

No. 816,899.

PATENTED APR. 3, 1906.

J. E. CHASE & J. S. McCREARY.
THEATER CHAIR.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1905.

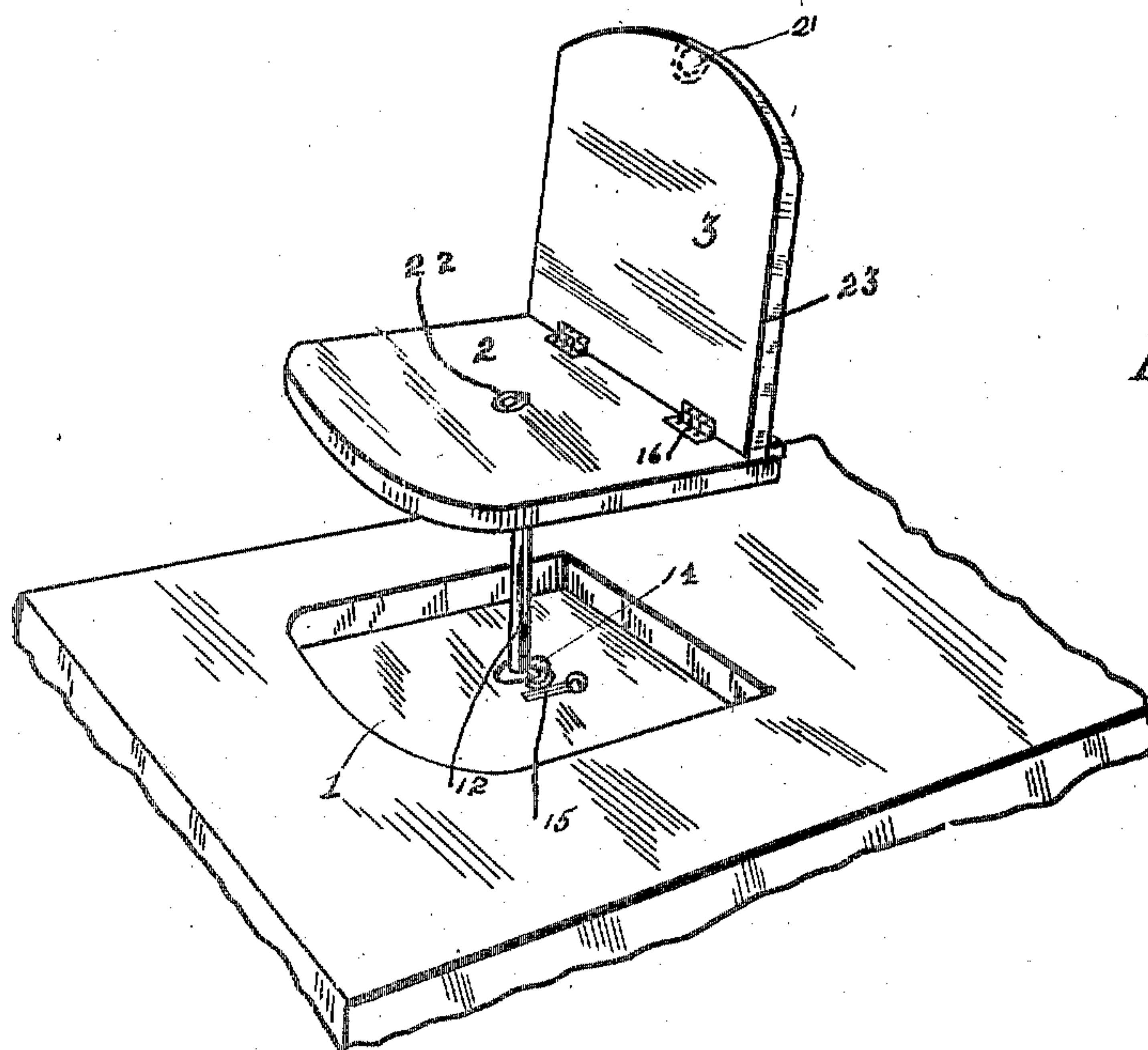


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

