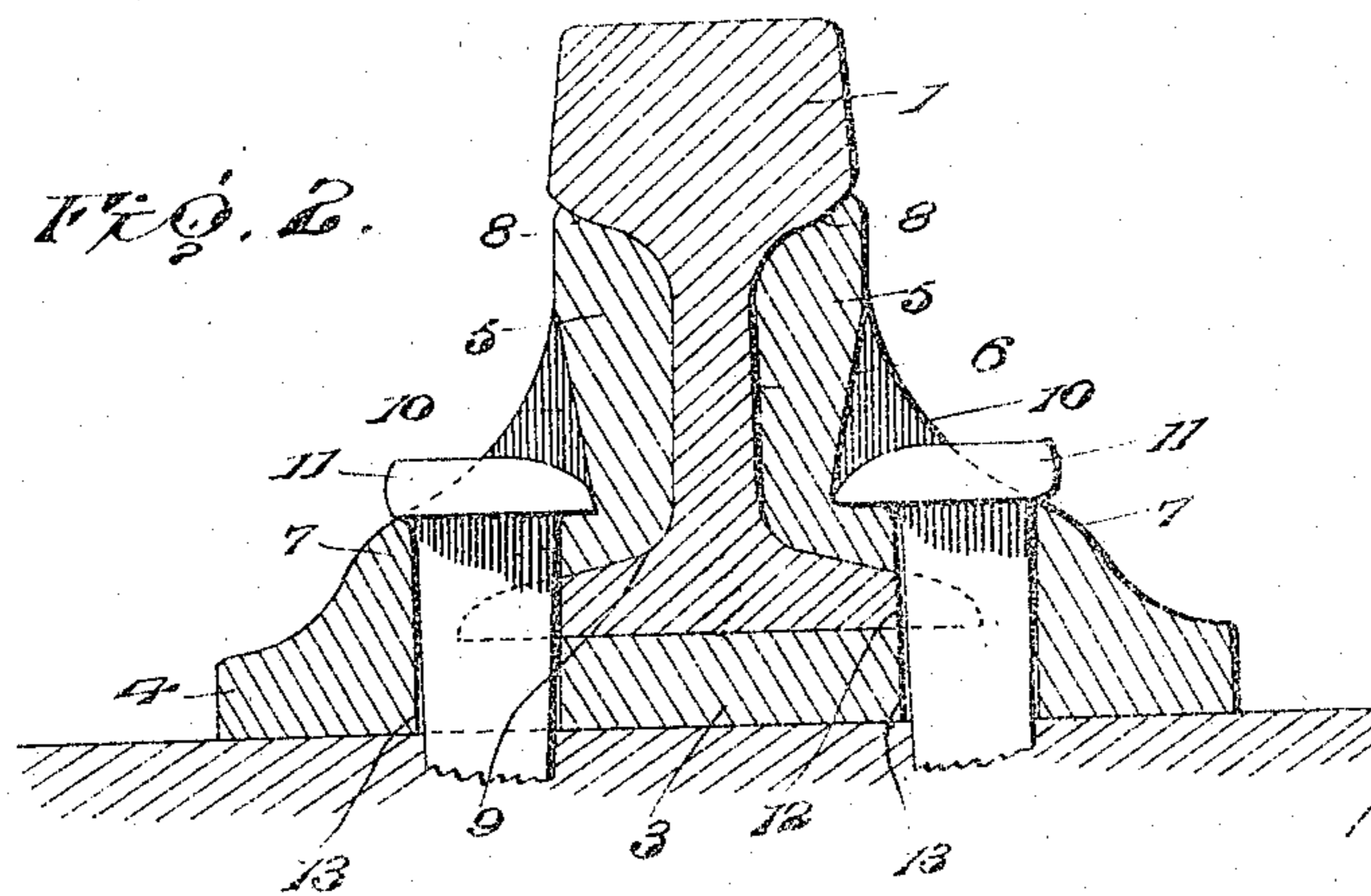
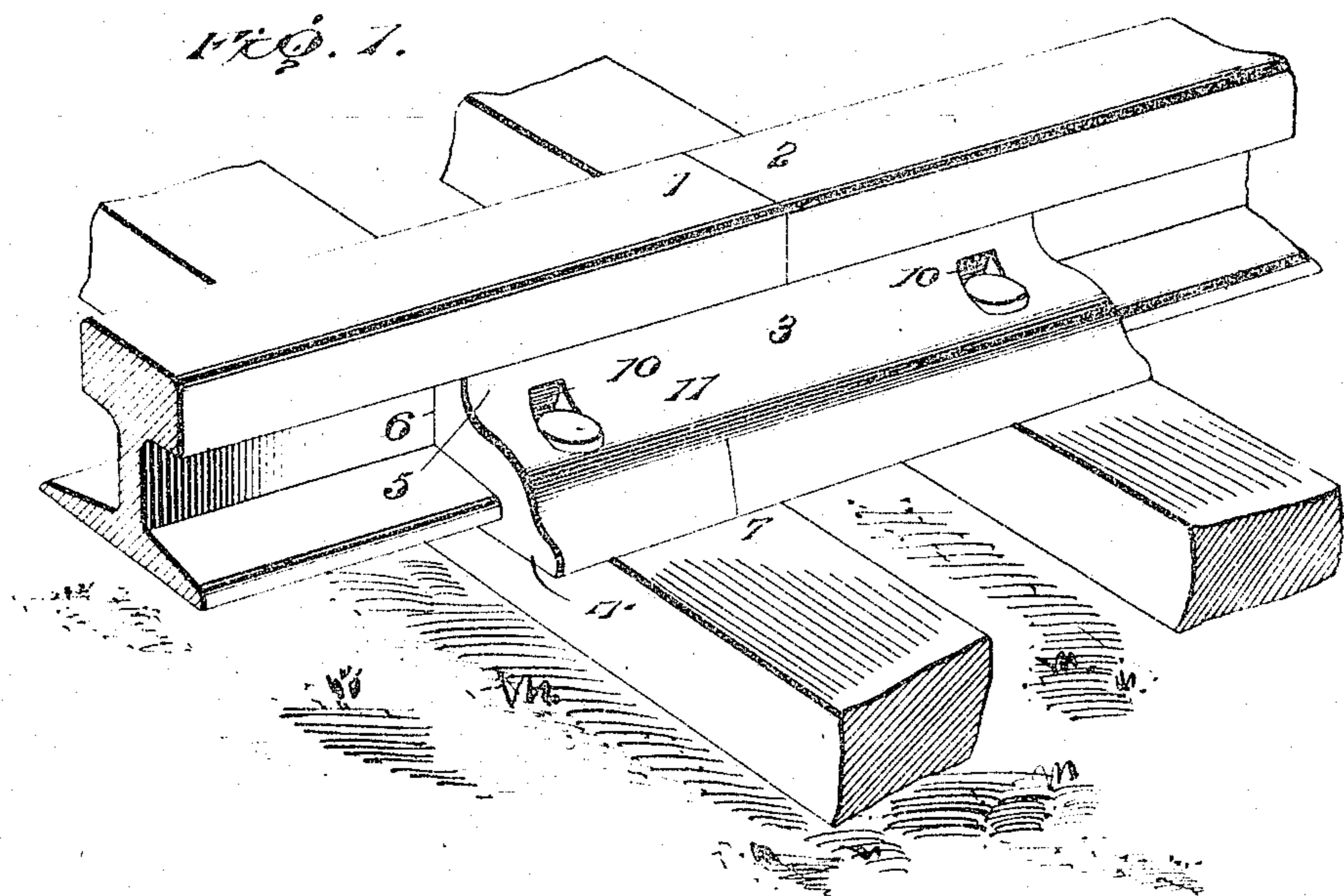


