No. 798,499. PATENTED AUG. 29, 1905.

H. DIFLO.

CLAMP.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1905.

Fig. 1.

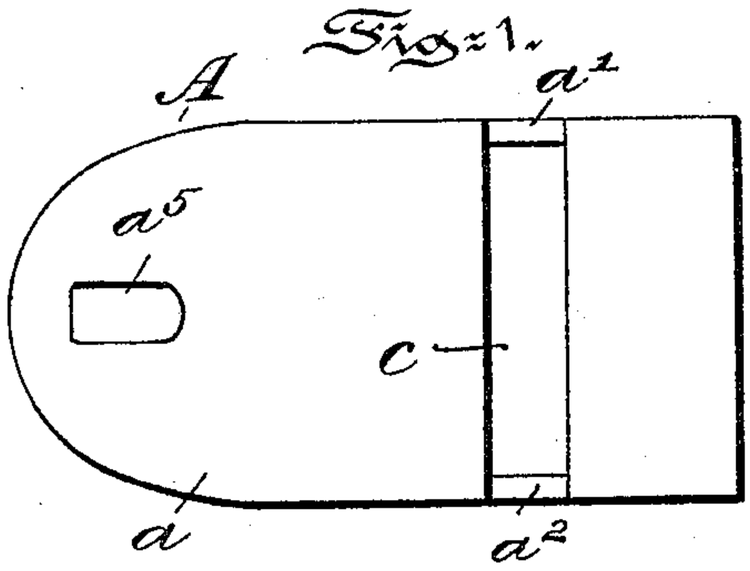


Fig. 3.

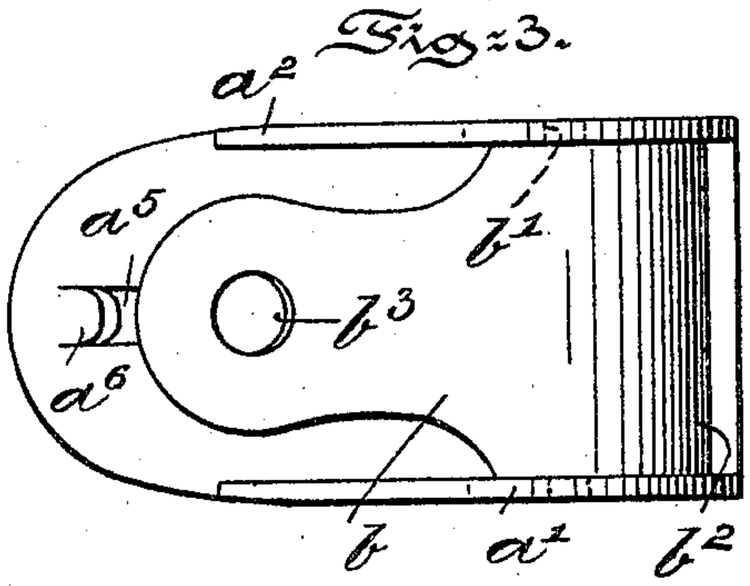


Fig. 2.

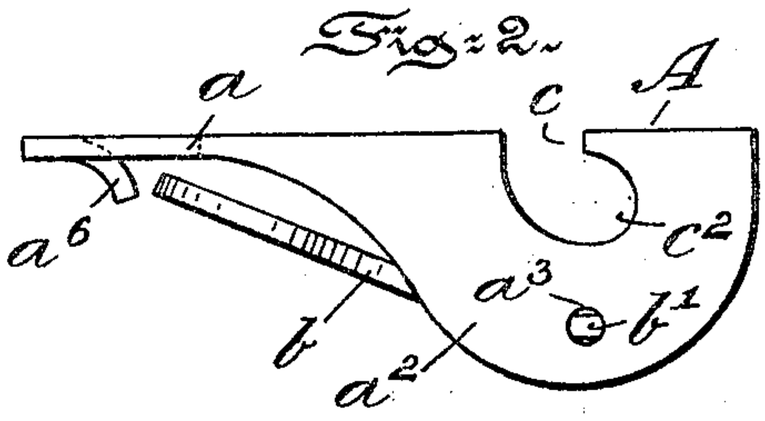


Fig. 4.