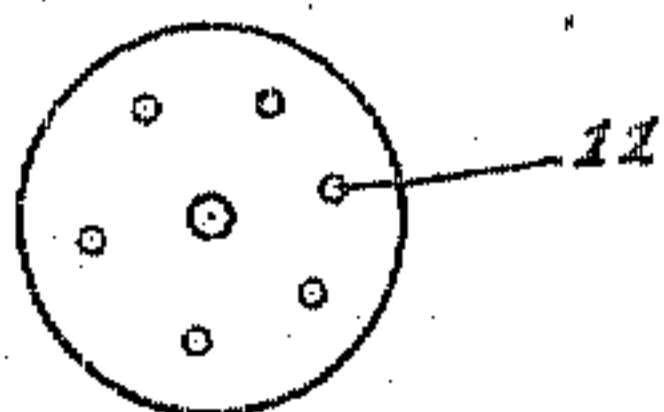


Fig. 3.

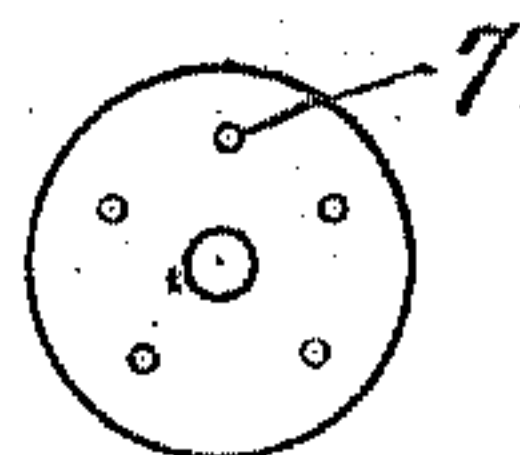


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

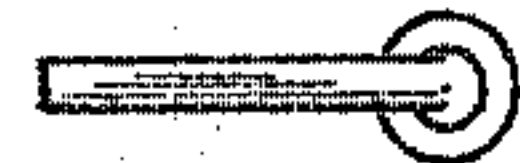
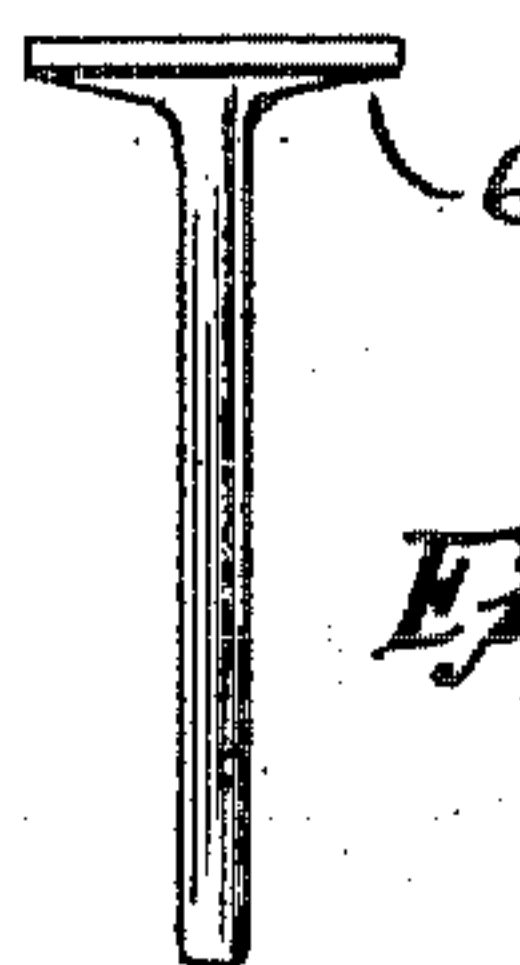


Fig. 6.

