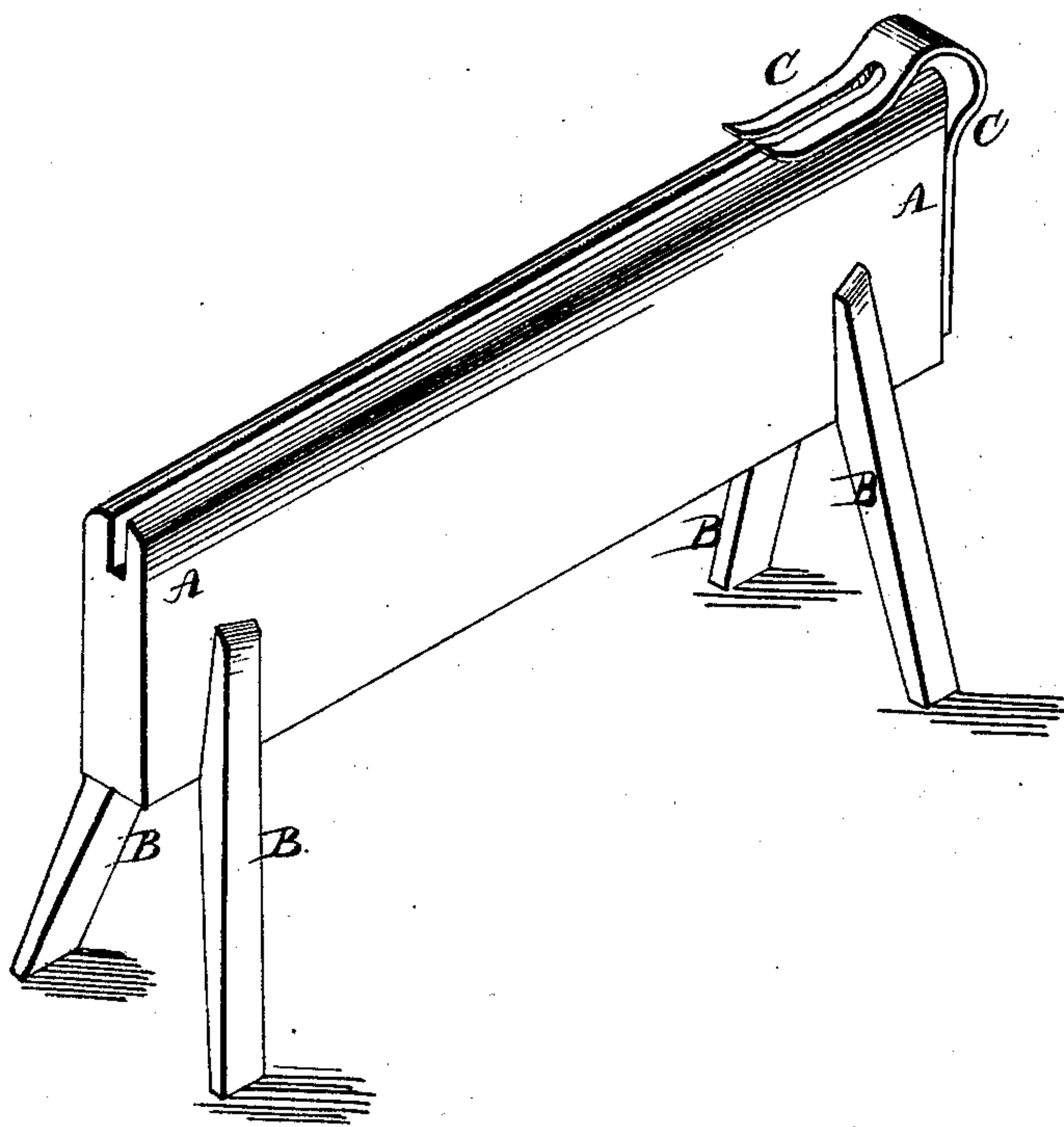


J. Hoffman,
Tanners' Tool,
Nº 78,092. Patented May 19, 1868.



Witnesses:
W. C. Askrivette
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per Munnif
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United States Patent Office.

JAMES HOFFMAN, OF BELVIDERE, NEW JERSEY.

Letters Patent No. 78,092, dated May 19, 1868.

IMPROVED GAUGE-FRAME FOR SLITTING RAW HIDES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JAMES HOFFMAN, of Belvidere, in the county of Warren, and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and improved Gauge-Frame for Slitting Raw Hides; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The figure is a perspective view of my improved gauge-frame.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved machine, by the use of which raw hides may be slit or halved much more conveniently and accurately, and with much more rapidity than is possible when the work is done in the ordinary manner; and it consists in a gauge-frame grooved longitudinally along its entire length, and supported upon feet of suitable height, and in the combination of a slotted spring with the said gauge-frame, as hereinafter more fully described.

A is a block, plank, or frame of sufficient length to allow a raw hide to be hung over it longitudinally.

The block or frame A is supported upon legs B of suitable height, or by other suitable or convenient means, and is grooved longitudinally along its upper edge or side, as shown in the figure, said groove being of sufficient breadth to receive the back of the slitting-knife, and of sufficient depth to guide the said knife as it is moved along, slitting the hide longitudinally, or dividing it into two equal parts. C is a spring, one end of which is securely attached to the end of the block or frame A, and the other or free end of which is so formed as to lie along the upper or grooved edge of the said frame A, and is slotted to correspond with the groove in said frame, as shown in the drawings.

In using the machine, the tail of the hide is drawn beneath the slotted end of the spring C, which holds the said end of the said hide while the slitting-knife is being used.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. Grooving the upper edge of the frame or plank A, upon which the raw hide is suspended longitudinally, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.
2. The combination of the slotted spring C with the grooved frame or plank A, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.
3. Slitting raw hides by suspending them over a frame, A, grooved longitudinally along its upper edge, to guide the slitting-knife, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

JAMES HOFFMAN.

Witnesses:

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