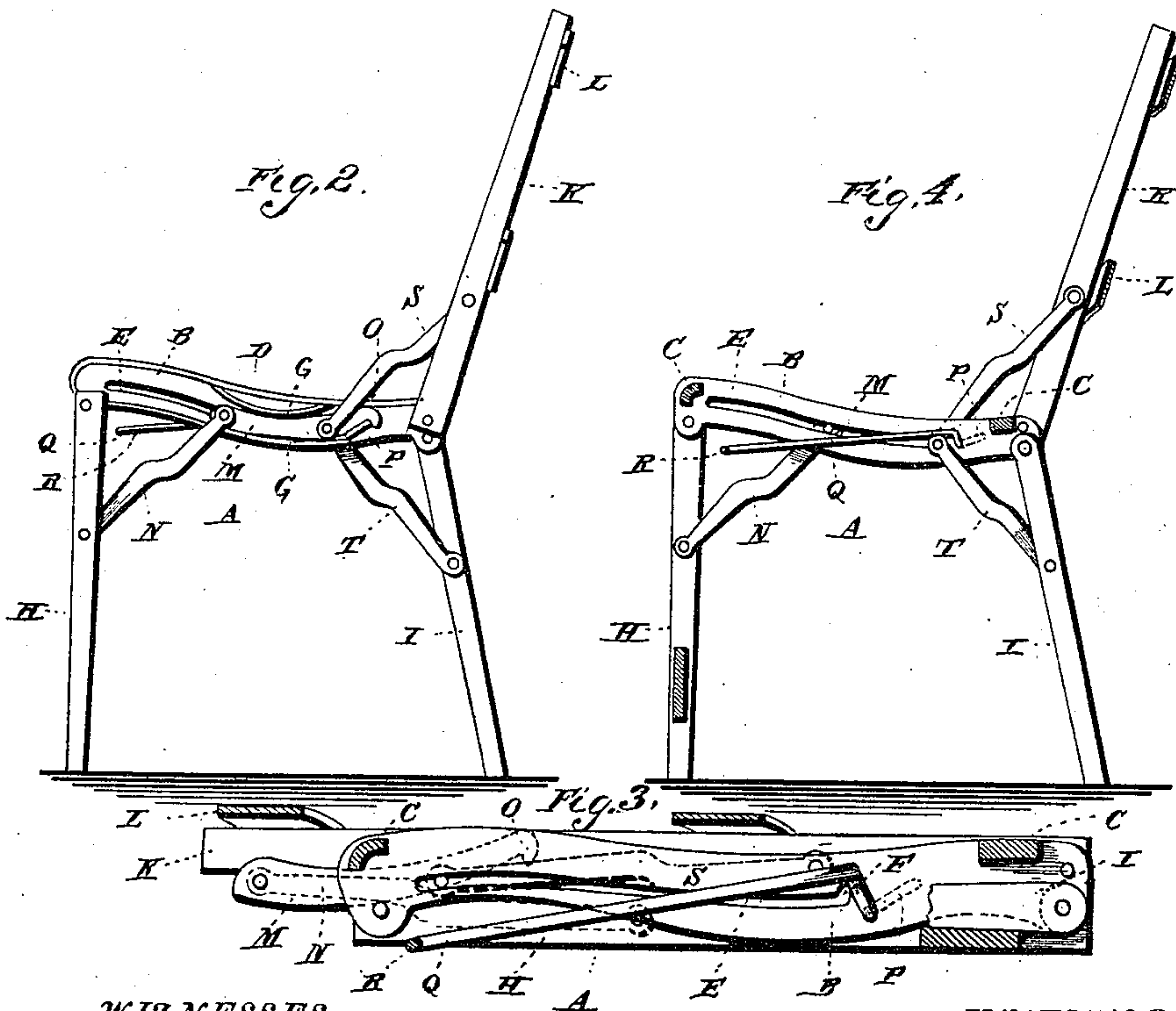