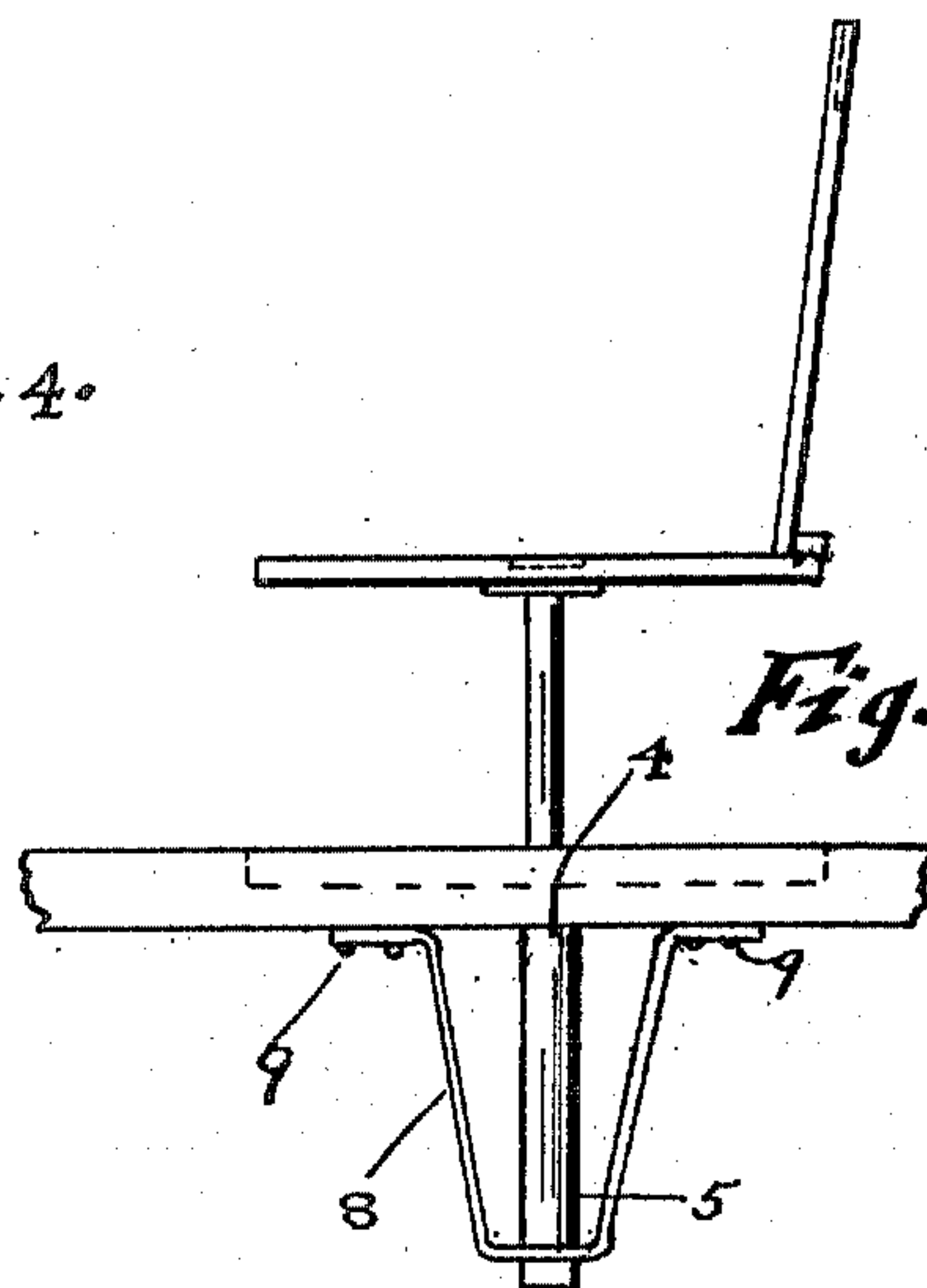


Fig. 7.

