(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. F. HALL.

ROCKING CHAIR.

No. 383,808. Patented May 29, 1888.

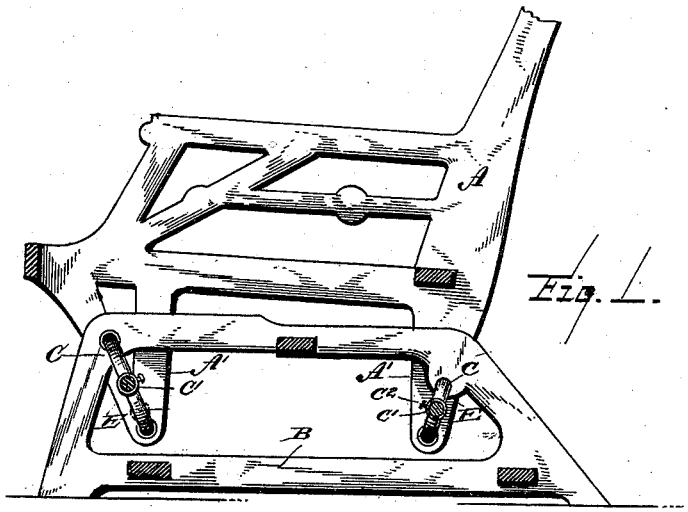

Fig. 1.

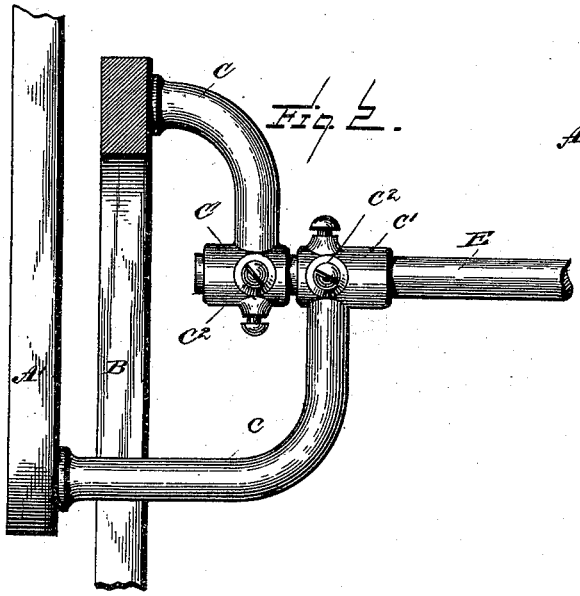

Fig. 2.

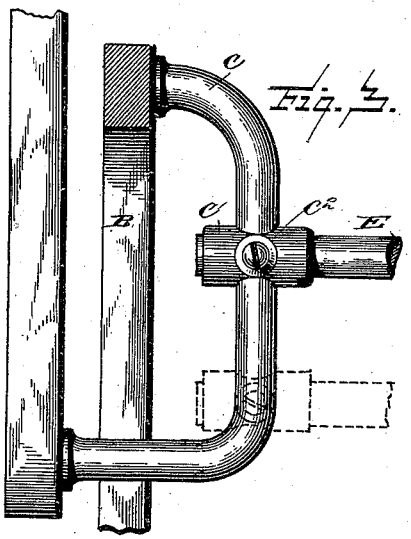

Fig. 3.

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 4.

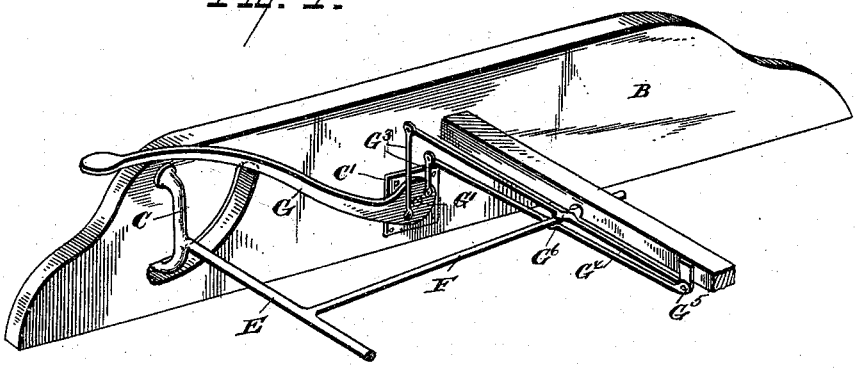
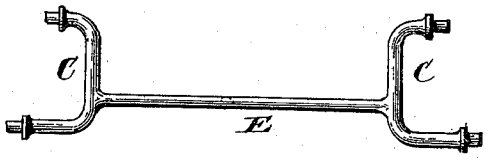


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. HALL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO PETER LOWENTRAUT, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

ROCKING-CHAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 383,808, dated May 29, 1888.

Application filed May 31, 1887. Serial No. 239,751. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. HALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rocking-Chairs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention has relation to that class of rocking-chairs in which a stationary base is employed, upon which is suspended the chair proper by means of hangers journaled in the base and chair; and among the objects of the invention are to provide hangers and their connections that are easy of manufacture, adapt the same for chairs of different widths, and reduce the cost of the same to a minimum, and at the same time greatly lighten and strengthen the chair as a whole.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a central vertical section of a chair and its base provided with hangers constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a modified construction of the hanger in front elevation. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the preferred construction. Fig. 4 is a detail in perspective of a chair-base and hanger provided with means for retaining the chair in a reclining position, and Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the hanger and its tie-bar detached.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

A represents the chair proper, which is formed with the front and rear depending portions, A′, and B represents the base.

