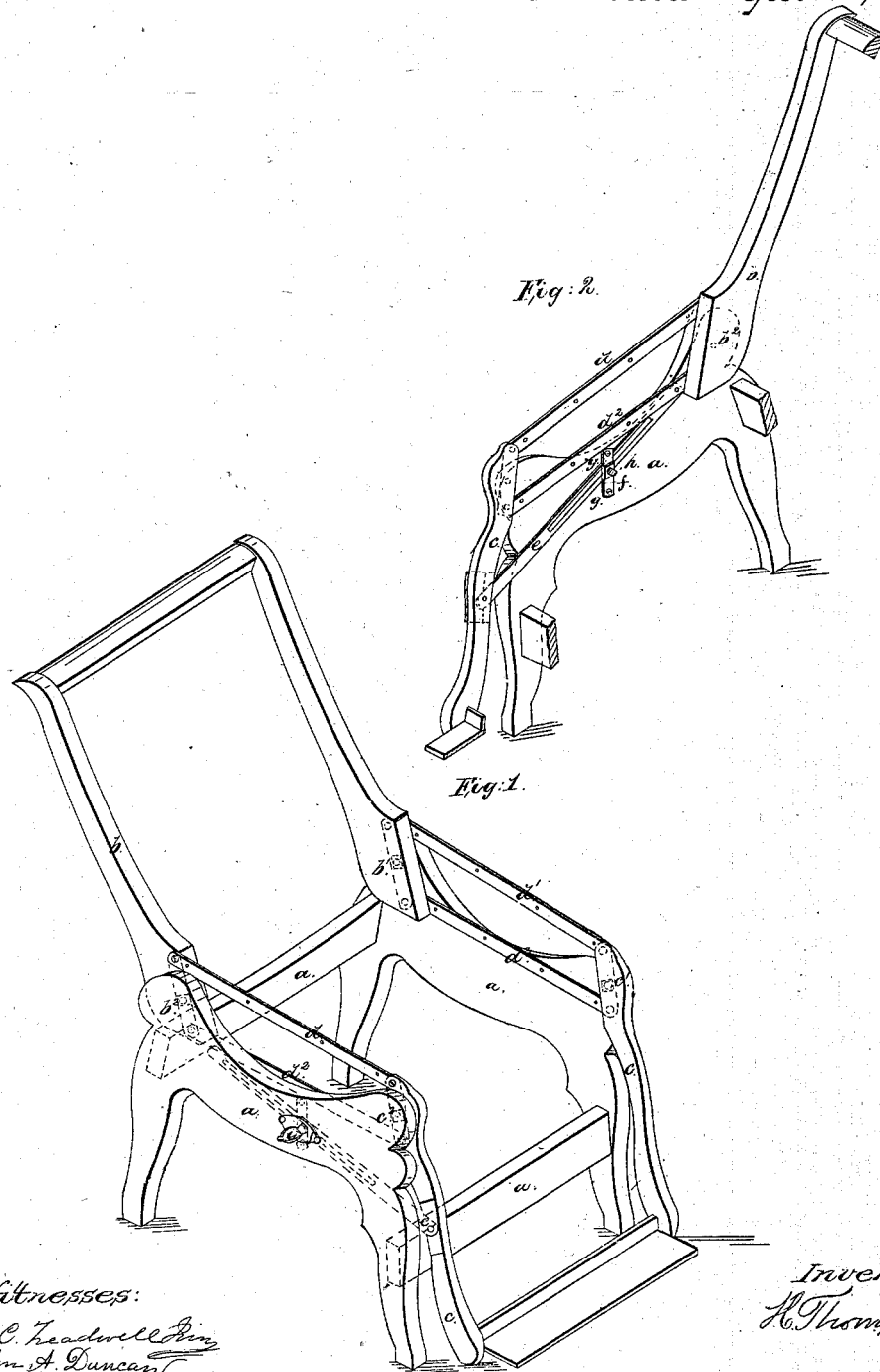


*H. Thompson,*  
*Invalid Chair,*

*N<sup>o</sup> 47469.*

*Patented Apr. 25, 1865.*



*Witnesses:*  
*F. C. Headwell*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOPKINS THOMPSON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVED RECLINING-CHAIR.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 47,469, dated April 25, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HOPKINS THOMPSON, of the city and county of New York, State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Reclining-Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and correct description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference thereon.

