

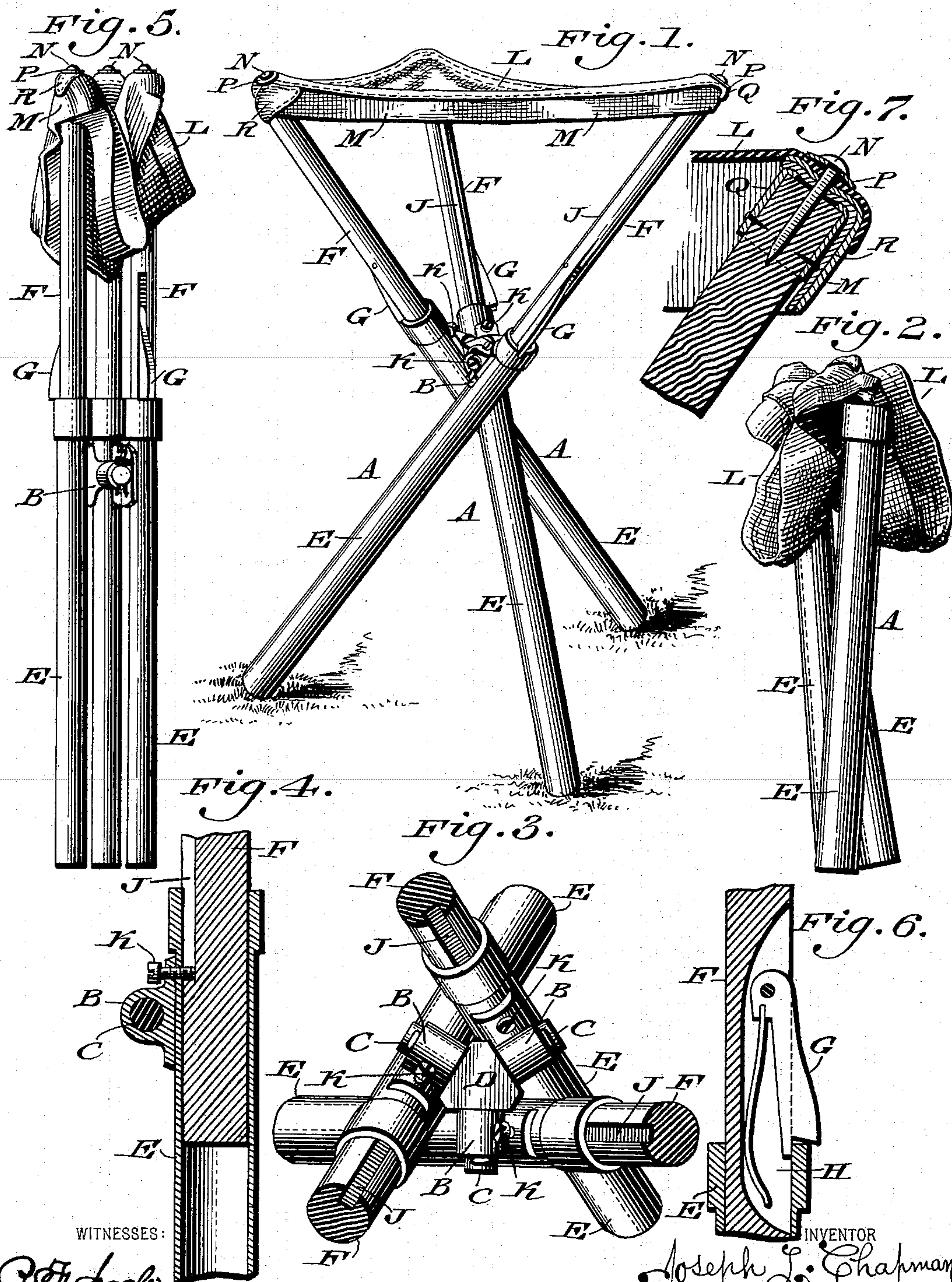
No. 615,476.

Patented Dec. 6, 1898.

J. L. CHAPMAN.  
FOLDING STOOL.

(Application filed June 23, 1898.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

O. F. Chagb.  
L. Houville

INVENTOR

Joseph L. Chapman  
BY  
Diederheim & Fairbanks  
ATTORNEYS.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH L. CHAPMAN, OF HADDONFIELD, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO  
WILLIAM HARRY MATTSON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## FOLDING STOOL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 615,476, dated December 6, 1898.

Application filed June 23, 1898. Serial No. 684,214. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH L. CHAPMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Haddonfield, in the county of Camden, State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Stools, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings.

