(No Model.)

# J. THORNBECK.

## FOLDING ROCKING CHAIR.

No. 488,704. Patented Dec. 27, 1892.

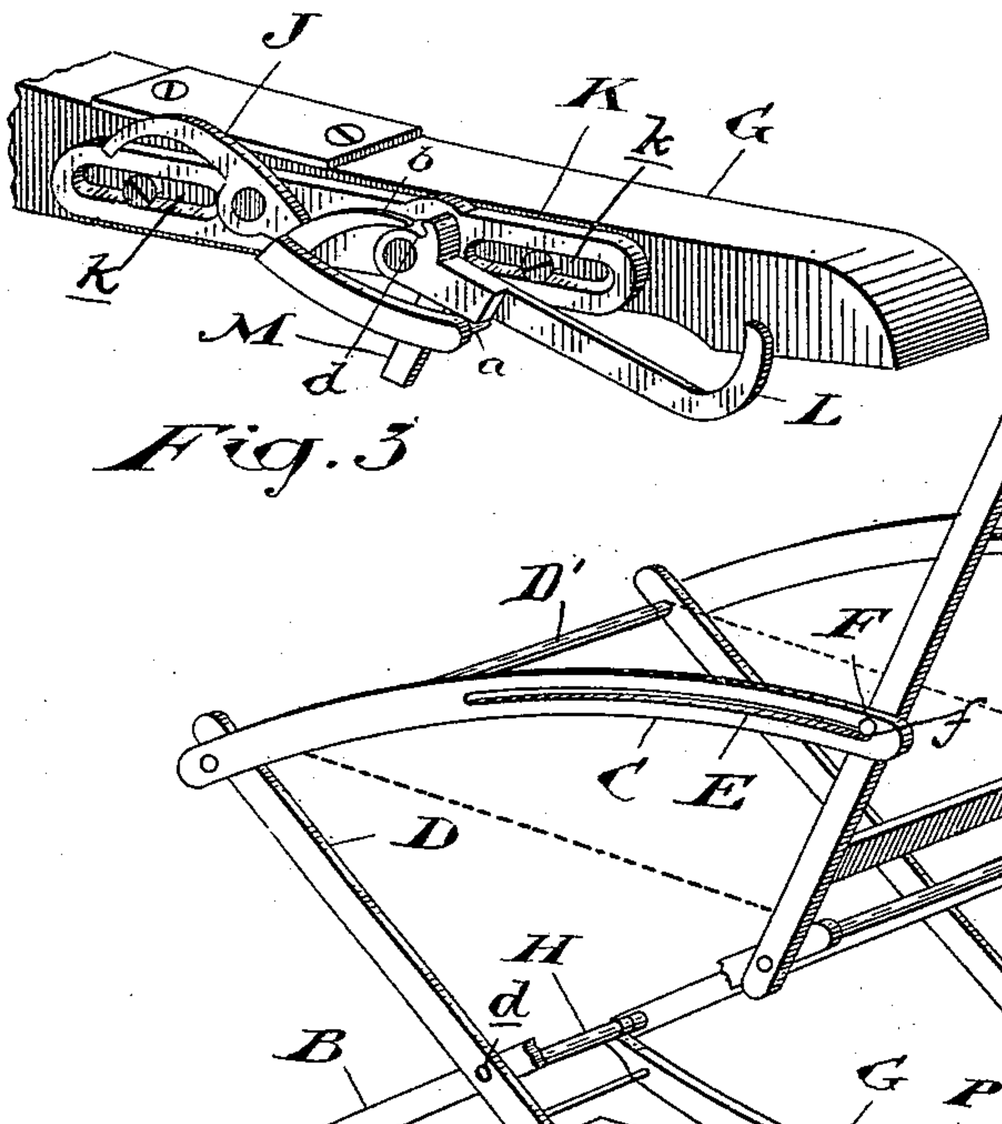


Fig. 3




Fig. 1

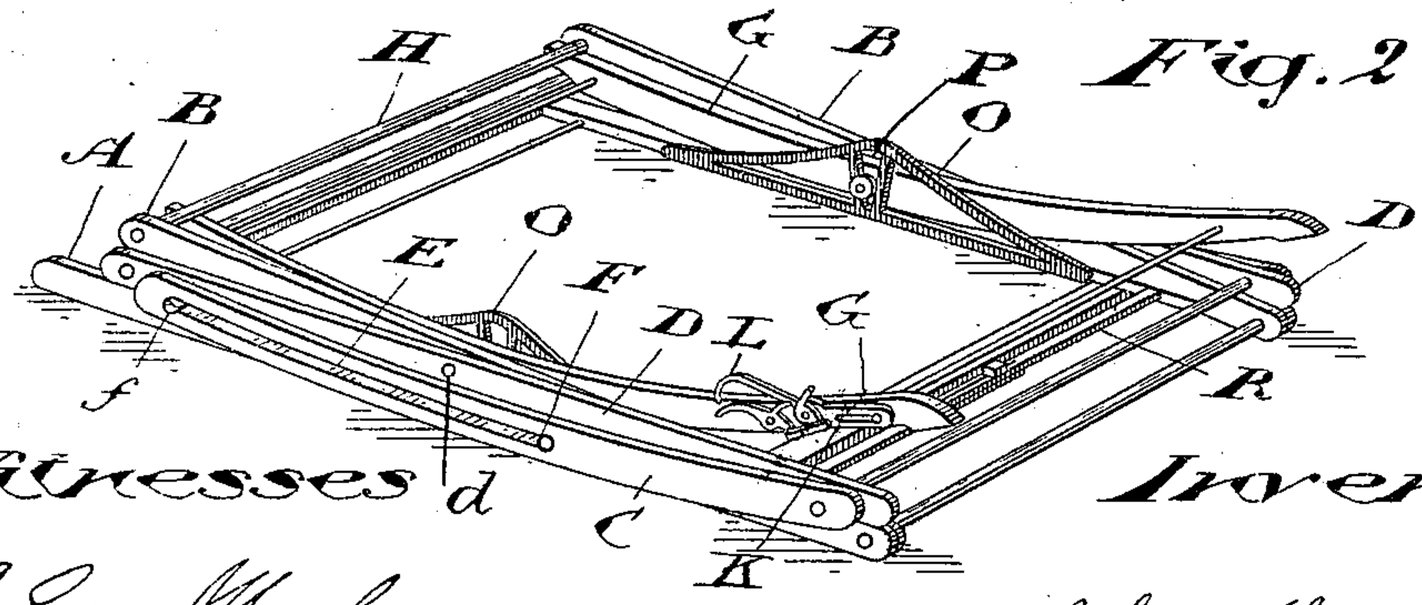


Fig. 2

Witnesses

S. Edw. Maybee

H. G. McMillan

Inventor

John Thornbeck

by Donald G. Ridout & Co.

attys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN THORNBECK, OF MALVERN, CANADA.

## FOLDING ROCKING-CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 488,704, dated December 27, 1892.

Application filed February 1, 1892. Serial No. 419,988. (No model.) Patented in Canada February 20, 1892, No. 38,312.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN THORNBECK, of the village of Malvern, in the county of York, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented a certain new and useful Folding Rocking-Chair, of which the following is a specification, and for which I have obtained Letters Patent of the Dominion of Canada, No. 38,312, dated February 20, 1892.

The object of this improvement is to produce a chair which may be folded into very small space for the purpose of transportation or storage, and the invention consists in the peculiar construction arrangement and combinations of parts hereinafter more particularly described and then definitely claimed.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of my folding rocking-chair in position for use. Fig. 2 is a view of the chair folded, with the locking-dog in the position it would occupy when locked. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail of the locking-dog and parts connected therewith in an unlocked position.

