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Patented Apr. 15, 1902.

C. W. & W. H. KING.
SPRING ROCKING CHAIR.

(Application filed May 13, 1901.)

(No Model.)

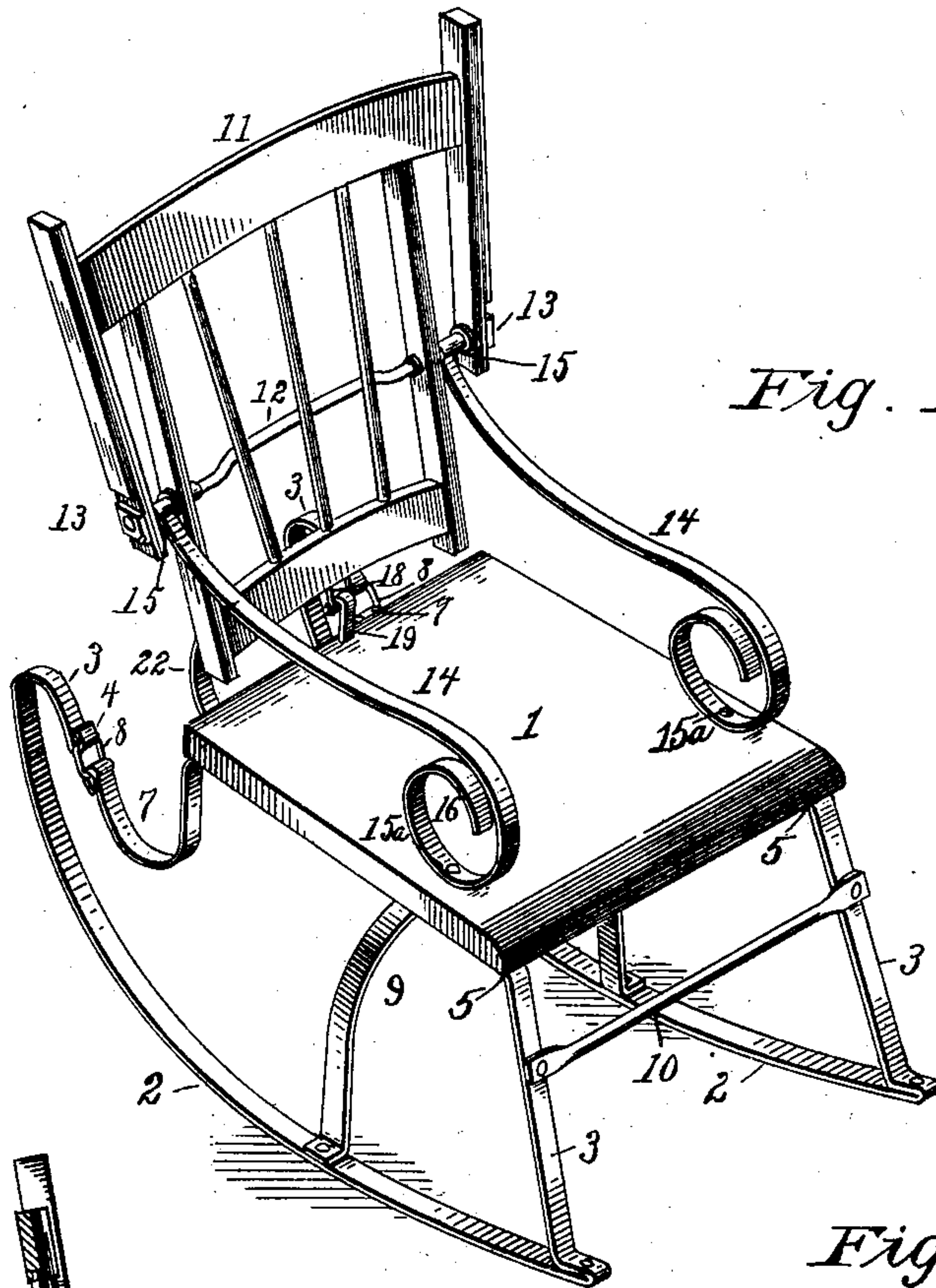


Fig. 1.

