(No Model.)

J. E. WAKEFIELD.

ROCKING CHAIR.

No. 321,063. Patented June 30, 1885.

Fig. 1.

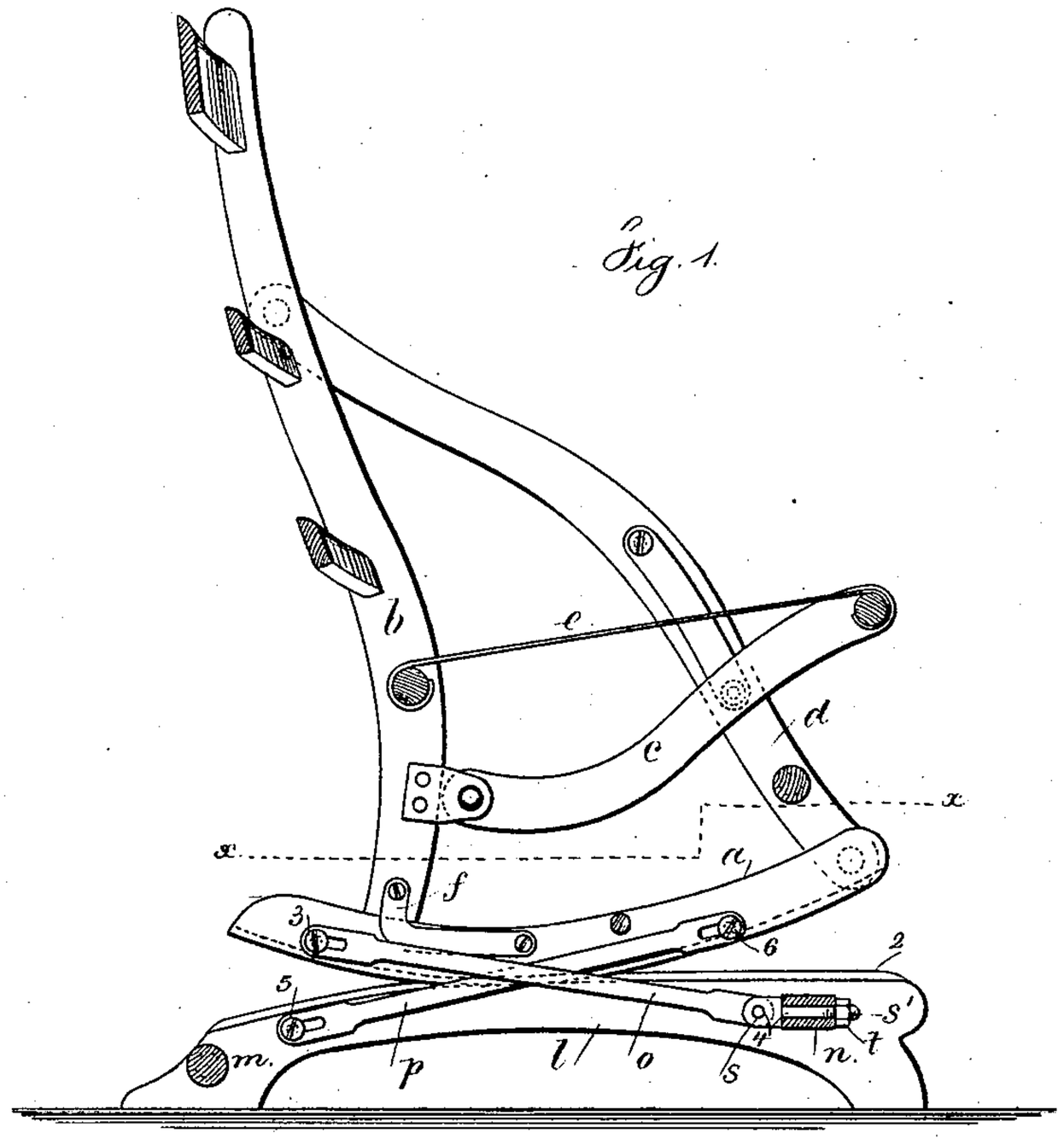
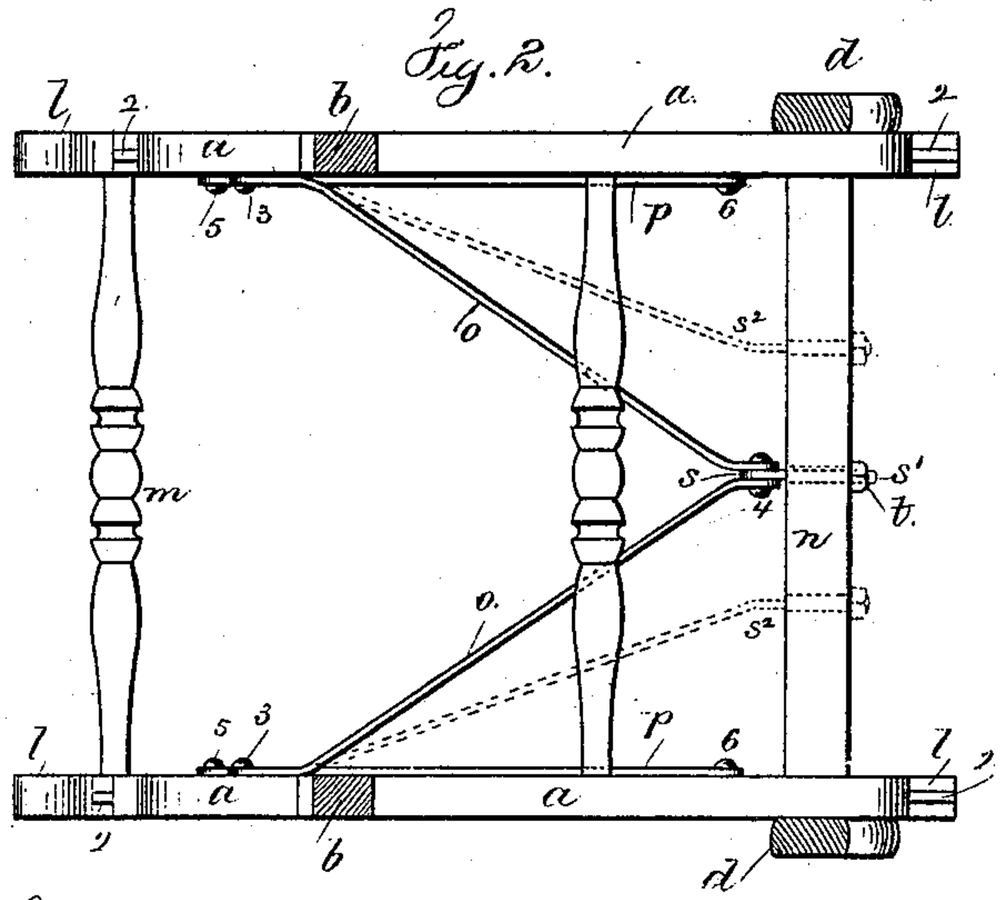


