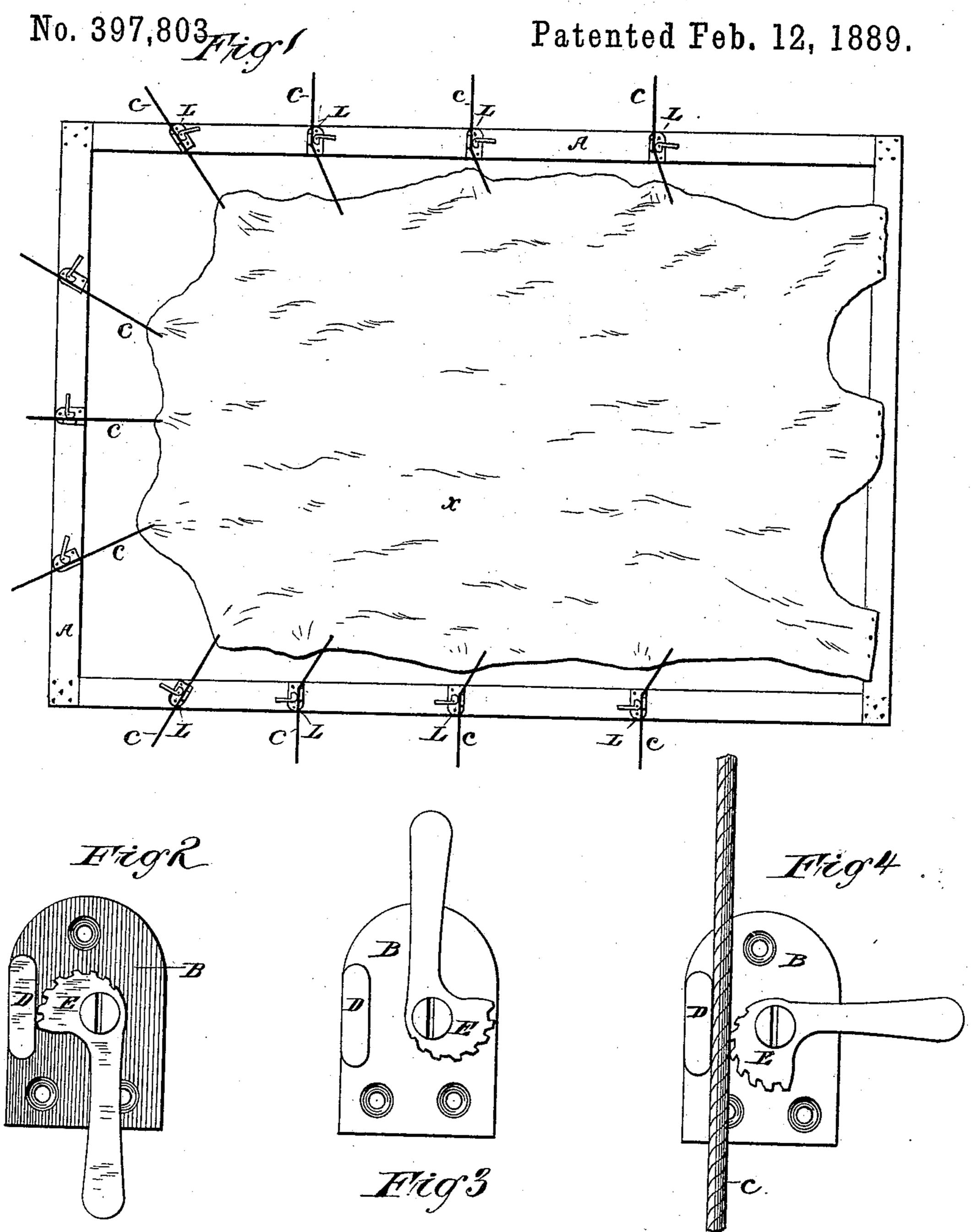
S. C. HOWELL.

PROCESS OF JAPANNING LEATHER.



WITNESSES:

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SAMUEL C. HOWELL, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

PROCESS OF JAPANNING LEATHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,803, dated February 12, 1889.

Application filed July 3, 1888. Serial No. 278,891. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Samuel C. Howell, of Newark, New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Process of Japanning Leather, of which the following is such a full, clear, and exact description as will enable others to understand and use the same.

This my invention relates to the process of japanning leather, and is applied especially to leather to which a coating of varnish or enamel has been applied in the manufacture of what is known as "patent-leather."

The stretching-frame used is preferably such as is described in my application made about this time, entitled "improvement in leather-stretching frames," and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the frame with a hide stretched thereon. Fig 2 is a detail of a catch, showing it closed. Fig. 3 is a like view showing it open. Fig. 4 is a like view with a string in the bite of the catch.

The leather stretched on the frame A is attached to it by the cords C and clamps L, therein described, or by any equivalent means, so that any looseness or bagging in the leather may be taken up.

The process is as follows: The leather to be japanned having been attached to the frame 30 A at one end, as shown, by tacking the same, (or by the cords and clamps, as herein shown,) the other edges of the leather are supplied with pieces of cords C, firmly fastened to the leather. These are drawn through the clamps 35 L, arranged on the other sides of the frame A, and are drawn taut and then firmly clamped. A coating of oil, japan, varnish, or other material is then put on the hide. This application will be found to have stretched the hide 40 to a greater or less extent. The cords C are now pulled taut, so as to remove all bagging or looseness from the hide, and the coating is allowed to dry, when another coating is ap-

plied to the partially-finished hide and the strings again drawn taut, so as to remove all 45 looseness or bagging, and thus after each coating or other manipulation of the hide after it is put on the japanning-frame the hide is drawn taut in all directions from the center.

The stretching of the hide after each ap- 50 plication of dressing or japan prevents the hide from shrinking and the consequent crimping of the applied japan, thus giving a superior finish to the leather, and also increasing the size of the finished hide.

I have shown a clamp and frame of peculiar construction; but it is manifest that the invention may be carried out by frames or clamps of other forms adapted to the process.

The frames and clamps are not claimed in this application, as they form the subject-matter of an application for Letters Patent for "improvement in stretching-frames," filed by me July 3, 1888, and serially numbered 278,890. 65

What I claim as new, and desire to secure

by Letters Patent, is—

1. The process herein described of japanning leather, consisting of attaching to a stretching-frame a hide, stretching the same, 70 applying a dressing or coating to the hide, stretching the same and drying it, applying another dressing or coating, and stretching the hide and drying the same, substantially as specified.

2. The process herein described of japanning leather, consisting of attaching to a stretching-frame a hide, stretching the same, applying a dressing or coating to the hide, stretching the same, and drying it, substan- 80 tielly as specified.

tially as specified.

SAML. C. HOWELL.

Witnesses:
CHAS. W. WILLS,
GEO. E. HOWELL,