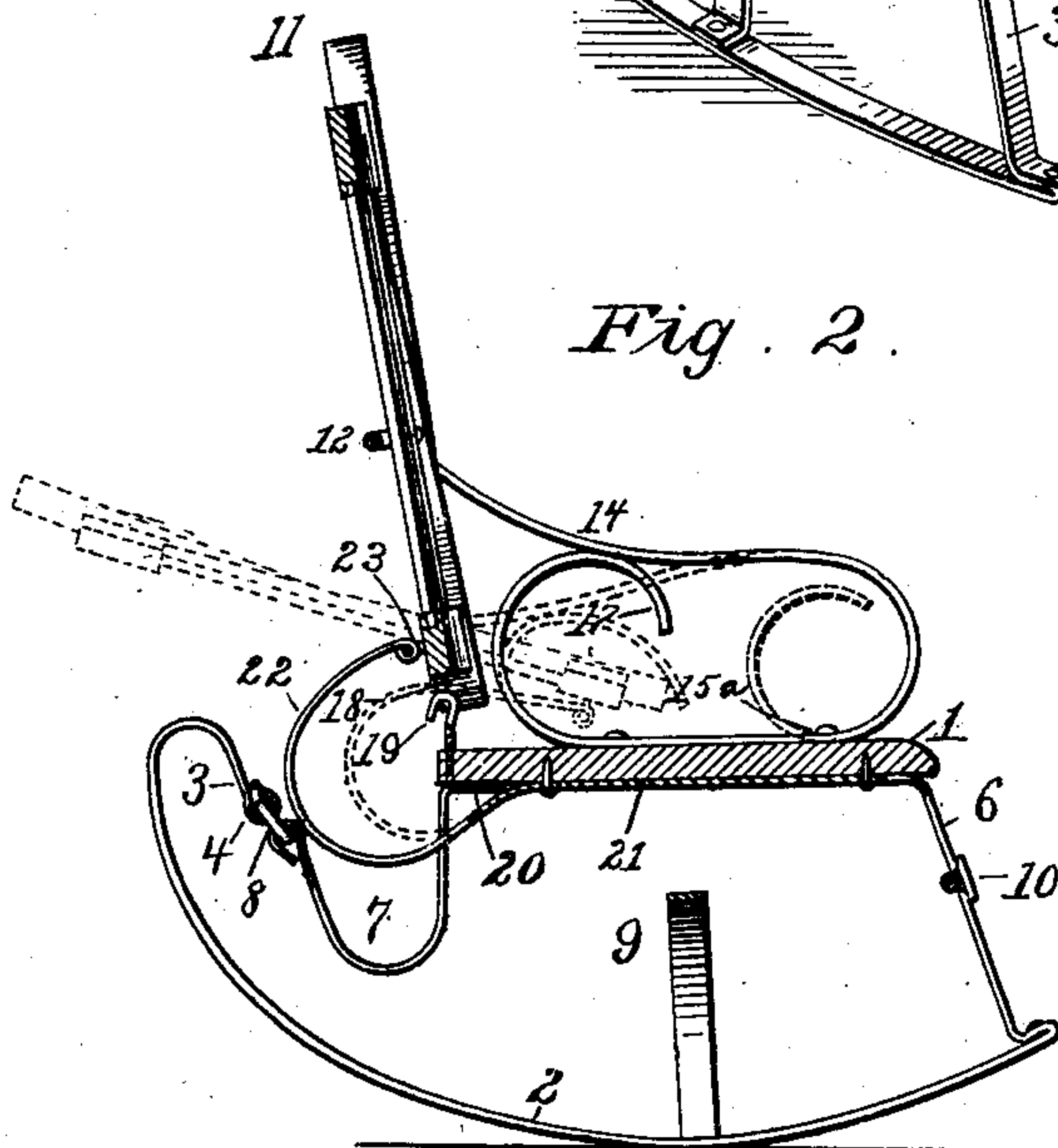


Fig. 2.