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Chas. H. Smith

Harold Serrell

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John E. Wakefield

per Samuel N. Serrell

atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. WAKEFIELD, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

ROCKING-CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 321,063, dated June 30, 1885.

Application filed March 19, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN E. WAKEFIELD, of Worcester, in the State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Rocking-Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

Rocking chairs and horses have been made with a base upon which the rockers rest, and with bars crossing each other and attached at the upper and lower ends, respectively, to the base and rockers.

My invention is made for preventing lateral movement of the rockers on the base, and for allowing of a more agreeable and extended rocking motion.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section of the rocking-chair, and Fig. 2 is a sectional plan below the line *x x*.

The chair is made with the rockers *a*, back-frame *b*, seat-frame *c*, front legs, *d*, and seat *e*. The links *f* serve to connect the back legs to the rockers, and to allow the chair to fold.

The chair, as shown, is similar to that in Letters Patent No. 8,217, (reissue,) and it can be folded up for transportation. I, however, do not limit my improvement to this form of folding rocking-chair, as the same may be of any desired character, and may be rigid instead of folding. The base of the chair is made of the two side bearers, *l l*, and the cross-bars *m n* that connect the side bearers. The lower edges of the rockers *a* are the arc of a circle or of an ellipse, and the upper surfaces of the bearers *l l* may be straight upon their upper surfaces; but I prefer to make the front part straight, or nearly so, and curved downwardly at the back part, and the rockers *a* rest upon these bearers *l*, and ribs 2 may be used upon the top surfaces of the bearers *l* and grooves in the under surfaces of the rockers *a*, so that as the chair is rocked upon the bearers the parts will be guided accurately, and lateral motion will be prevented. The ribs may be on the rockers and the grooves in the bearers. In consequence of the curved rockers resting upon a base that is flat upon the forward part and curved downwardly at the back part of the rocking-chair, the chair is not likely to tip forward, and the rocking motion backwardly is much farther than usual and more easy and agreeable in consequence of the base curving downwardly at the back.

In order to connect the chair and the base, and to allow of the rocking motion, I employ the cross-bars *o o* and *p p*. The bars *o o* are connected at their back ends, 3, to the rockers of the chair, and at their front ends, 4, to the base. The bars *p* are connected at their back ends, 5, to the base, and at their front ends, 6, to the chair-rockers. The pivots or connections 3 and 5 and 4 and 6 are in vertical parallel planes at right angles to the longitudinal central plane of the chair, so that the rockers can be rocked upon the base without one surface sliding lengthwise upon the other. The bars *o o* are inclined or V-shaped in their position one to the other, and where they come together there is a pivot-eye, *s*, inserted between them, the pivot bolt or rivet 4 passing through this eye *s*. The eye *s* is at the end of the screw-bolt *s'*, which passes through a hole in the cross bar *n*, and it is provided with a nut, *t*. It will now be understood that when the chair is rocked the bars *o o* and *p p* swing on their respective pivots and prevent the rockers slipping upon the base, and the bars *o o* diverging act as braces to prevent any lateral or twisting action of the chair on its base. If the pivots become loose, the bolt *s'* will slide forward, and the bars will not be bent or twisted, and the looseness can be taken up by the nut *t*. The bars *p* may be placed at an inclination to each other in a similar manner to the bars *o*, or the bars *o* may be parallel with the sides of the rockers. There may be a separate screw for each of the bars, as indicated by dotted lines at s^2.

All the novel and patentable devices or combinations in this chair have been invented by me. The following is a summary thereof: When the rocker-bearers are flat and straight, the chair rocks upon the same in a manner similar to what it would upon the floor. If the bearers are curved, and the forward movement is arrested by stops, there is risk of a disagreeable jar. This is prevented by making the rocker-bearers flat in the front portion.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the rockers and base, of the pairs of bars *p p*, pivoted at their

back ends to the base and at their front ends to the rockers, the pairs of bars *o o*, occupying diagonal positions to each other, and pivoted at their rear ends to the rockers and connected at their front ends with the base at a distance from the bearers, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the rocking-chair and its base, of the bars *o* and *p* crossing each other, and pivoted to their respective ends, and the bolt *s'* and nut *t*, connecting the bars *o* to the base, and acting to compensate wear, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the chair and rockers, of bearers for the rockers, and bars *o* and *p*, crossing each other, and pivoted at their respective ends, one set of bars diverging so as to act as braces, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 13th day of March, A. D. 1884.

JOHN E. WAKEFIELD.

Witnesses:
FREDK. J. BARNARD,
H. C. HOLBROOK.