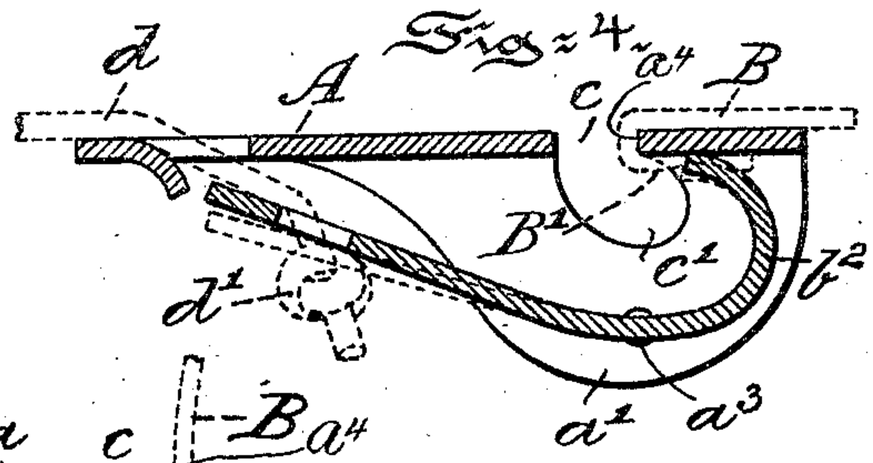


Fig. 5.