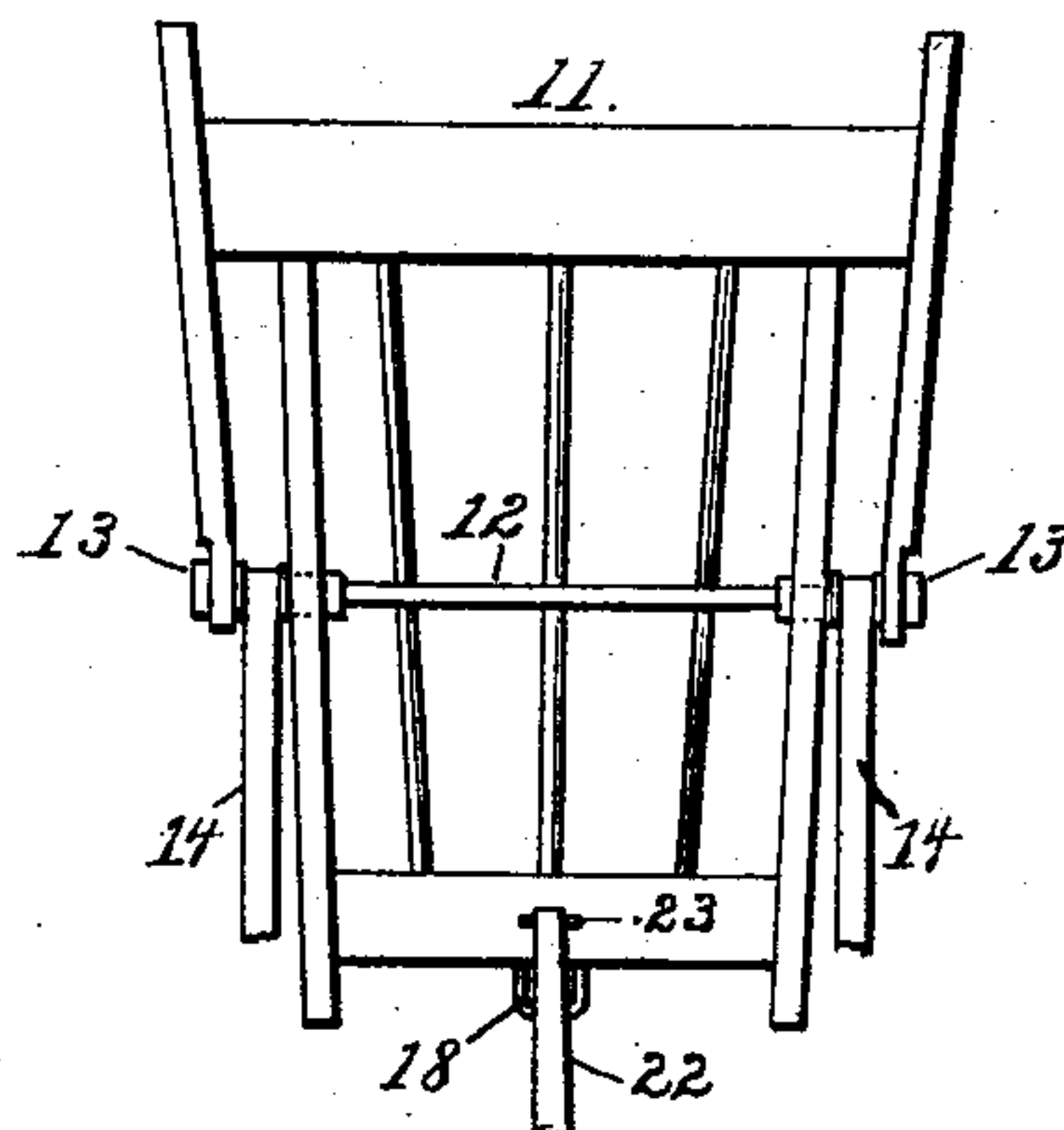


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. KING AND WILLIAM H. KING, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

SPRING ROCKING-CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,494, dated April 15, 1902.

Application filed May 13, 1901. Serial No. 59,919. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES W. KING and WILLIAM H. KING, citizens of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spring Rocking-Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to rocking-chairs, and more especially to a spring-rocker; and our object is to provide a chair of this character which it is practically impossible to tip over backward while rocking, which absorbs vibrations incident to rocking over a rough floor or other surface, and thereby adds to the comfort of the occupant, and which may be used with its back sustained yieldingly in an upright position or with its back arranged to accommodate itself to the inclination of the back of the occupant.

With these general objects in view and others, as hereinafter appear, the invention consists in certain novel and peculiar features of construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed, and in order that it may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rocking-chair embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same, but showing the resilient back-supporting arms of slightly-modified construction. Fig. 3 is a rear view of the back as removed from the base of the chair.

In the said drawings, 1 designates the seat of a chair of the form shown or of any other suitable or preferred form.

2 designates the rockers, preferably in the form of spring metal, with their rear ends overturned forwardly, as shown at 3, and terminating in loops or eyes 4.

5 designates a metallic strip secured near each side margin to the under side of the seat and fashioned at their front ends to provide the front legs 6, secured to or formed integral with the rockers, the rear ends of strips 5 terminating in depending U-shape resilient arms 7, pivotally connected by links 8 with the eyes or loops 4 of the overturned ends of the rockers. The latter are braced from lateral movement by an arched guard 9, con-

necting them beneath the seat, and by the straight brace or round 10, connecting the front legs.

