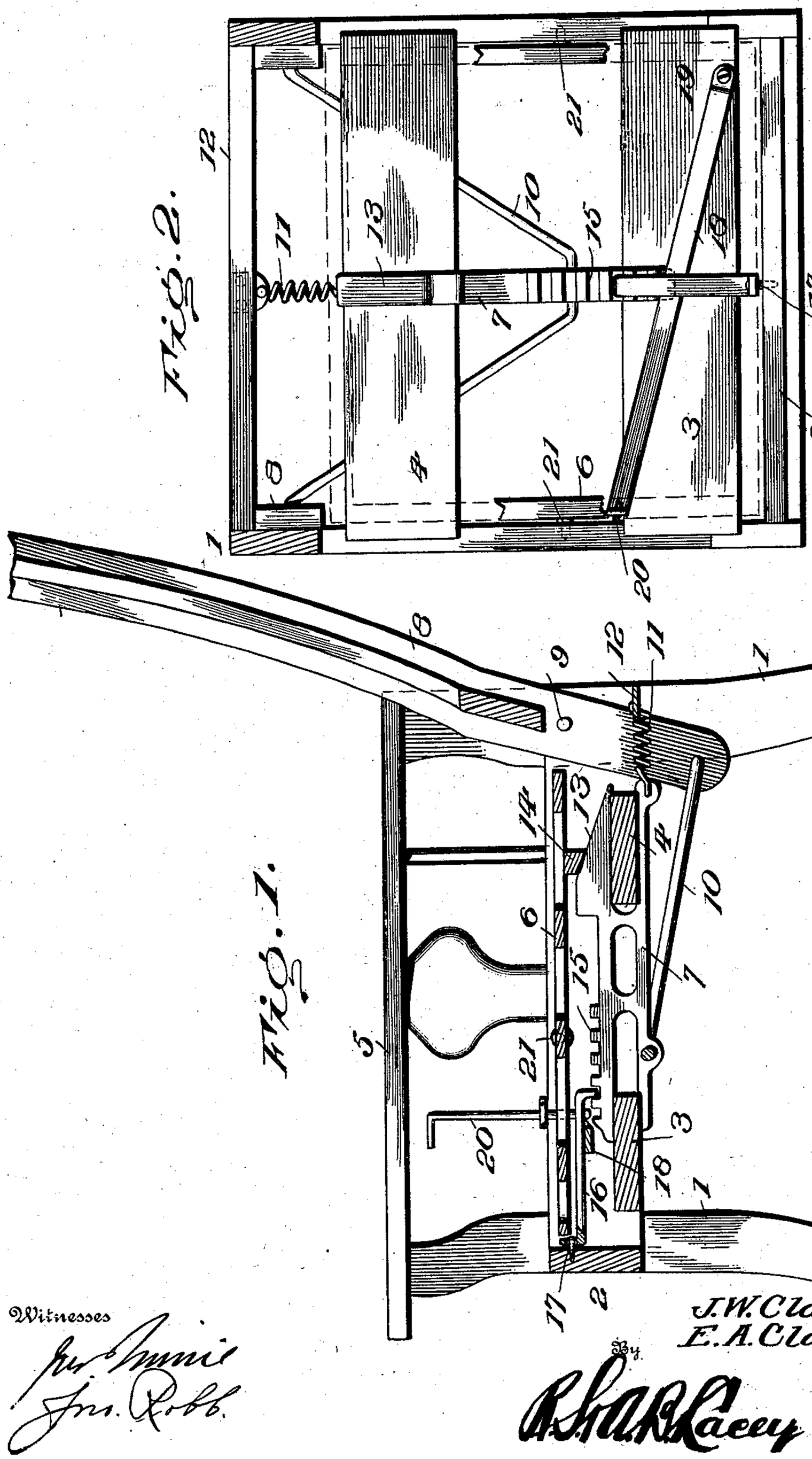
No. 702,540. Patented June 17, 1902.

J. W. & E. A. CLARK.

RECLINING CHAIR.

(Application filed Nov. 18, 1901.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. CLARK AND ELMER A. CLARK, OF JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN.

RECLINING-CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,540, dated June 17, 1902.