Witnesses:

E. O. Galt.

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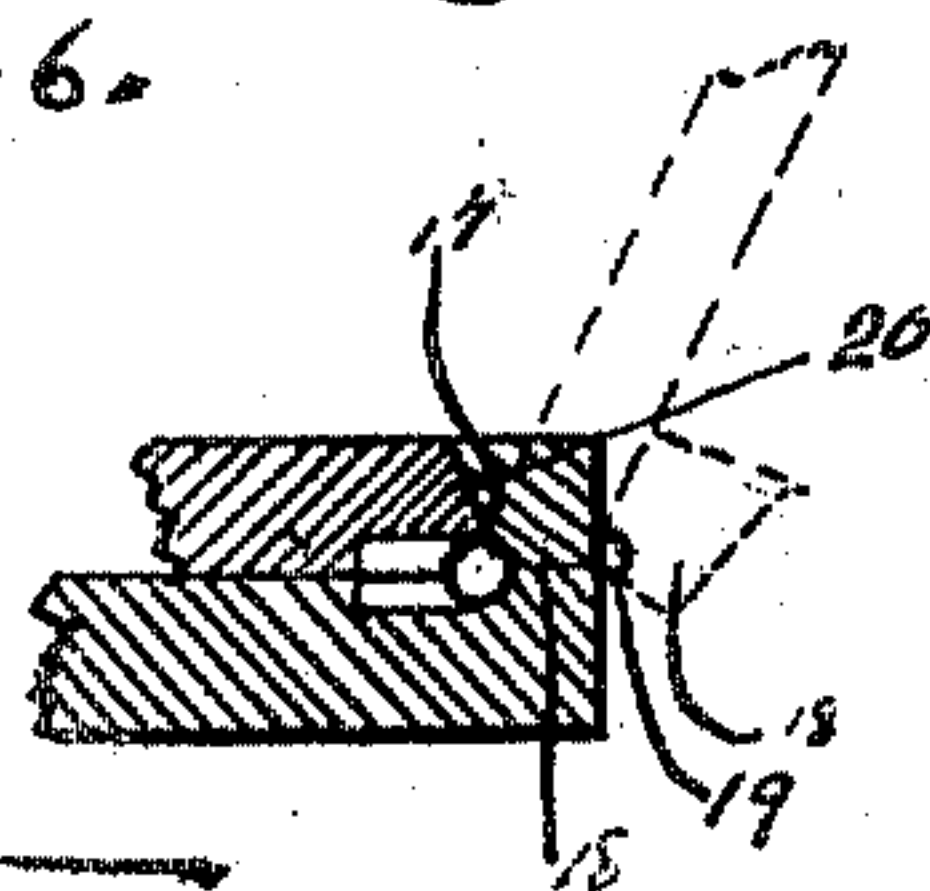


Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH E. CHASE AND JOHN S. McCREARY, OF CANAL DOVER, OHIO.

THEATER-CHAIR.

No. 816,899.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 3, 1906.

Application filed October 2, 1905. Serial No. 280,973.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH E. CHASE and JOHN S. McCREARY, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Canal Dover, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Theater - Chairs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings:

10 This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in theater-chairs; and the invention has for its primary object to provide a novel form of chair which can be folded and placed in the floor of a theater, where-
15 by a smooth and uninterrupted surface will be provided upon the floor of a theater when the chairs are not being used.

Our invention aims to provide a chair which is particularly adapted for use in halls and rooms that may be used for theater or concert purposes, and to this end we have devised a chair that can be easily and quickly folded and lowered into the floor of a theater or hall, whereby when the chair is not being
25 used it will not obstruct or occupy any space not being used in a theater or hall.

Our improved chair, which may be termed a "disappearing" chair, can be readily used in aisles and such places where it is desired to
30 temporarily place a seat in case a hall is crowded with spectators.

By the use of our improved chair it is possible to maintain considerable space in a theater when all the chairs are not in use, thus
35 creating passage-ways and considerable space for persons to walk when taking their seats and leaving them. Also should fire occur in a building equipped with our improved chairs an easy exit can be made.

