M. A. HENDRICKS.
FOLDING INVALID CHAIR.
No. 364,412. Patented June 7, 1887.
MARY A. HENDRICKS, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

FOLDING INVALID-CHAIR.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY A. HENDRICKS, of Charleston, in the county of Charleston and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Folding Invalid-Chair, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in invalid-chairs, and has for its object to construct a chair in which simplicity will be combined with durability, and wherein the same may be used as a commode, an upright reclining-chair, or both, at pleasure, and wherein, further, when not in use, the said chair may be folded in a small compass for storage or transportation.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my chair folded out, and Fig. 2 a longitudinal vertical section of the same when in the above position. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the chair when used strictly as such. Fig. 4 is a side view of the folded chair, and Fig. 5 is a front elevation of the same.

In the construction of my folding adjustable invalid-chair the seat 1, supported by the front legs, 2, usually made flush therewith at the top, and rear legs, 3, adapted to extend slightly above the same, is provided with a commode-aperture, 4, having a detachable cover, 5, fitted with a central countersunk ring, 6. The said cover, when in position over the said aperture, imparts to the seat a continuous surface.

To the front and back, between the legs, the chair is provided with a fixed panel, 7, adapted to extend from beneath the seat 1 a distance downward, a bottom, 8, and a perforated metallic horizontal partition, 9, which may be securely attached to said fixed panels and to the legs below the center of the space inclosed as above. Thus two compartments are formed beneath the seat—a large compartment, 10, having the perforated partition 9 for a bottom, and a smaller compartment, 11, intervening the said horizontal partition and the bottom 8.

The upper compartment, 10, is closed at the sides by doors 12, hinged to the underside of the seat, so as to swing downwardly and snugly fit between said seat and the upper face of the horizontal partition 9 and the legs 2 and 3. As a means for opening the doors 12, a knob, 13, or other equivalent device, is attached thereto near the lower edge.

The lower compartment, 11, is provided with three drawers, 14, 15, and 16, arranged in the same horizontal plane, adapted for withdrawal from either side of the chair, the central one, 15, of which, lined with metal 17, is purposed to contain any suitable or desirable disinfectant, whose odors, finding a vent through the perforations of the horizontal partition 9, immediately over said drawer 15, pervade the upper chamber, 10. The side drawers, 14 and 16, may be utilized for paper or other articles for the toilet.

Within the chamber 10, to the under side of the seat 1, below the aperture 4 therein, a perforated plate, 19, is hinged, adapted to be held in position parallel with said seat, and under said aperture by a pivoted button, 20, the purpose of the plate being to prevent the odors of the disinfectant with which the chamber 10 is charged from filling the room, yet allowing a certain per cent. thereof to escape. When the chair is used as a commode, the hinged perforated plate 19 is released from the bottom and allowed to hang vertically downward.

Arms 21 are provided at the sides of the chair, hinged to the top edges of the seat 1 by their standards 22, in such manner as to assume a position parallel with the doors 12 of the chamber 10, and an upright position upon the seat 1 at the side, in the same plane with the edges thereof, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, being secured in the latter position by bolts 23 sliding on the inner face of said standards 22 to an engagement with apertures in the seat. Each arm 21 is also provided at the rear with a pivoted catch, 24, having an upward-extending angular arm by which it is operated, as will be hereinafter set forth.
To the rear legs, 3, at the top, the back 25 is pivoted, and the vertical frame of said back is provided with slotted plates 26, which, when engaged by the pivoted catches 24 of the arms, hold and secure the back in vertical position, as shown in Fig. 3. Centrally on the upper horizontal frame of said back 25 a head-rest, 27, is hinged, to fold either inward parallel with the front or up vertically upon the upper edge of the frame. When in the latter upright position, it is secured by a hook or other equivalent fastening, and supported by bars 28, pivoted at their lower ends to the rear of the said horizontal portion of the back-frame, the said bars when not in use being adapted to fold parallel with said frame.

To afford an adjustment of the back 25, carrying the head-rest 27, to various angles, a rack having three or more cup-shaped integral projections, 29, is secured centrally and vertically on the rear casing, 7, and a prop, 30, is pivoted by laterally-extending arms 31, secured at the top thereof to the side bars of the back-frames above the center at the rear, the said prop being adapted, when a slight inclination only of the back is required, to rest in the upper cup-shaped projection, 29, and in the next lower when a greater inclination is desired, as shown in Fig. 2, the last projection being used to support said back in a horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 1.

To the front edge of the seat 1 a support, 32, for the legs is hinged, adapted to fold downward, having at the end thereof a hinged foot-rest, 33, provided near the outer front edge with pins 34, whereby a warming-pan, 35, is held thereto. The said rests 32 and 33 are supported at various angles in the same manner as the back and head rest; a prop, 36, being pivoted centrally at the rear of leg-rest 32 by laterally-extending arms 37, and the said prop is made to engage the cup-like projections 38 of the rack 39, attached centrally and vertically to the front casing, 7.

In folding for transportation, or when not in use, the arms 21 are unbolted and allowed to rest downward parallel with the sides. The head-rest is then folded over upon the back, and the said back and head-rest in turn folded upon the seat. To complete the operation, the warmer is placed in the compartment 10 and the leg-rest folded down and the foot-rest folded up parallel with the front of the chair.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an invalid chair having its body formed as a commode, the combination, with said body, of a perforated plate, 19, hinged below the seat, a centrally-perforated horizontal partition, 9, and a metal-lined drawer, 15, beneath the perforations in said partition, adapted to hold disinfectant, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. In an invalid chair having its body formed as a commode, the combination, with said body provided with a detachable seat- lid, 5, of a perforated plate, 19, hinged below the seat, and the button 20, a centrally-perforated horizontal partition, 9, a metal-lined drawer, 15, beneath the perforations in said partition, adapted to hold disinfectant, and drawers 14 and 16 upon each side of said drawer 15, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose herein set forth.

MARY A. HENDRICKS.

Witnesses:

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