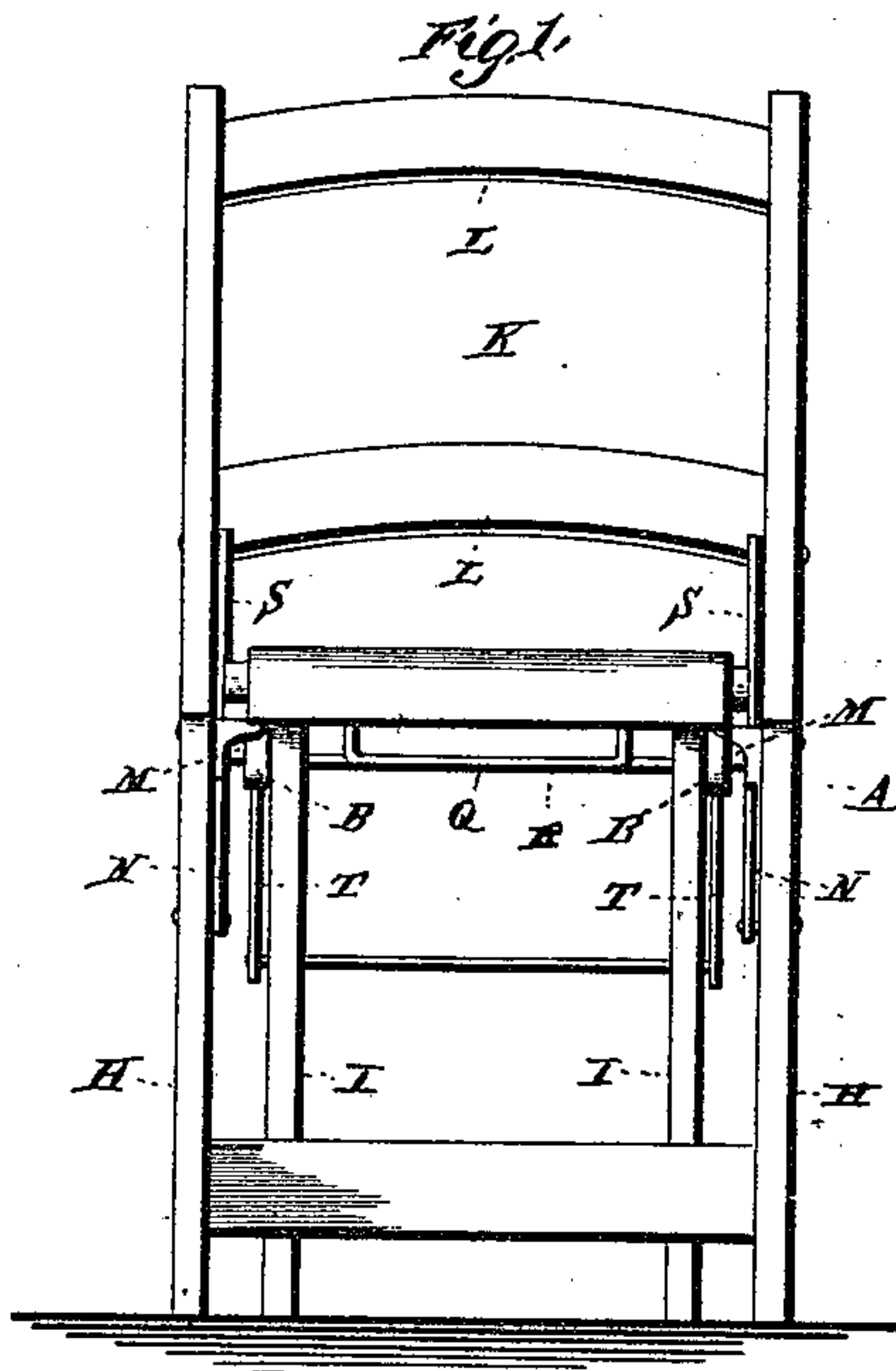