My invention consists of a stool which has its legs constructed of telescopic form, so as to be increased in length when service of the stool is required and to be folded or reduced for convenience in carrying, storing, packing, or handling the same, said legs having ears connected with them, the same receiving journals on a central block, whereby the legs are not pierced for said journals, and their strength is accordingly preserved, the ears being also provided with screws for the legs extended in operative position and with means for preventing improper separation of the same.

Figures 1 and 2 represent perspective views of a folding stool embodying my invention, the same being respectively in unfolded and folded condition. Fig. 3 represents a horizontal section of a portion on an enlarged scale. Figs. 4, 6, and 7 represent longitudinal sections of portions on an enlarged scale. Fig. 5 represents a side elevation of the stool in partially-folded condition.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates legs of the stool, the same having secured to their sides the ears B, through each of which is passed a journal C, the several journals radiating from a central block D, whereby the legs are adapted to open, as in Fig. 1, or be folded, as in Fig. 2, after the manner of a tripod, the legs thus not being pierced to receive said journals, so that their strength is preserved. The block, journals, and ears form a strong support for the legs when in operative position, said legs crossing and providing a broad base, as most clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 3. The legs are formed of sections E and F, fitted to each other telescopically, the section F being adapted to be withdrawn from the sections E and form upward

extensions thereof, thus increasing the lengths of the legs. The lower portions of the sections F are provided with spring-catches G, which when pressed in occupy the recesses H in said sections F, whereby the latter may be folded into the sections E, thus reducing the lengths of each pair of sections practically to that of a single section E. When, however, the sections F are extended or drawn out, the noses of the catches G engage with the upper edge of the sections E and retain said sections in their operative position.

In order to limit the outward extensions of the section F, the same is provided with the longitudinally-extending grooves J, into which are received the points of the screws K, which pass through the sections F, and in the present case also through portions of the ears B and enter said grooves, so that the lower ends of the grooves form stops which abut against the screws K, and thus limit the outward motion of the sections F, as will be most plainly seen in Fig. 4.

L designates the seat, which is formed of suitable fabric or other flexible or pliable material, from the sides of which depend the skirts or flanges M, which, with the seat, form pockets at the corner of the latter, said pockets receiving the upper ends of the legs A, or in the present case the upper ends of the sections F of said legs, so that the portions of the skirt will be allowed to overlap the same and receive the strain or weight on the seat when the same is occupied, by which provision the seat is enabled to endure the strain to which it is subjected and relieves the upper ends of the seat of strain directly at its corners. In order to prevent upward displacement of the said skirts from the legs, nails or screws N are passed through the seat into the tops of the legs, and washers P may be employed for contact at the heads of said nails. The upper ends of the legs may be reinforced by collars Q around the places occupied by the shanks of said nails. In order to impart the proper fit to the skirts, so as to embrace the legs, the corners of the seat are cut with gores R, which are overlapped and close the corners of the skirts and increase the strength of the same.



It will be seen that when the catches G are pressed in the sections F of the legs may be moved into the sections E thereof and the parts of the seat fold together. The legs as  
5 shortened may now be folded together, thus forming a compact bundle, (shown in Fig. 2,) or, as in Fig. 5, the legs may first be folded, thus folding the seat between the upper ends of the sections F, after which the catches G  
10 are pressed in and the sections F folded into the sections E, thus again producing the effect shown in Fig. 2, placing the entire stool in compact condition, occupying small space, convenient for carrying, packing, storage, &c.  
15 Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a folding stool, a block with journals radiating therefrom and ears secured to the  
20 sides of the legs and having said journals mounted therein.

2. In a folding stool, folding legs, ears secured to sides of said legs, a block centrally between said legs, and journals radiating  
25 from said block and entering said ears.

3. In a folding stool, folding legs formed of sections fitted to each other telescopically, ears each secured to one member of said sections, a block with journals entering said  
30 ears, the other members of the sections having longitudinally-extending grooves therein and screws carried by said ears and passing through the connected sections into said grooves.

4. Legs formed of sections fitted to each  
35 other telescopically, catches on the inner sections adapted to have their noses abut on the outer sections, inwardly-projecting pins on the outer sections, entering longitudinal  
40 grooves in the inner section, ears secured to the sides of the outer sections, and a block with journals radiating therefrom and entering said ears, the parts named being combined forming an improvement in folding stools.

JOSEPH L. CHAPMAN.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. WIEDERSHEIM,  
WM. C. WIEDERSHEIM.