C represents a depending L-shaped hanger-arm journaled in the base B at its upper end, and similarly journaled at its lower end in the depending portion A′ of the chair proper, and formed with an intermediate tie-bar-receiving socket portion, C′, provided with a set screw or screws, C^2.

If desired, as shown in Fig. 2, the upper and lower L-shaped arms, C, may be made separate and independent of each other and each provided with the socket C′ and set-screw C^2.

It will be understood that where the single hanger is employed four will constitute a set, one being used at each side of the front and rear of the chair.

E represents a tie bar, which may be of any desired length and of a form in cross-section adapted to fit the sockets of the hangers, the same being held rigid within the hangers and prevented from turning by means of the set-screws described, or it may be, if desired, by an angular formation of the tie-bar and sockets.

In order that the swinging motion, which is objectionable to some persons, may be obviated and a regular rocking motion similar to old-fashioned rocking chairs be imparted to the chair, I prefer to form the arms or hangers used at the rear of the chair somewhat shorter than those at the front, so that the latter are limited in their forward swinging movement, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

In an old-fashioned rocking-chair the rear edge of the seat at the end of a forward rock is elevated rapidly and the back carried with it, and by shortening the hangers I secure a somewhat similar movement to the rear edge of the seat and back. If the hangers are of equal length front and rear, the seat remains substantially horizontal, like the seat of a swing which is suspended at front and rear edges.

Referring more particularly to Fig. 4 of the drawings, wherein I have illustrated means for retaining the chair at a desired angle or reclined position, it will be seen that in this instance I prefer using the single hanger, and that the tie-bar and the hanger may be cast integral with each other. In this instance also I form integral with the tie-bar or otherwise, if desired, a rearwardly-extending adjusting-rod, F.

G represents a foot-lever which projects to the front of the chair within easy access of the foot or heel thereof, the rear end of said lever being pivoted, as at G′, to a plate, G^2, secured to the side of the base of the chair. Short vertical levers G^3 are pivoted at each side of the pivot G′ of the lever G, and from each of these extend transverse rods G^4, pivotally connected at their outer ends, as at G^5, to the frame-work

of the base, and provided with gripping portions G^6, between which the rearwardly-extending rod F extends.

From the above description it will be seen that a chair, mounted as described, may be reclined to a desired angle, when, by pressing with the foot, or even the weight of the foot upon the lever G, will cause the rod at the rear side of the pivot to raise, and the rod at the front of the same to lower, thus bringing the rods G^4 together and causing them to bite or bind upon the adjusting-rod F. By removing the foot from the lever the rod F will be released, and may be reciprocated back and forth through the gripping portions G^6 at each forward and back motion of the chair. In order that a firm hold of the grippers upon the rod F may be assured, I may provide said grippers with leather or other highly-frictional washers or facings.

In Fig. 5 I have shown one of the hangers C mounted in standards upon a base and capable of receiving either a rocking horse or a crib.

Heretofore the cross-rod E has been journaled in the base B, and the hanger C, depending therefrom, has been journaled in the leg A^5 of the chair. In such a construction there is a tendency to bend the rod E at about its middle, lengthwise, upwardly, and thus to throw its journal ends out of a true horizontal line with their bearings.

In the construction herein shown and described—the provision of an upwardly-projecting arm to the hanger; or, in other words, disconnecting the rod E from the base and arranging it between the bearing-points of the hangers—the tendency of the depending arm of the hanger to bend the rod upwardly is neutralized by the tendency of the upwardly-projecting arm of the hanger to bend said rod downwardly. Furthermore, the cost of construction is reduced and a more uniform wear in all the bearings is secured.

Having described my invention and its operation, what I claim is—

1. The combination, with a chair of the class described and with its base, of a cross-bar or rod, and hangers with which the said rod is connected at a point between the upper and lower journal of each hanger, substantially as specified.

2. In a chair of the class described, the combination of pivoted hangers, tie-rods connecting the same, an adjusting-rod extending rearwardly from said tie-rod, and devices for gripping said rod at any point thereon and maintaining the hangers at a desired incline, substantially as specified.

3. In a chair of the class described, the combination of the hangers thereof, with an adjusting-rod extending therefrom, pivoted gripping-rods embracing said adjusting-rod, and a foot-lever for actuating said gripping-rods, substantially as specified.

4. The chair A, having the depending portions A′, in combination with the base B, the hangers C, journaled in said base and chair and having the intermediate sockets, C′, and with the tie-bar E, substantially as specified.

5. The chair A, in combination with the base B, the hangers C, journaled in said base and chair and provided with sockets C′, arranged between the journals, having set-screws D^2, and with the tie-bar E, adapted to enter said sockets and be held in place by said set-screws, substantially as specified.

6. The combination, with the hangers C and rod E, of the adjusting-rod F, connected thereto, the lever G, pivoted, as at G′, to the plate G^2, the rods G^4 G^3, having gripping portions G^6, and pivoted at G^5, substantially as specified.

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

GEORGE F. HALL.

Witnesses:
JOHN A. MILLER, Jr.,
PETER LOWENTRAUT.