

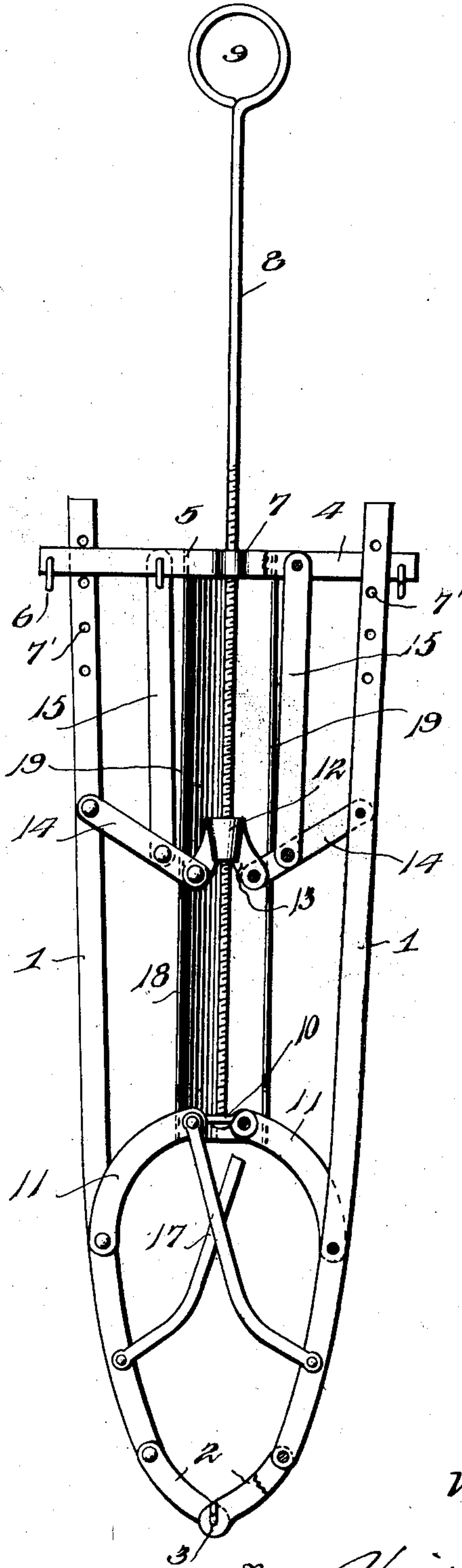
Nº. 826,995.

PATENTED JULY 24, 1906.

W. COOK.

STRETCHING FRAME.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 28, 1905.



Witnesses

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WILLIAM COOK, OF BAKER CITY, OREGON.

STRETCHING-FRAME.

No. 826,995.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 24, 1906.

Application filed November 28, 1905. Serial No. 289,506.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM COOK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baker City, in the county of Baker and State of Oregon, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stretcher-Frames, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stretcher-frames designed especially for use in stretching the pelts of small animals during the tanning operation, and has for its objects to provide a comparatively simple inexpensive device of this character which may be readily introduced into the pelt to be stretched and one whereby an efficient stretching tension may be applied to the skin.

With these and other objects in view the invention comprises the novel features of construction and combination of parts, more fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, the figure is a view in side elevation of a stretcher embodying the invention.

Referring to the drawing, 1 1 designate a pair of stretching members or bars connected at their forward ends by means of a pair of links 2, pivoted at one end, respectively, to the bars and having their meeting ends pivoted together, as at 3, the upper ends of the bars 1 being slidably disposed in guide openings or slots 4, provided in a cross piece or bar 5, equipped with terminal engaging hooks 6, for a purpose which will presently appear, and provided with a central bearing portion 7, while formed in each of the bars adjacent its rear end is a series of spaced openings 7', designed to receive pins (not shown) for fixing the piece 5 against rearward movement relative to the bars.

Extended loosely through the bearing 7 is a tensioning element or rod 8, provided at its rear end with a ring 9 and having its forward end swiveled in a coupling piece or link 10, pivoted to and connecting the adjacent ends of a pair of reversely-curved stretching elements or links 11, in turn pivoted at their outer ends, respectively, to the bars 1, there being threaded for movement on the rod 8 a block or head 12, provided with projecting portions or ears 13, to which are pivoted, respectively, rear stretching elements or links 14, pivoted at their outer ends separately to the bars 1.

The links 14 are fulcrumed at points between their ends, respectively, upon the for-

ward ends of rigid bars or links 15, pivotally engaged at their rear ends with the cross-piece 5, while pivoted to the inner ends of links 11 are crossed members 17, in turn pivoted at their forward ends, respectively, to the bars 1.

In practice the device is introduced into the skin to be stretched and the rod 8 rotated, thus feeding the head 12 rearward upon the screw-threaded portion of the rod and causing the links 14 to rock upon their fulcrums for moving the rear ends of the bars 1 outward, while at the same time motion is imparted to the links 11 and 17 for moving the forward ends of the bars outward, as will be readily understood, it being noted that during the movement of the bars to stretching position the links 2 swing on the pivot 3 and the rear ends of the bars slide in the guide-openings 4. Attention is directed to the fact that the bars 1 are curved inwardly toward each other at their forward ends and that the links 2 are correspondingly curved and so disposed normally that they form, in effect, continuations of the bars 1, whereby the latter present a reduced pointed end for permitting ready introduction of the stretcher into the pelt. Applied around and housing the screw 8 is a tubular shield or casing 18, preferably formed in two sections and having longitudinal guide openings or slots 19 to permit proper play of the links 14, this shield serving in practice to prevent the screw becoming entangled with and injuring the fur on the skins being treated.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

In a device of the class described, a pair of stretcher-bars adapted for relative movement to and from stretching position, a cross-piece having guides for said bars and a bearing, two sets of pressure-links pivotally connected with the bars, a pressure-screw extended through said bearing and operatively engaged with one set of links, and a head threaded for movement on the screw and engaged with the other set of links.

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

WILLIAM COOK.

Witnesses:

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