

(No Model.)

P. S. CONNOR.
TANNER'S TOOL.

No. 427,555.

Patented May 13, 1890.

Fig. 1.

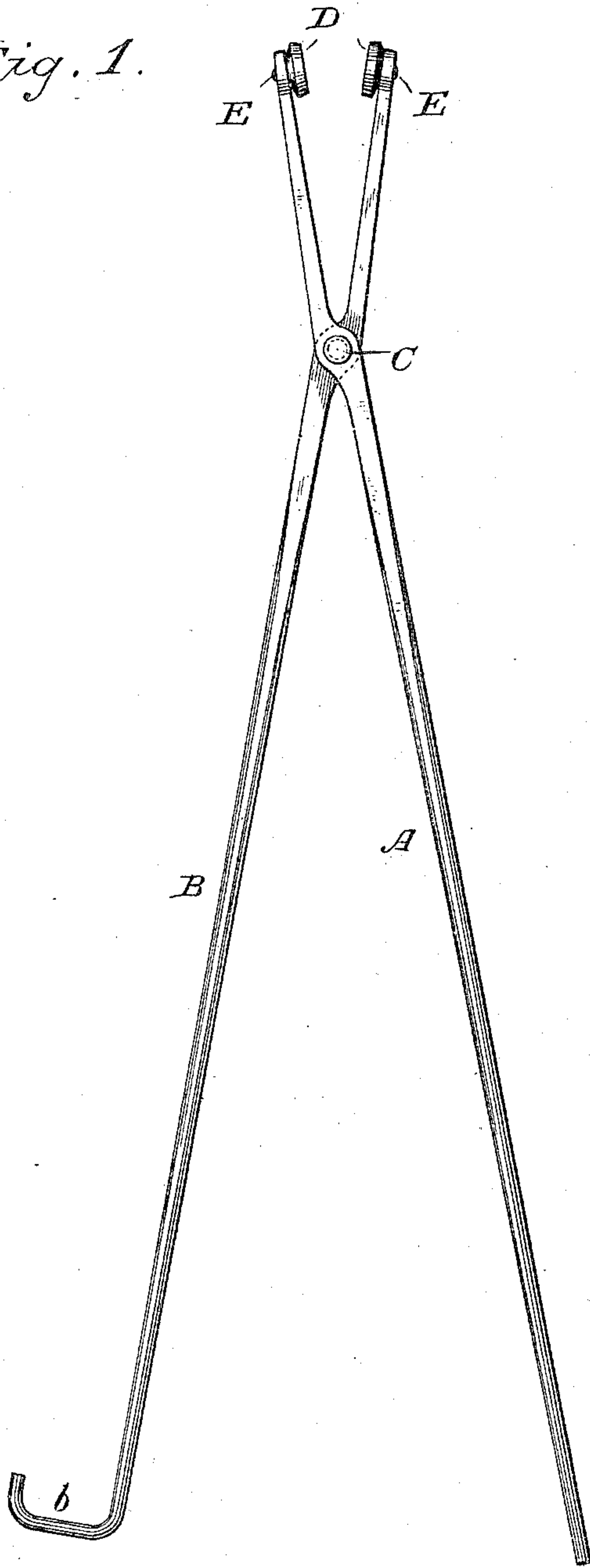
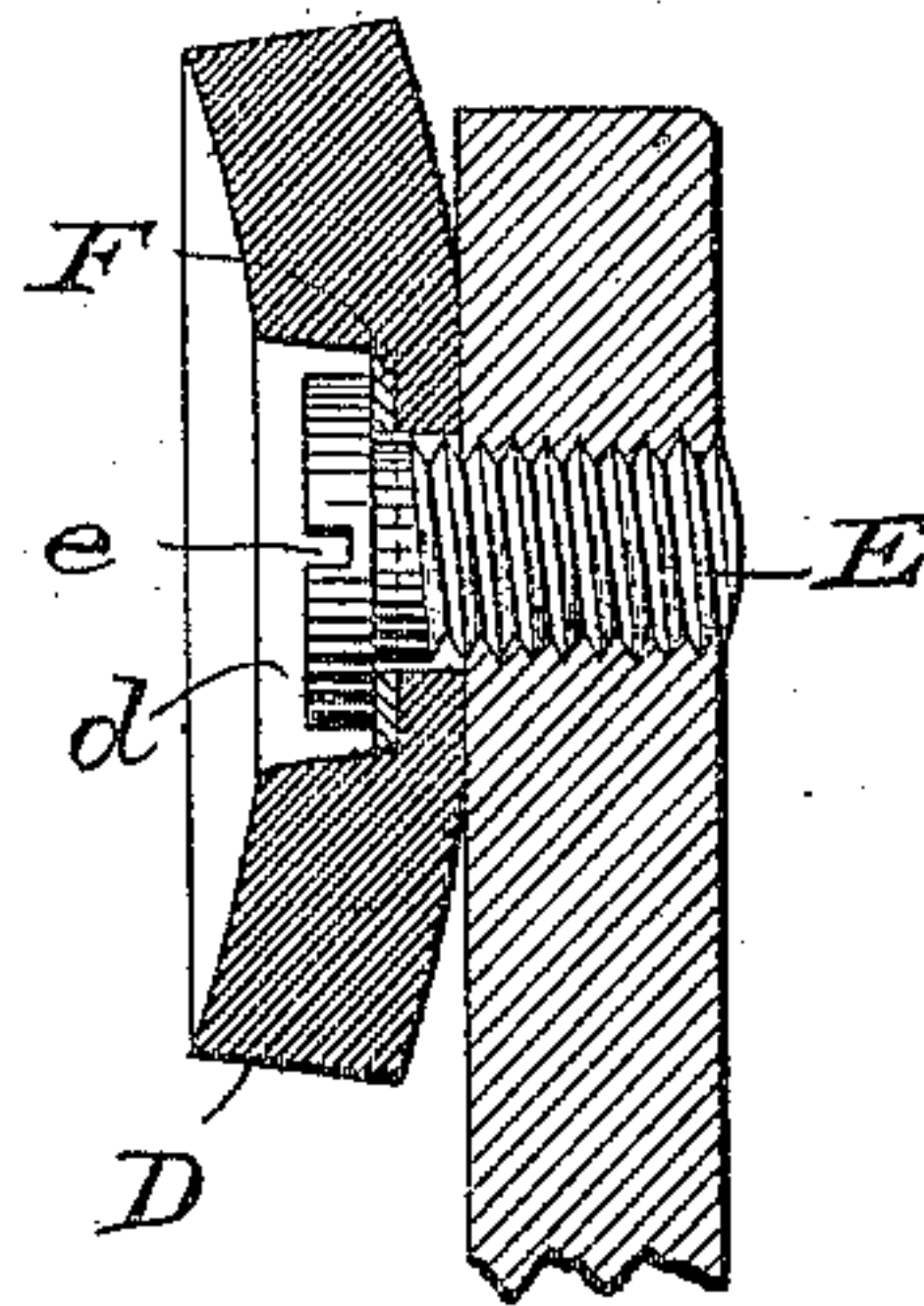


