

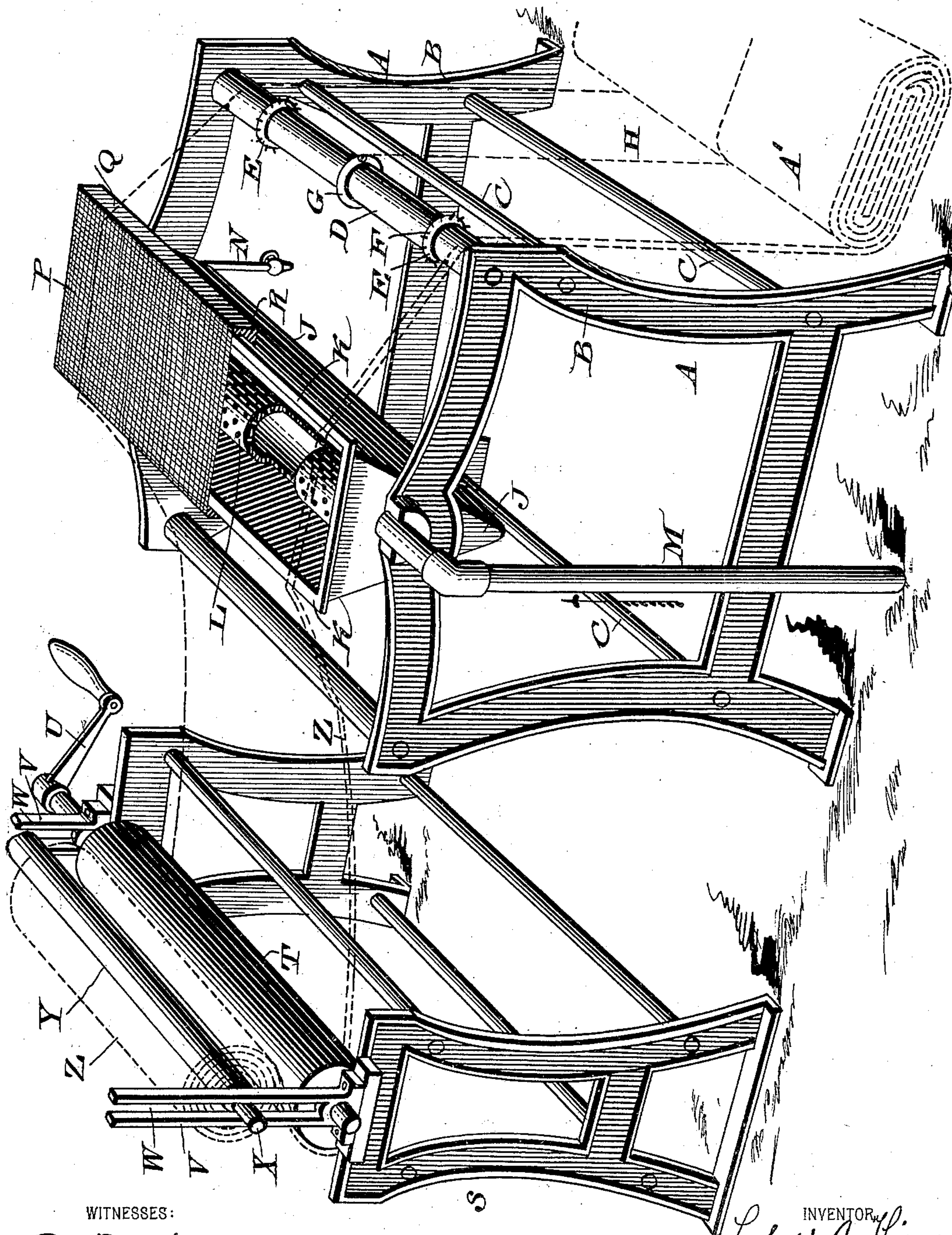
No. 622,566.

Patented Apr. 4, 1899.

L. A. THIEME.  
ATTACHMENT FOR SPONGING CLOTH.

(Application filed Mar. 30, 1898.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## ATTACHMENT FOR SPONGING CLOTH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 622,566, dated April 4, 1899.