11 designates the back of the chair, the same being of the form and construction shown or of any other suitable or preferred type, and secured to the back is a transverse rod 12, the same extending through the two outermost bars of the chair-back at each side and having its central portion bent to occupy a position in rear of and brace the intermediate bars, so as to add strength and rigidity to the back, retaining-nuts 13 engaging the ends of said rod. The back is supported by springs 14, the rear ends of which are swiveled, as at 15, and said springs are secured, as at 15^a, to the seat and may terminate near the front ends of the seat in the coils 16, as shown in Fig. 1, but preferably will be extended back upon the seat for additional security, as shown in Fig. 2, and terminate in coils 17, arranged vertically below and contiguous to the rear portions of the springs to reinforce and strengthen the latter.

18 designates a loop depending centrally from the chair-back and adapted to engage the rearwardly-disposed hook 19, projecting upward from the seat and forming a terminal of a metallic strip 20, secured to the under side of the seat.

21 designates a strip secured to the under side of the seat and bent to form a coil 22 at its rear end, pivotally connected, as at 23, to the rear side and lower end of the back, this spring being for the purpose of coacting in the resilient support of the back and to press the lower end of the same upwardly and forwardly, and therefore act to support the lower portion of the back when in an upright reclining position.

When the occupant desires the back practically fixed at its lower end with relation to the seat, the loop 18 and hook 19 should be in engagement, and this condition should also exist in moving the chair about when not occupied. Under ordinary conditions this loop and hook are disconnected, so that the back by swiveling on springs 14 may automatically accommodate itself to the angle of the back of the occupant, who when desiring to sit perfectly upright seats himself far back in the chair and therefore brings the major pressure

to bear on the back below its swivel-point, the result being that the upper portion swings forward and supports the occupant's back in the most natural and comfortable manner and at the same time resiliently for absorbing the vibrations incident to the rocking movement of the chair over an uneven surface.

Should the occupant desire to recline in the chair, he can do so by simply leaning back, this action applying the greater pressure to the chair-back above the swivel-point, the springs giving the desired resiliency.

Practically all chance of rocking over backward is eliminated, because the weight of the occupant upon the seat, through the medium of the overturned rear ends of the rockers and depending portions 7, linked thereto, tend to pull downwardly and forwardly on said rockers, this action being accentuated because the higher the occupant rocks the more weight is brought to bear upon the rear portion of the seat, and consequently forwardly upon the rear ends of the rockers.

From the above description it will be apparent that we have produced a rocking-chair of simple, strong, durable, and cheap construction which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of invention, and while we have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of the same it is to be understood that we reserve the right to make all changes in the form, proportion, detail, construction, and arrangement of the parts which properly fall within its spirit and scope.

Having thus described the invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A rocking-chair, comprising the rockers, having their rear ends overturned forwardly and terminating between the body portions of the rockers and the seat, metallic strips depending from the seat and terminating below the overturned ends of the rockers, and links pivotally connecting the overturned ends of the latter with the contiguous ends of the depending strips, substantially as described.

2. A rocking-chair, comprising the rockers

composed of resilient metal and having their rear ends overturned forwardly, and strips secured to the seat and formed with depending U-shaped portions, and links connecting said portions with said overturned ends of the rockers, substantially as described.

3. A rocking-chair, comprising the rockers having their rear ends overturned forwardly, strips secured to the seat and terminating at their front ends in legs united to the front ends of the rockers, and at their rear ends in depending U-shaped resilient portions, and links pivotally connecting said portions with said overturned ends of the rockers, substantially as described.

4. A rocking-chair having its back movable with relation to the seat, and springs 14, above and secured to the latter near its front corners and having their rear ends swiveled to and supporting the back, substantially as described.

5. A chair, comprising springs secured to the seat, a back supported upon the rear ends of said springs and swiveled thereto, and means for detachably connecting the lower end of the back to the seat so as to relatively fix the relation of said springs, substantially as described.

6. A rocking-chair, comprising springs secured to the seat, a back supported upon the rear ends of said springs and swiveled thereto, and a hook and loop connection between the lower end of the back and the rear edge of the seat substantially as described.

7. A rocking-chair, comprising springs secured to the seat, a back supported at the rear ends of said springs, and a spring secured at its opposite ends to the seat and the lower end of the back, and tending to resist downward or rearward movement of the latter, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES W. KING.
WILLIAM H. KING.

Witnesses:

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G. Y. THORPE.