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Wm A. Skinkle
Chas E Gordon

Inventor

Patrick S. Connor

By his Attorney.

W. H. Chadsey

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PATRICK S. CONNOR, OF LAKE, ILLINOIS.

TANNER'S TOOL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 427,555, dated May 13, 1890.

Application filed May 16, 1888. Serial No. 274,111. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PATRICK S. CONNOR, a citizen of the United States, residing in the town of Lake, county of Cook, State of Illinois, have invented an Improvement in Tanners' Tools, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

My invention relates to tanners' tools of a form approximating tongs and of the class used in handling hides or skins in vats or used in removing them therefrom after gripping thereby. It consists in the various combinations of parts as embraced in the claims.

Implements have heretofore been used for handling the hides or skins in vats, in which devices a hooked projection served to catch under a portion or within a fold thereof, and then by drawing or lifting on the implement by means of its handle the hides or skins were taken out of the vat; but an objection thereto has been that the part or parts engaging the hides or skins have frequently bruised or broken their texture, thus reducing the grade of the leather made therefrom.

When the device has been of a gripping order, an injury to the article grasped thereby often resulted, because of the hard texture of the compressing surfaces of the tool. In my invention I overcome this objection by forming a tanner's tool after the general shape of a pair of blacksmith's tongs and providing the gripping-surfaces, or, in other words, each of the inner faces of the jaws, with a strong and durable elastic substance that will serve to grasp the hides or skins and securely adhere thereto under moderate pressure, and that at the same time will not bruise or otherwise injure them.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of my tanner's tool or implement, formed (in a measure) like a pair of blacksmith's tongs, but having its gripping-surfaces, or the inner parts of the jaws, provided with elastic pads or disks securely fastened thereto. Fig. 2 is a cross-section through one of the arms to which the elastic pads are attached and bisecting the pad or disk.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts throughout.

The arms A and B of my tanner's tong-shaped tool are connected by a pivot C in the manner commonly practiced in blacksmiths' tongs. The said arms are strong and rigid, so that they will not bend or yield under any ordinary pressure to which they are subjected in use. The extreme end portion of the handle part of one of the arms, as B, is bent to form a crook *b*, to serve as a hand-hold in drawing on the tool to lift the article gripped in its jaws, as a hide or skin, in handling it in or removing it from a vat.

D D are india-rubber disks secured to the inner or gripping faces of the tool. These disks D are preferably formed concave, and have sharp corners at the outer edges of their inner or grasping faces, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

E E are headed screw-bolts by which the rubber disks are secured to the gripping-faces of the tongs.

F F are metal washers (one being shown in section in Fig. 2) used beneath the heads of the screw-bolts and resting upon portions of the rubber disks within recesses *d*, formed in said disks, the said bolts passing through holes in the center of the disks and screwing into holes in the arms of the tongs. The headed screw-bolts are notched, as at *e*, for the reception of the end of a screw-driver in screwing or unscrewing the said bolts.

The manner of using the tool is like that of using tongs of the same general pattern, the hides or skins being seized between the elastic gripping pads or disks through pressure applied by the hand on the handle parts of the arms, the crooked or bent end of one of the arms affording a hold for pulling while the handle portions of the arms are grasped. The rubber disks, being of larger extent of surface than the ends of the arms to which they are secured, prevent the iron frame parts of the tool from injuring the hides or skins. Said disks are preferably of circular form, but may be of any approximate suitable shape, as hexagonal, &c.

Not infrequently are the tender surfaces of the hides or skins damaged by merely laying down the tool upon them as they lie around about the vat. In some cases they are injured in the attempt to seize them in the vat

or by side movements and endwise thrusts of the tool among them.

In a tool of the form I have constructed the liability of injury from the aforesaid practices or movements is diminished, the projecting elastic disk serving to cover the solid frame-work of the tool to a considerable degree at its gripping end, while affording yielding-jaw faces for gripping said hides or skins.

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

15 1. A tanner's tool consisting of the pivoted arms A and B, provided at their grasping ends with rubber disks D, having the recesses *d*, the screws E, securing the said disks to said arms and having heads of lesser thickness than the depth of said recesses, and the wash-

ers F in said recesses beneath the heads of said screws, substantially as set forth. 20

2. A tanner's tool consisting of the pivoted arms A and B, one of which is provided with the hand-hold *b*, said arms being provided at their grasping ends with rubber disks D, having the recesses *d*, the screws E, securing the said disks to said arms and having heads of lesser thickness than the depth of said recesses, and the washers F in said recesses beneath the heads of said screws, substantially as set forth. 25 30

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

PATRICK S. CONNOR.

Witnesses:

FRANK O'NEIL,

WILLIAM H. CHADSEY.