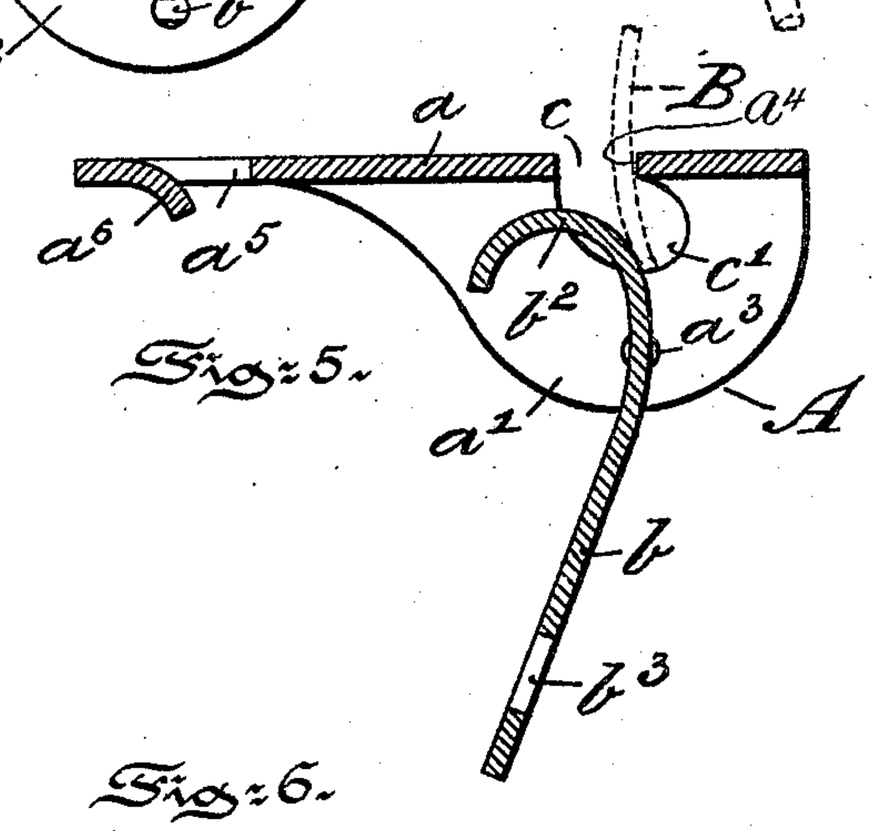
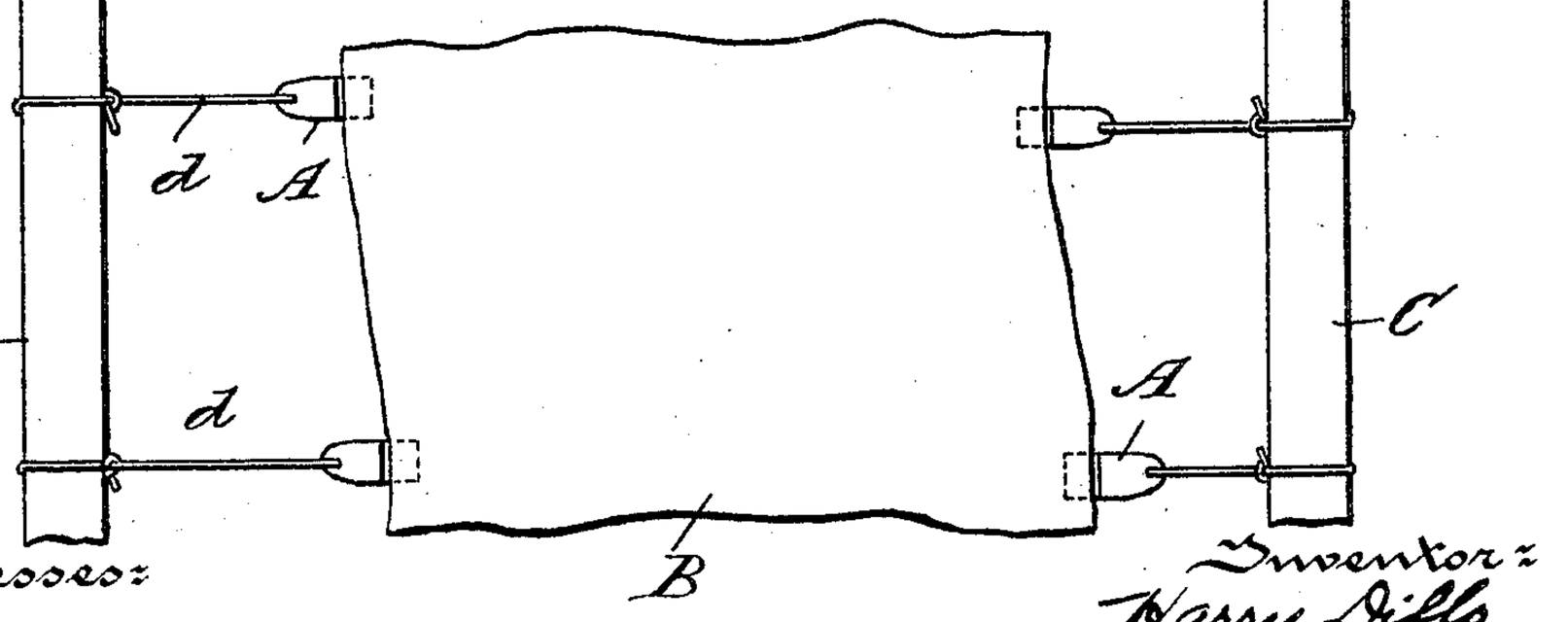