Application filed November 18, 1901. Serial No. 82,705. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES W. CLARK and ELMER A. CLARK, citizens of the United States, residing at Janesville, in the county of Rock and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Reclining-Chairs; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to the type of chairs having the back and seat adjustable to suit the convenience and comfort of the user and aims to provide simple, effective, and novel means for simultaneous adjustment of the back and seat and securing them in an adjusted position.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result reference is to be had to the following description and drawings hereto attached.

While the essential and characteristic features of the invention are susceptible of modification, still the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of a chair embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a top view thereof, parts being broken away.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in both views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The frame of the chair may be of any construction and, as shown, comprises legs 1, cross-pieces 2, 3, and 4, and an arm-rest 5 at each side. The cross-pieces 3 and 4 are slats and are spaced apart and are arranged about parallel with the seat 6. A slide 7 is supported by means of the cross-pieces 3 and 4 in such a manner as to move forward and backward, said slide being in the form of a bar having its ends forked so as to embrace the upper and lower sides of the respective cross-pieces 3 and 4.

The back 8 is pivoted near its lower end to the frame, as shown at 9, and its side bars have their lower ends connected by a bail 10 with the slide 7, the extremities of the bail being journaled in the extensions of the side bars of the back and the central portion of the bail being journaled to the slide 7. A spring 11 connects the slide 7 with a cross-bar 12 at the rear of the frame and serves to hold the slide and back in a given position. The upper rear portion of the slide is inclined, as shown at 13, and forms a support for the rear portion of the seat 6. Hence the inclination of said seat is governed by the position of the slide 7 with reference to the frame. A block or cross-piece 14 is provided at the bottom side of the seat 6 and rests upon the incline 13 and rides thereon as the slide 7 is moved forward and backward, so as to cause the rear portion of the seat either to fall or rise. A series of cog-teeth 15 is provided at the upper side of the slide 7, near its front end, and a pawl 16 coöperates therewith to hold the slide 7 in an adjusted position, said pawl being loosely connected at 17 to the front cross-piece 2 of the frame. A bar 18 extends transversely of the frame and comes beneath the pawl 16 and is adapted to disengage said pawl from the cog-teeth 15 to admit of the slide 7 being moved by the application of force to the back 8. This bar 18 is pivoted at one end to the cross-piece 3, as shown at 19, and its opposite end has a vertical rod 20 connected thereto and extended within convenient reach of the occupant of the chair, so that the pawl may be operated without requiring the person rising from or leaving the chair.

The parts being arranged substantially as shown, the back is held in an adjusted position by engagement of the pawl 16 with a selected tooth 15 of the slide 7. When it is required to change the inclination of the back of the chair, the rod 20 is drawn upward, thereby disengaging the pawl 16 from the teeth of the slide 7, after which the back may be moved either forward or rearward to the desired position and is secured by releasing the rod 20, which permits the pawl 16 to engage with a tooth of the slide 7. The seat 6 being pivoted nearer its front end, as shown at 21, normally tends to gravitate at its rear end, and the incline or cam 13, acting as a wedge, causes the rear portion of the seat either to rise or fall, according to the position of the back and the relative location of the slide 7. When the back of the chair is pressed

rearward at its upper end and it is required to have it assume a normal position, it is only necessary to pull upward on the rod 20, which effects a release of the slide 7 and permits the spring 11 to contract and return the parts to a normal position, as will be readily understood.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In a chair, the combination with the frame comprising spaced cross-pieces and the back pivoted thereto, a slide embracing opposite sides of the said cross-pieces and connected with the chair-back and provided with cog-teeth, and a pawl connected with the frame and adapted to coöperate with the said teeth to secure the slide and chair-back in a given position, substantially as specified.

2. In a chair, the combination with the frame, a pivoted back, a vertically-adjustable seat, a slide mounted for rectilinear movement and connected with the said back for simultaneous action therewith and having an inclined portion upon which the seat rests to move up or down as the slide is shifted either forward or backward, and means coöperating with the slide to hold it and the seat and back in an adjusted position, substantially as specified.

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

JAMES W. CLARK. [L. S.]
ELMER A. CLARK. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
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