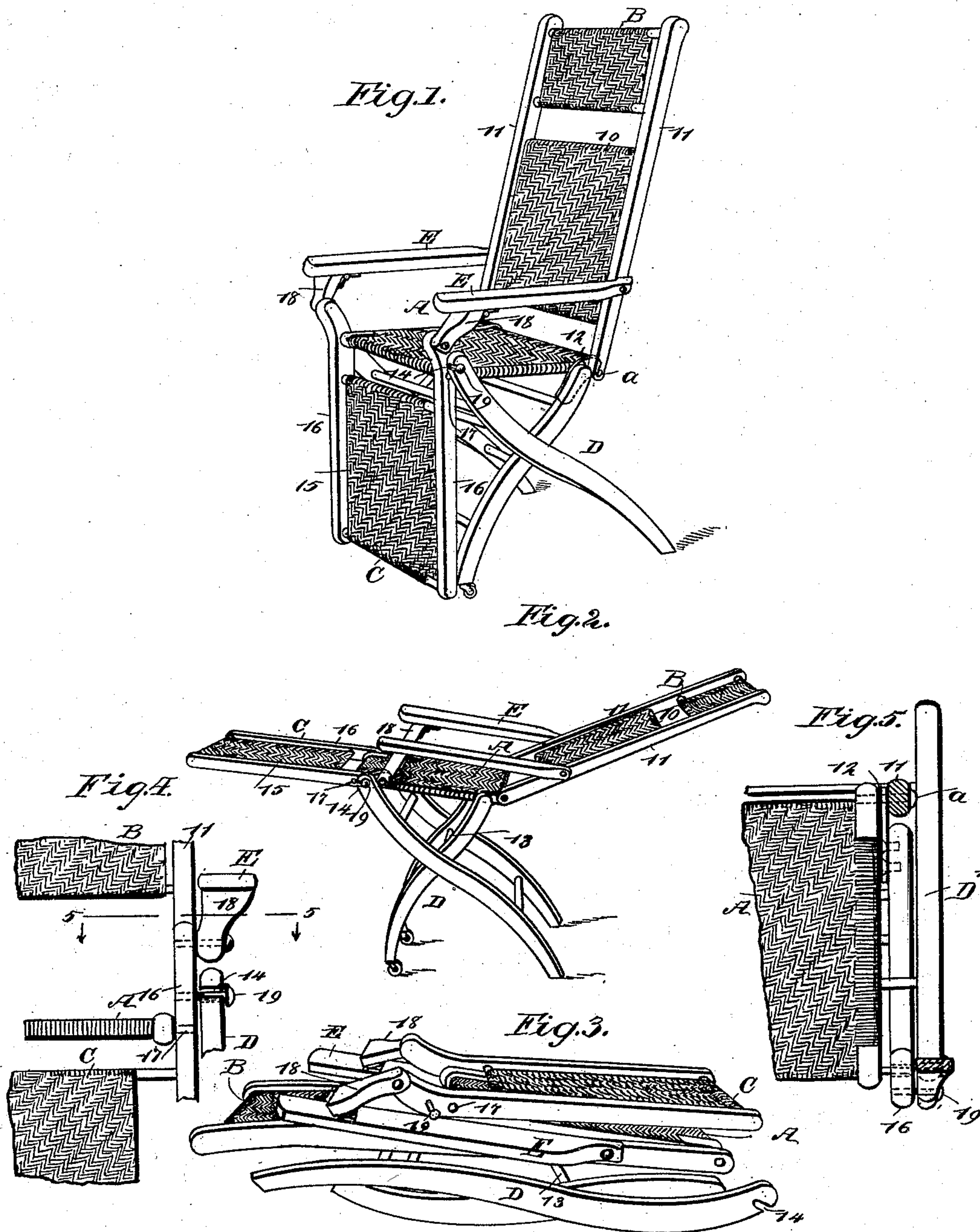


(No Model.)

W. J. MORELAND.  
FOLDING CHAIR.

No. 505,321.

Patented Sept. 19, 1893.



WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIS J. MORELAND, OF MOTTVILLE, NEW YORK.

## FOLDING CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 505,321, dated September 19, 1893.

Application filed March 10, 1893. Serial No. 465,375. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern.*

Be it known that I, WILLIS J. MORELAND, of Mottville, in the county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Folding Chair, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in folding or reclining chairs, and it has for its object to construct the chair in a simple, durable and economic manner, and to provide a means whereby when the chair is in position for reclining, the seat at its outer end will be elevated, thereby preventing the person reclining upon the chair from having a tendency to slip off therefrom.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the chair that the foot rest may be carried upward at its outer end above the level of the seat when the chair is in position for reclining.

Another object of the invention is to construct the chair of but few parts, and to provide a means whereby it may be completely folded.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures and letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the chair in a position enabling a person to be seated therein. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the chair in a position to allow a person to partially recline thereon. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the chair when folded. Fig. 4 is a partial front view of the back, the foot rest and the seat, and one side of the frame of the chair; and Fig. 5 is a section taken practically on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4, the section being taken through the frame, the seat appearing partially in plan view.