My said invention is applicable to reclining-chairs generally which have the parts which support the person hinged to each other and to the supporting-frame, so as to be capable of supporting the person in a sitting posture or at various inclinations at his will and pleasure; and my invention consists in the arrangement and combination of a hinged brace-bar and clamp fastening or holder with a hinged reclining-chair, the hinged brace-bar being jointed to the foot-support or other moving part of a jointed reclining-chair, and the clamp-fastening being attached to the side of the supporting-frame in a convenient place to be reached by the hand of the recliner, the whole constructed and arranged, substantially as hereinafter described, so that the person reclining in the chair may, by operating the screw, release the movable parts for the purpose of moving them or fix them rigidly in any given position the chair is capable of, or, if he pleases, leave the parts free to move and adjust themselves to the motion of his body.

I am aware that a pawl and rack or equivalent device has been applied to hold the parts of reclining-chairs, so as to prevent them from moving in one direction, at the same time leaving them free to move in an opposite direction. Such a contrivance fails to give the stability to the chair which is attained by my mode of clamping the movable parts fast to the fixed part of the chair. But more particularly to describe my said invention, I will refer to the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the skeleton of a reclining chair with my improvements; and Fig. 2, a vertical section, in perspective, of the same.

The reclining-chair skeleton shown in the drawings consists of a stationary part, *a*, being the side frame-legs and cross ties and

movable parts—viz., the back *b*, pivoted to the side frame by suitable pivots, *b'* *b''*, the front or foot support, *c*, pivoted also to the frame by suitable pivots or joints, *c'* *c''*, and the four parallel connecting-bars *d* *d'* *d''* *d'''*, which are linked or jointed at each end with the back and front movable parts, as shown in the drawings, the lower bars, *d''* *d'''*, being intended to support the seat, and furnished with holes for the purpose of screwing the seat to them. The upper bars, *d* *d'*, are for the arms, and are also provided with holes for screws to secure arms. This is an old and well-known form of construction for reclining-chairs, and is capable of being used either in a sitting posture or at any angle of inclination.

My said improvement is applied to this chair as follows: A slotted brace-bar, *e*, is jointed to the front or foot support at *e'*, the side thereof, and extends back within the main frame close to one of the sides thereof, and plays in a guide consisting of a plate, *f*, and two screws, *g* *g*, which screw into the wood of the side frame on either side of the brace-bar, the holes in the plate through which the screws pass, permitting the plate *f* to move on the screws a little, there being play enough allowed in screwing on the plate for that purpose, so as to give the plate *f* the action of a clamping-plate to hold the brace-bar, and consequently the other movable parts in a fixed position, which it does by means of the screw *h*, which works in a screw cut in the clamping-plate, a boss being cast thereon at the middle for that purpose. The handle of the clamping-screw is outside at a convenient place, *i*, for the thumb and finger of the sitter, and the shoulder of the screw is prevented from wearing away the wood by the facing-plate *j*.

Now, it is obvious that any one may, by releasing the holder, move the chair into such inclination as desired, and then clamp it fast together, if he pleases, like a rigid chair. It is also obvious that the use of the brace-bar gives additional firmness and stability to the chair.

I do not wish to confine myself to any precise place whereon to joint the brace-bar. I prefer to joint it to the front part or foot-support, as shown; but it will serve a good purpose if jointed to the back-frame, though not so good

a form of construction for durability of the chair.

I claim—

In combination with a clamp-fastening on the stationary part of a reclining-chair, a hinged brace-bar jointed to one of the movable parts of a jointed reclining-chair, substan-

tially as described, whereby the movable parts may be clamped and braced rigidly to the stationary parts, substantially as set forth  
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Witnesses:

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