the stops prevent further reclining, the chair is practically as safe when in the form of a couch as when less inclined.

To use my chair as a hammock it is only necessary to lift it from the legs by the rigid arms, and to attach ropes with knotted ends to the side arms, a, of the front and socket-arms a' of the rear bracket-hinges below said arms. The chair will then operate as before.

In an application filed November 14, 1883, Serial No. 111,760, I also show the main frame or chair-body, but combined with a foot-rest; and I disclaim the construction described and claimed in that application, confining myself here to the main frame proper and its means of support. The head-rest, incidentally shown, I also disclaim, as it forms the subject of a

separate application, Serial No. 112,569, filed November 23, 1883.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the arm-rests, provided at each end with brackets, with a back pivoted to the rear brackets, a leg-rest pivoted to the front brackets, and a seat pivoted to the back and leg-rest, said brackets being constructed with sockets and bent arms, substantially as described, whereby they may be connected with means for supporting the structure from above, or connected to a supporting-base, as and for the purposes specified.

2. The arm-rests and the front brackets, C C, the latter provided with bent arms a, depending sides for receiving the leg-support between them, and sockets for the inner chair-legs, combined with the pivoted leg-support, chair seat and back, the rear brackets, and supporting means for the structure, substantially as set forth, as and for the purposes specified.

3. The arm-rests and rear brackets, D D, the latter provided with the outer-leg socket-arm a', the slot a², the depending hinge-arm, and the stop s, combined with the pivoted back, seat, and leg-support, the front brackets, and supporting means for the structure, substantially as set forth, as and for the purposes specified.

4. The combination of the back, seat, and leg-support, said leg-support and back-frame being provided with metal lugs bb at the point of pivoting the seat thereto, with the front and rear brackets, C C D D, the arm-rests, and supporting means, substantially as set forth, for the structure, as and for the purposes specified.

5. The combination, with the chair-supporting frame consisting of two pairs of crossed arms or bars pivoted together, one within the other, of the arm-rests provided with front and rear brackets, the back pivoted to the rear brackets, the leg-support pivoted to the front brackets, and the seat pivoted to the back and leg-support between the bars, forming the frames thereof, the said rear brackets being provided with the offset-sockets to receive the ends of the outer pair of supporting-bars, as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK H. PLUMMER.

Witnesses:

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C. A. COOPER.