In the drawings, A represents the frame forming the back of the chair. This frame is pivoted on the rear-legs B, and is supported by the arms C which are pivoted to the front-legs D, and each arm has a slot E fitting over a pin or screw F projecting from the back frame A. At the rear end of each of the slots E, I form a notch *f*, into which the screw or pin F fits when the chair is extended as shown in Fig. 1. The front and rear legs are pivoted to each other at *d* and are connected, respectively, by the rungs D′ and B′ from which the seat may be stretched as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1. The rockers G are pivoted on the rung H, which connect the rear legs B together. The rung I which connects the front legs D together rests upon the rockers G, as indicated. In order to automatically lock the rung I to the rockers G, I provide, on one of the rockers G, the following simple mechanism: A plate K is fixed to one of the rockers G and is slotted as shown at *k*, so as to be capable of adjustment to fit different chairs or to be adjusted in case the seat should stretch and allow the ends of the legs D and B to extend. A lever J is pivoted on said plate K and has one end curved so as to project above its rocker, so that when the rung I is brought against the rocker G, it will first strike the lever J, causing it to move on its pivot and strike the back of the locking-dog L, thus throwing the said dog L around on its pivot until it falls by its own weight onto the rung I. The projecting heel M is formed on the locking dog L, so that the said dog may be lifted clear of the rung I, by simply pressing the foot on the said heel.

It will be observed that there are two tails *a* and *b* formed on the lever J, one tail *a* being formed to project below and act against the under side of the locking dog L, for the purpose already mentioned, while the tail *b* projects over the hub of the said dog L, and prevents the lever L falling below a given point. Said tail *b* is also designed to fit into a notch *d*, made in the hub of the dog L, to prevent the said dog being thrown up on its pivot before the lever J is acted upon by the rung I.

The rockers G rest upon a ground frame composed of two bars N, the proper distance apart to support the said rockers. These bars are connected together at their front ends by the round N′, and may be connected together at their back ends by an adjustable cross-bar R, so that they be moved nearer to, or farther apart, from each other, as desired. Each bar N has a bracket O fixed to it and each bracket has an elongated hole P made in it to receive a friction roller Q projecting from each rocker G. This manner of connecting the rockers G to the ground frame formed by the bars N, permits the free movement of the rockers upon the said bars so that the chair rocks easily upon the bars N, and may be readily folded thereon as shown in Fig. 2. It will be noticed in Figs. 1 and 2 that one end of said frame is made so as to be adjustable, if desired. The object of making this adjustable is, that the frame may be detached from the rockers by simply loosening the nuts and drawing the rear ends of the bars N together, thus drawing said bars away from the rockers. It is obvious that the brackets O may be placed on the outside of the frame, when, of course the ends of said frame will have to be separated instead of drawn together, when it is desired to detach the frame from the rockers. By providing a ground-frame having bars N, the rocking-

chair may be enjoyed on, comparatively speaking, uneven ground and the rockers will work as freely as though they were resting upon a floor.

In order to fold the chair, the dog L is raised clear of the rung I, and the legs B and D are folded together. The back A and the arm C are dropped down onto one side and the bars N, with their rockers G, are swung around to fit in between the cross-bars B, and D, as indicated in Fig. 2.

What I claim as new is:

1. A rocking-chair having rollers Q projecting from its rockers, in combination with a frame, comprising the bars N having brackets O projecting therefrom, said brackets having elongated holes P in which the rollers Q work, and one end of each of the bars N having an adjustable connection, arranged so that the ends of said bars may be opened or closed for the purpose of admitting into or releasing said rollers from the holes P, substantially as described.

2. A rocking chair, having front and rear legs, a rung H connecting the bottom ends of its rear legs and a rung I resting on the rockers and connecting the ends of the front legs, in combination with the rockers G pivoted on said rung H, a locking dog pivoted on said rockers, and a lever extending beyond said pivot whereby said dog is thrown over said rung I as the rung swings over said lever, thereby locking the rockers to the chair, substantially as described.

3. A rocking chair, having its rockers pivoted on the front rung H, in combination with a locking dog L pivoted on said rockers, and the lever J, provided with tails *a* and *b*, said dog L adapted to be thrown over the rear rung I, when pressure is exerted on the lever J, causing its tails *a* and *b* to act on said dog, substantially as described.

Toronto, January 21, 1892.

JOHN THORNBECK.

In presence of—
JAMES BAIRD,
I. EDW. MAYBEE.