(No Model.)

J. W. BOWEN.
FOLDING CHAIR.

No. 441,466.

Patented Nov. 25, 1890.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. BOWEN, OF JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS.

FOLDING CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 441,466, dated November 25, 1890.

Application filed March 5, 1890. Serial No. 342,752. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. BOWEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jacksonville, in the county of Morgan and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in folding chairs; and it consists in certain novel features hereinafter pointed out.

In the annexed drawings, which fully illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved chair. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a view showing the chair as it appears when folded. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the chair.

The chair-seat A is composed of the side bars B B and the cross-bars C C, connecting the front and rear ends of the same, and it is provided with the cover or rest D, of any preferred material. The side bars are provided with the longitudinal slots E, having the short lateral branches or notches F at their rear ends, and above and below these slots the side bars are provided on their outer sides with the longitudinal ribs or projections G G, between which the latch, hereinafter referred to, works.

The legs H I of the chair are of the usual or any preferred construction, and the front legs H are pivoted at their upper ends to the front ends of the side bars B B, while the rear legs I are similarly pivoted at their upper ends to the rear ends of the said side bars.

The back J is composed of the side bars K, having their lower ends pivoted to the rear ends of the side bars B, and the cross-bars L secured to and extending between the said side bars to strengthen the chair and furnish a support for the back of the person using the chair.

M designates a latch, which is arranged between and guided by the longitudinal ribs on the outer sides of the side bars of the seat, and N designates braces, which are pivoted at their lower ends to the inner side of the front legs and at their inner upper ends to the front ends of the latches by pins. The rear end of the latch is turned slightly upward, and is provided with the hook O, adapted

to engage the crank-arms P on the ends of the rock-shaft or lever Q, mounted in the side bars B, and thereby lock the chair in its raised position. This locking-lever or rock-shaft is journaled in the side bars B, as shown, and as will be readily understood, and is provided at its outer ends with the crank-arms P and at its central portion with the forwardly-projecting handle or lever-arm R, which is arranged under the seat and terminates near the front edge of the same.

S designates braces, which are pivoted at their upper ends to the back and at their lower ends to the latches, near the rear ends of the same, by pins, which pass through the slots E and move along the said slots.

T designates braces, which are pivoted at their lower ends to the rear legs and at their upper ends to the latches by the same pins as the braces S, as clearly shown.

The construction and arrangement of the several parts of my device being thus made known, the operation and advantages of the same are thought to be obvious. When the chair is arranged for use, the pivot-pin of the rear braces is thrown upward into the notch at the end of the slot E, and is held in engagement therewith by the crank-arms on the locking-lever being turned upward against the hooks at the rear ends of the latches. The latches will thus be prevented from falling, and the pins held in the notches and consequently prevented from having any endwise movement, so that the chair will stand up steadily and firmly. When it is desired to fold the chair, the lever or rock-shaft is vibrated so as to swing the crank-arms at the rear ends of the same out of engagement with the latches, thus permitting the rear ends of the same to fall, thus disengaging the pin from the notch in the side bar of the chair. The said pin can now move along the slot, and the chair is folded by simply swinging the front edge of the seat and the upper edge of the back toward each other, when the pivotal connections of the other parts will cause them to fold together, as shown, and as will be readily understood.

My improved chair is very simple in its construction, is composed of comparatively few parts, and is consequently not liable to be

easily injured, and furnishes a device which can be readily folded into a compact form when not in use, and when in use presents a firm and strong support for the person.

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

10 1. The combination of the seat, the latches mounted on the sides of the seat, the back and legs pivoted to the seat, and the braces pivoted to the latch and to the legs and back, as set forth.

15 2. The combination of the seat, the legs and back pivoted thereto, the latches mounted on the sides of the seat, the braces pivoted to the back and legs and to the latch, and a locking-lever or rock-shaft mounted in the seat and engaging the latch, as set forth.

3. The combination of the seat having its side bars provided with slots having notches 20 at their ends, the legs and back pivoted to the seat, the latches mounted on the sides of the seat, the braces pivoted to the latches and the front legs, and the braces pivoted to the rear legs and the back and having a com- 25 mon pivot-pin connecting them to the latches, said pin being adapted to move along the slots in the side bars of the seat and engage the notches at the ends of the same, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in 30 presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. BOWEN.

Witnesses:

S. A. FAIRBANK,
CHAS. A. BARNES.