No. 881,348

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

M. E. SEMPLE.
RAIL JOINT.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 30, 1907.



Inventor
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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MEAD E. SEMPLE, OF SHARON, PENNSYLVANIA.

RAIL-JOINT.

No. 881,348.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed April 30, 1907. Serial No. 371,092.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MEAD E. SEMPLE, citizen of the United States, residing at Sharon, in the county of Mercer and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rail-Joints, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in rail joints, and more particularly to a novel form of chair receiving the rail ends and locking the same against either vertical or lateral displacement with relation to each other.

The invention has for its object to design a simple and efficient chair which can be readily applied to the rail ends and which locks the same securely against displacement without the necessity of employing bolts or similar fastening members extending through the web portions of the rails.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction and the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved rail joint. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view through the same.

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

Specifically describing the present embodiment of the invention the numerals 1 and 2 designate the abutting rail ends which are received within the improved chair member 3. This chair 3 comprises the base 4 fitting under the rail ends, and the oppositely disposed wings 5 located upon opposite sides of the rails. Each of the wings 5 comprises an upright or vertical portion 6 fitting against the web of the rails, and an inclined portion 7 extending over the base of the rails and terminating at one side of the base 4. The upper longitudinal edge of each of the vertical portions 6 of the wings is curved outwardly as indicated at 8 and the lower portion of the

rail heads has a corresponding curved formation as indicated at 9.

The space between the upright portions of the wings 5 is normally slightly less than the thickness of the web of the rail and the said wings have a spring action and engage the rails to prevent any looseness in the members of the joint. Attention may also be directed to the fact that owing to the curved edge portion 8 of the wings 5 and the correspondingly curved base 9 of the rail heads the said wings would be forced slightly apart by the action of any weight upon the rails and the rails allowed to bear directly upon the base 4 of the chair should by chance the depth of the rail be slightly less than the height of the wings 5. Spike receiving openings 10 are formed on opposite sides of the chair 3, the said openings preferably extending through the inclined portions 7 of the wings and being in communication with the rail receiving space within the chair whereby the spikes 11 are permitted to engage with notches 12 in the bases of the rail ends and lock the latter against longitudinal movement within the chair. Cut away portions 13 are formed in the chair wings adjacent the spike receiving openings 10 and serve to receive the spike heads and form housings for the same whereby the said spike heads are protected from injury as by being completely sheared off by a projection pendent from the rolling stock.

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

In a rail joint, the combination of a chair comprising a base and a pair of oppositely disposed wings, each wing being formed with a vertical portion and an inclined portion and spike receiving openings being provided in opposite sides of the chair, the said spike receiving openings communicating with the rail receiving space within the chair and passing through the inclined portions of the wings, the vertical portions thereof being provided with cut away portions located adjacent the spike receiving openings and terminating in shoulders serving to engage the spike heads

which face inwardly and are partly housed within the cut away portions, the upper edges of the vertical portion of the wings being curved outwardly, and abutting rail
5 ends received within the chair and having the bases thereof formed with notches designed to register with the spike receiving openings in the chair, the lower portion of the head of the rails being curved to corre-

spond to the outwardly curved upper edges 10 of the wings of the chair, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MEAD. E. SEMPLE. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

MORRIS NATHANSON,
SAMUEL L. CAIREY.