Our improved chair can be readily used upon street-cars, railway-cars, and such vehicles where it is oftentimes desired and even necessary to dispense with a seat when the same is not being used, at the same time hav-
45 ing it convenient in case it is to be occupied.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter more fully described, and
50 referring to the drawings accompanying this application like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved chair, illustrating a portion of the floor adapted to support the same and house

the chair when not in use. Fig. 2 is a plan or the chair-supporting leg. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 4 is a plan of a socket which receives the leg of a chair. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 6 is a plan of a pin employed in connection with the chair. Fig. 7 is a side elevation of our improved chair as mounted in a floor, and Fig. 8 is a detail sectional view of a portion of the chair when folded.

To put our invention into practice, we construct the floor of a theater or building with a recess or countersunk portion 1, which in plan conforms to the seat 2 of our improved chair. The recess in depth corresponds to the thickness of the seat 2 of the chair, and the back 3 is adapted to fold upon the seat, and when the back and seat are folded and lowered into the recess a smooth and uninterrupted surface is established, which can be readily walked over by persons without endangering their lives. The floor centrally of the recess is provided with a vertically-disposed opening 4, and the bottom of the floor is provided with a depending socket 5, this socket being held in engagement with the floor by its flared annular end 6, which is pierced, as at 7, and screws or the like fastening means are employed for securing the socket to the floor. The socket is also braced and retained in alinement with the opening 4 by a stirrup 8, which embraces the lower end of the socket and is secured to a floor, as at 9.

The seat 2 of the chair is provided with a centrally-depending leg 10, said leg having its one end provided with a pierced disk 11, which is secured to the bottom of the seat by screws or the like fastening means. The depending leg is provided with a plurality of transversely - disposed apertures 12, and a pin 14 is employed for holding the chair at any desired height above the recess 1, said pin being adapted to be inserted through the leg and bear upon the flared annular end 6 of the socket 5. The floor of the recess 2 adjacent to the socket 5 is provided with a recess 15 to accommodate the pin 14 when it is not being used.

The back of the chair 3 is hinged to the seat, as at 16, these hinges being countersunk to provide a smooth surface for the back when resting upon the seat. The hinged edge of the back of the chair is beveled, as at 17, whereby when it is in position to be used the back of the chair will be slightly inclined.

thereby making a comfortable seat for the person who occupies the same. The rear edge of the seat adjacent to the hinged edge of the back is provided with a transversely-
5 arranged strip 18, which is hinged, as at 19, to the seat 2. This strip is provided with a beveled edge 20, and when the back is folded upon the seat the strip is folded inwardly, as illustrated in Fig. 8 of the drawings, thereby
10 filling the groove or slot which would occur in the floor when the chair is folded if this strip were not used.

The upper edge of the back of the chair is provided with a countersunk pivotally-
15 mounted ring 21, and the top of the seat 2 is provided with a similar ring 22, these rings being employed to elevate the back 3 of the chair and then the seat 2 when it is desired to use the same.

20 We do not care to confine ourselves to a metallic chair or a wooden or upholstered chair; but in case the chair is made of wood we preferably line the edges thereof with metallic strips 23 to protect the chair and add
25 rigidity to the same.

It will be observed that we have provided a chair that can be easily and quickly placed in position by the usher of a theater in case
30 the same is to be occupied and when not in use will leave a smooth surface, which will form a passage-way for persons entering and leaving the theater.

The chair is extremely simple in construction, strong and durable, and can be manufactured at a comparatively small cost.

What we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a floor having a recess formed therein, of a socket carried by
said floor, a stirrup bracing said socket, a leg 40 mounted in said socket, a chair-seat carried by said leg, a back hinged to said seat and adapted to fold thereon, a strip hinged to said seat, and adapted to fold thereon and engage said back, countersunk rings pivotally
45 connected to said back and said seat, and means to hold said leg in an elevated position in said socket, substantially as described.

2. In a chair, the combination with a floor having a recess formed therein, of a socket 50 carried by said floor centrally of said recess, a chair-seat mounted in said recess, a centrally-depending leg carried by said seat and extending into said socket, a back hinged to said seat, a strip hinged to said seat, means 55 to support said chair, above said recess, substantially as described.

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

JOSEPH E. CHASE.

JOHN S. McCREARY.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. HOSTETLER,

MAUDE S. HOSTETLER.