Application filed March 30, 1898. Serial No. 675,692. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEOPOLD A. THIEME, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Attachment for Sponging Cloth, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved attachment for sponging cloth whereby I am enabled by a simple and inexpensive machine to effectively sponge or shrink the material with much greater rapidity than heretofore and without necessitating the employment of skilled labor.

The invention consists of novel details of construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth and particularly claimed.

The drawing represents a perspective view of an attachment for sponging cloth embodying my invention.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts throughout the said drawing.

In the drawing, A designates a suitable housing, the same consisting of the frames B, which are joined by cross-rods C, said housing having rotatably journaled therein at or near its upper portion the roller D or similar tension device, the latter being provided with a series of spurs or pins E, which are in the present instance attached to rings F, secured to said roll, although it will be apparent that said rings may be omitted, if desired, and the spurs secured directly to the roll.

G designates a ridge or ring secured to the roll D at or near the central portion thereof, the object of said ridge being to remove from the cloth the crease H, which sometimes exists therein prior to sponging and shrinking.

J designates a steam-chamber which is in the present instance V-shaped, although I do not desire to be limited in every instance thereto, said steam-chamber having an open top provided with the flanges K and containing the perforated pipe L for the reception of steam, the latter being introduced into said pipe from any suitable source, as the pipe M.

N designates a drip-pipe which permits the water of condensation to be withdrawn from the steam-chamber J according to requirements, it being understood that the pipes M or N are provided with valves, if so desired.

P designates a cover of muslin or similar

moisture-absorbing material, which latter is secured to the frame Q, which is provided with the ways R, whereby said frame is adapted to be slid upon the flanges K, so as to form a closure for the top of the steam-chamber J when the apparatus is in operation.

S designates a second housing, which has rotatably mounted in bearings at or near the upper portion thereof the roll T, the latter being adapted to be turned by the crank-handle U or any other suitable means.

V designates upright guides which extend upwardly from the bearings for the roll T, the spaces W between guides forming ways for the journals X of the roll Y, which is adapted to have the sponged cloth Z wound thereupon, the cloth prior to sponging being indicated by A' at the right of the figure.

The operation is as follows: The parts are first assembled in substantially the manner indicated, and steam having been introduced into the steam-chamber J it will be seen that the cover P will be thoroughly moistened and heated. The cloth having been passed over the roll D, the steam-chamber J, and around the roll T and secured to the roll Y, it will be evident that if the roll T is rotated, as by the crank-handle U or similar means, the cloth will be drawn over the steam-chamber, the same being evenly spread and fed to and over the cover of the steam-chamber by reason of the spurs E, and it will be apparent that by the employment of the ridge or ring J the crease H, which exists in certain classes of goods, as indicated at the right hand of the figure, will be removed after the cloth has left the roll D. The continued rotation of the roll T will cause the cloth to be wound upon the roll Y, said roll rising as its diameter increases by means of the manner in which it is mounted above the roll T, and when the goods have been sponged for their entire length and wound upon the roll Y the latter can be removed and another roll inserted in its place and the above-described operation repeated.

It will be apparent that other tension devices than the roll may be employed, if desired, and, if necessary, three rolls similar to the roll D and arranged in staggered order may be employed.

It will be evident that by my novel attach-

ment cloth can be sponged and shrunk more effectively and expeditiously than heretofore and that there is, furthermore, no necessity for the employment of skilled labor, thereby  
5 greatly reducing the expense attached to the work of sponging.

It will also be evident that slight changes may be made by those skilled in the art which will come within the scope of my invention,  
10 and I therefore reserve to myself the right to make all such modifications as may come within the spirit thereof.

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

In an apparatus for sponging cloth, the combination with a steam-chamber having a covering of moisture-absorbing material, means situated in the rear of said chamber for drawing the cloth across the same, and a rotatable annular ridge situated in front of said steam-chamber about midway between the ends thereof and with its axis parallel therewith and over which the cloth passes to said steam-chamber.

LEOPOLD A. THIEME.

Witnesses:

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