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY DIFLO, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ALFRED M. NORTH, OF GERMANTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

CLAMP.

No. 798,499. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 29, 1905.

Application filed April 15, 1905. Serial No. 255,703.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY DIFLO, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clamps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has relation to a clamp especially adapted for employment as a means for engaging and holding hides or skins in a flat or stretched condition; and in such connection it relates more particularly to the construction and arrangement of such a clamp.

The principal objects of my invention are, first, to so construct a clamp that the same by engaging the hide or skin does not project above the surface of the same while being treated, and, second, to provide the clamp with means adapted to firmly engage and securely hold the hide or skin of varying thickness in a stretched condition.

The nature, scope, and characteristic features of my invention will be more fully understood from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of the clamp embodying main features of my present invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevational view thereof. Fig. 3 is a view illustrating the under side of the clamp. Fig. 4 is a central sectional view of the same, illustrating a clamping-lever in an operative position. Fig. 5 is a similar view illustrating the clamping-lever in an inoperative position, and Fig. 6 is a top or plan view of a portion of a frame for stretching leather and also illustrating the clamps connected with the frame by cords and the manner of engaging and holding a skin or hide in a stretched condition within the frame.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a clamp preferably consisting of a strip of metal a, having laterally-extending wings a' and a^2, which by being struck up and bent at a right angle to the portion a forming in conjunction therewith the body portion or housing of the clamp A. The wings a' and a^2 serve as bearings for a lever b, which by means of projections b' engaging openings a^3 of the same is pivotally connected with the wings a' and a^2. The lever b at one end terminates in a curved portion b^2, which when the lever b is actuated and swung from the position shown in Fig. 5 into the position shown in Fig. 4 engages the under side of the body portion or base a and by sliding along the same for a defined distance is slightly compressed or bent downward by the base a. In the base a is arranged a slot c, which communicates with recesses c' and c^2, arranged in the wings a' and a^2. The recesses c' and c^2 serve to limit the movement of an article B when introduced through the slot c into the wings c' and c^2 and behind the curved end b^2 of the lever b occupying an inoperative position, as shown in Fig. 5. The lever b by being moved into the operative position (shown in Fig. 4) will engage the article B with its curved end b^2 and move the portion B′ of the same introduced into the recesses c' and c^2 into engagement with the under side of the base a and hold the same firmly in engagement therewith, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4. The article B folds over the edge a^4 of the base a and by resting upon the same projects above the surface of the base a, as shown in Fig. 4. This position of the article B on the base a is important, since in the case of a hide or skin being engaged by the clamp A no portion of the clamp will project above the hide to be treated, but, on the contrary, will lie below the same. If the hide is to be varnished, the brush may be moved safely over the exposed surface of the hide B without encountering obstruction hitherto formed by the clamp, resulting in the spoiling of the hide adjacent to the clamp. In order to secure the clamp, engaging a hide or skin B in the manner shown in Fig. 6, to a stretching-frame C, preferably a cord d is used, which passes through an opening a^5, arranged in the base a, and is secured to the lever b by passing through an opening b^3 thereof and by being tied beyond the same into a knob d', as shown in Fig. 4. The free end of the cord d is secured in any suitable manner to the frame C. The cord d by engaging the lever b in the manner hereinbefore described has the tendency to hold the curved end b^2 thereof against the base a and the hide B placed between the same. In order to prevent the rapid wear of the cord d by passing through the opening a^5 of the base a, the same is formed by striking a certain portion of the base downward and forming an inclined projecting guide a^6, upon which the cord d rests, as illustraated in Fig. 4 of the drawings.

It would be manifestly obvious that a clamp of the construction and arrangement hereinbefore described is adapted for employment for other uses than those defined, and hence I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to said uses thereof; but,

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

1. A clamp, consisting of a base having a slot, wings projecting from said base and having recesses connected with said slot, means arranged below said base and pivotally supported by said wings, said means adapted when actuated to engage the under side of said base and to hold the article introduced through said slot in engagement therewith to permit the same to rest and project free of said holding means above the upper side of said base.

2. A clamp, consisting of a base having a slot, wings projecting from said base having recesses communicating with said slot and adapted to limit the movement of an article introduced through said slot, a lever pivotally supported by said wings and adapted to engage and hold the article in engagement with the under side of said base.

3. A clamp, consisting of a base having a slot, wings projecting from said base having recesses communicating with said slot and adapted to limit the movement of an article introduced through said slot into said wings, a lever pivotally supported by said wings having a curved portion adapted to engage and hold the article in engagement with the under side of said base to permit the same to rest and project above the upper side of the same.

4. A clamp, consisting of a base having a slot, wings projecting from said base having recesses communicating with said slot and adapted to limit the movement of an article introduced through said slot into said wings, a lever pivotally supported by said wings having a curved portion adapted to engage and hold the article in engagement with the under side of said base to permit the same to rest and project above the upper side of the same, and means adapted to engage said lever and to hold the curved portion thereof in engagement with said base.

5. A clamp, consisting of a base having an opening and a slot, wings projecting from said base having recesses communicating with said slot and adapted to limit the movement of an article introduced through said slot and into said wings, a lever pivotally supported by said wings having a curved end adapted to engage and move the introduced portion of the article toward the base and to hold the same firmly in engagement with the under side thereof to permit the unengaged portion of the same to rest and project above the upper surface of said base, and a cord passing through the opening in said base, connected with said lever and adapted to move and hold the curved end of the same in engagement with the article and to force the same against said base.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my signature in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HARRY DIFLO.

Witnesses:
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THOMAS M. SMITH.