E. E. MORSE.
Folding-Chair.

No. 214,174. Patented April 8, 1879.

Fig. 1.

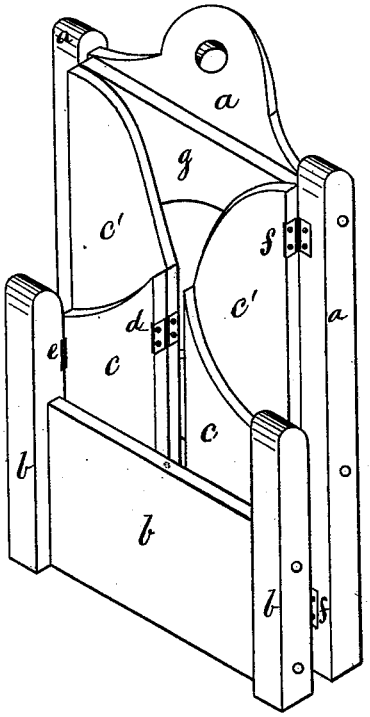


Fig. 2.

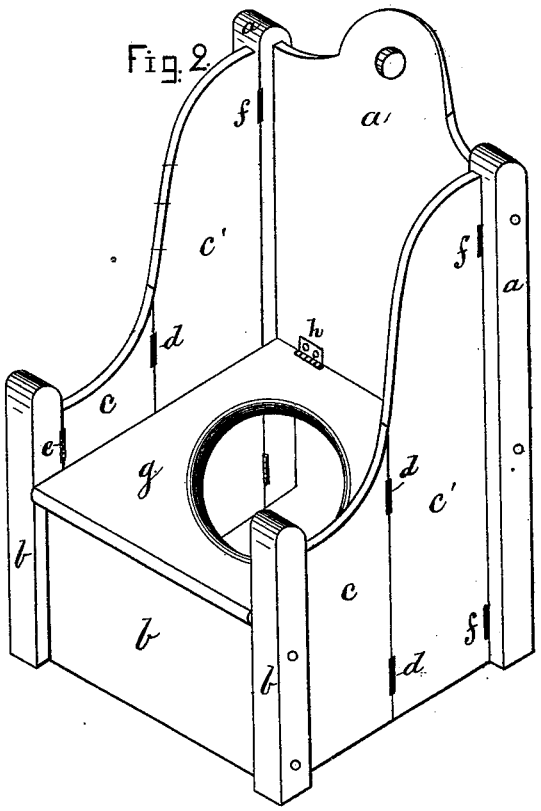


Fig. 4.

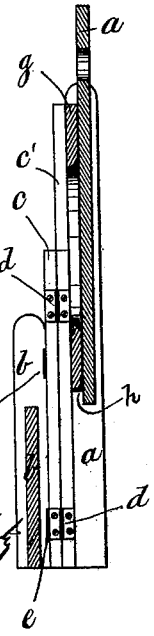
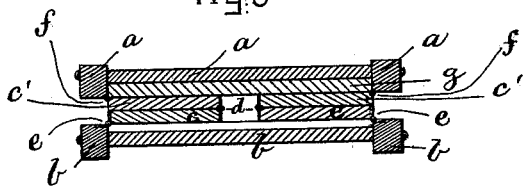


Fig. 3



Witnesses.
H. Allen
John A. Dougherty

Inventor.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMMA E. MORSE, OF CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **214,174**, dated April 8, 1879; application filed December 12, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMMA E. MORSE, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in folding chairs for nursery and sick-room purposes as well as for traveling purposes; and this my invention is so constructed that when not in use it may be folded together, so as to occupy but very little space—so small, indeed, that an ordinary child's chair may be folded in an ordinary traveling-trunk or small box. Adults' chairs of this construction may also be folded together flat, so as to be put under a bed or put away in a closet, or otherwise disposed of in a very small space when not required for use.

The chair may be made of wood or rattan, or of other materials, as may be desired.

The invention is carried out as follows: To the back of the chair are hinged the sides, that are each provided with suitable hinges, located midway between the front and rear, at which place each side is divided, so that the sides may be folded inward. The forward ends of the sides are hinged to the front of the chair, and the seat is hinged in a suitable manner to the back, so that the said seat may be folded against the back when the chair is not required for use.

The seat may be made solid or provided with a hole for nursery or invalid purposes.

The hinges may be made of metal, or wood, or rattan, or other suitable materials without departing from the nature of my invention.

To unfold the chair it is only necessary to pull forward the front piece as far as it will go, when the side pieces will be brought at right angles to the back and front, after which the seat is turned downward between the sides until its forward end comes to a rest either on the front itself or upon stops at the forward ends of the side pieces, and in this position the chair is kept firm and rigid when in use. To fold it together it is only needed first to swing the seat around its rear hinges against the back, after which the hinged sides and front pieces are folded flat against the upturned seat and its back.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the chair when folded together. Fig. 2 represents a perspective view of the chair when opened for use. Fig. 3 represents a horizontal section of the chair when closed, and Fig. 4 represents a vertical section of the chair also when closed.

Similar letters refer to similar parts wherever they occur on the different parts of the drawings.

a is the back of the chair, and *b* is the front, and *c c' c c'* are the side pieces, which latter are jointed or hinged together midway between the back and front, as shown at *d d*. *e e* are hinges or joints at the junction of the front part, *b*, and the forward ends of the side pieces *c c*, as shown. *f f* are hinges or joints at the junction of the back *a* and the rear ends of the side pieces *c' c'*. *g* is the folding seat, that is hinged at its rear end to the back *a*, as shown at *h h* in Figs. 2 and 4, which folding seat may be folded up against the back of the chair, as represented in Figs. 1 and 4.

I am aware that a folding bedstead has been constructed of side pieces divided and hinged at their center, and at their ends hinged to pieces projecting from the head and foot boards, and provided with a bed-bottom divided and hinged transversely at its center and to the head and foot boards; but such is not my invention, and is hereby disclaimed.

In my invention I provide a folding chair in which the side pieces are divided and hinged at their center and at each end directly to the back and front pieces at their junction therewith, and the rigid seat of the chair is free at its front end and hinged directly to the back, whereby the whole can be folded into a compact body, and when unfolded the seat fits snugly down in place, affording a means of rigidly retaining the parts in position.

Having thus fully described the nature, construction, and operation of my invention, I wish to secure by Letters Patent, and claim—

A folding chair consisting of a back piece, *a*, a seat, *g*, hinged at its junction with the back, a front piece, *b*, and divided side pieces *c c'*, hinged together and to the front and back pieces at their junction therewith, substantially as shown and described, for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EMMA E. MORSE.

Witnesses:

ALBAN ANDRÉN,

FRANCIS ALLEN.