It is the object of this invention to construct the chair in such manner that it will be perfectly balanced in whatever position it may be placed, thus dispensing with the use of ratchets and other fastening devices to maintain it in a predetermined position, the chair being capable of following the movement of

the body in a sitting posture, a partially reclining position, or a fully reclining posture.

In carrying out the invention the chair consists primarily of a seat A, a back B, a foot rest C, legs D and arms E. The back comprises one or more panels 10, secured between or attached to side bars 11, which side bars may form a portion of the panel, or the panel, as has been stated, may be secured to the bars. The seat A, is constructed in the ordinary manner. The side pieces 11 of the back, at their lower ends, are pivoted to the rear portion of the seat, as shown at *a* in the drawings. A curved iron 12, is pivoted between the back and the seat at the pivotal connection of these two parts; therefore, one iron is located at each side of the seat at its rear, the said irons being curved downward and forwardly. The legs are of the X-pattern, and are pivotally connected at their central portions, ordinarily by means of a central cross bar 13; and the upper ends of the front legs are securely attached to the curved metal plates or bars 12, pivoted upon the seat; while the upper forward ends of the rear legs are usually provided in their forward edges with recesses 14. The foot rest comprises one or more panels 15, which may constitute an integral portion of or be attached to the side bars 16. The side bars at their upper portions extend beyond the upper or inner edge of the panel 15, and are curved in a forward direction; that is to say, when the panel is in an upright position the upper ends of the sides of the foot rest will have a decided upward and outward curve, as shown in Fig. 1. Below the curved portion of the foot rest the said rest is pivotally connected with the forward portion of the seat, the pivot pins 17, passing through the side bars of the foot rest where the straight upper portion thereof ends and the curve commences, as is likewise best shown in Fig. 1; therefore the curved portions of the side bars of the foot rest extend above the seat; and the arms E of the chair are pivoted to the side bars of the back and are connected with the upper ends of the side bars of the foot rest by means of connecting bars 18, which connecting bars are hinged to the under faces of the arms, and pivotally connect with the upper curved ends of the foot rest. Therefore, the pivotal connection between the foot



rest and the arms is in advance of and consequently out of vertical alignment with the pivotal connection between the foot rest and the seat, and this feature of the invention enables the chair to be placed in any position; that is, a sitting position, a partially reclining or a fully reclining position, and be held in that position by the balancing of the body of the occupant, thus requiring no ratchets or other fastening devices. The connecting bars 18 are so hinged to the arms that they may be folded rearwardly beneath the arms.

The foot rest above its pivotal connection is usually provided at each side with pins 19, and these pins, when the chair is set up for use, are adapted to enter the recesses 14 in the upper forward ends of the rear legs. I desire it to be distinctly understood that instead of the pins 19 being secured to the foot rest and entering the recesses in the legs, the pins may be secured to or form an integral portion of the legs and enter recesses or their equivalents formed in the foot rest.

When it is desired to fold up the chair, the forward legs are disconnected from the pins 19, and the back B, is folded down upon the seat A, which is readily accomplished owing to the connecting blocks 18 which unite the arms with the foot rest and are pivotally connected with one and hinged to the other; therefore, the arms will be carried forwardly as the back is dropped, and the side bars of the back will virtually drop down between the arms, as shown in Fig. 2. The foot rest is next folded to an engagement with the under face of the seat, while the legs are brought together or closed, and carried upward against the rear portion of the back, the folded position of the chair being fully shown in Fig. 3. The balancing of the chair depends to a great extent upon the pivot 19, carried by the legs D, which acts to throw up the front of the seat.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a folding and reclining chair, comprising a supporting frame, a back, a seat pivotally connected with the back, a foot rest pivotally connected with the seat, arms having a pivotal connection with the back, and connecting bars hinged to the said arms and pivotally connected with the foot rest, whereby the back can be moved independently of the foot rest, as and for the purpose specified.

2. As an improved article of manufacture a folding and reclining chair, comprising a supporting frame a back, a seat pivotally connected with the back, a foot rest pivotally connected with the seat, having its upper or inner end at the sides curved outwardly from the pivot, arms pivotally connected with the back and connecting bars pivotally connected with the curved extremities of the foot rest, and hinged to the said arms whereby the pivotal connection between the connecting bars and the foot rest is in advance of the pivotal connection between the foot rest and the seat, as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a folding and reclining chair, the combination, with the seat, a back pivotally connected with the rear of the seat, and a foot rest pivotally connected with the forward portion of the seat, the upper or inner end of the foot rest at its sides being outwardly curved from its pivotal connection with the seat, of legs of the cross pattern pivotally connected with each other and pivotally connected with the rear of the seat, the said legs having removable yet locking engagement with the foot rest, arms pivoted to the back, and connecting bars hinged to the arms and pivotally connected with the curved extremities of the foot rest, substantially as shown and described, whereby the chair may be balanced in whatever position it may be placed, and compactly folded, as and for the purpose specified.

WILLIS J. MORELAND.

Witnesses:

HOSEA F. ROWELL,  
F. D. HOYT.