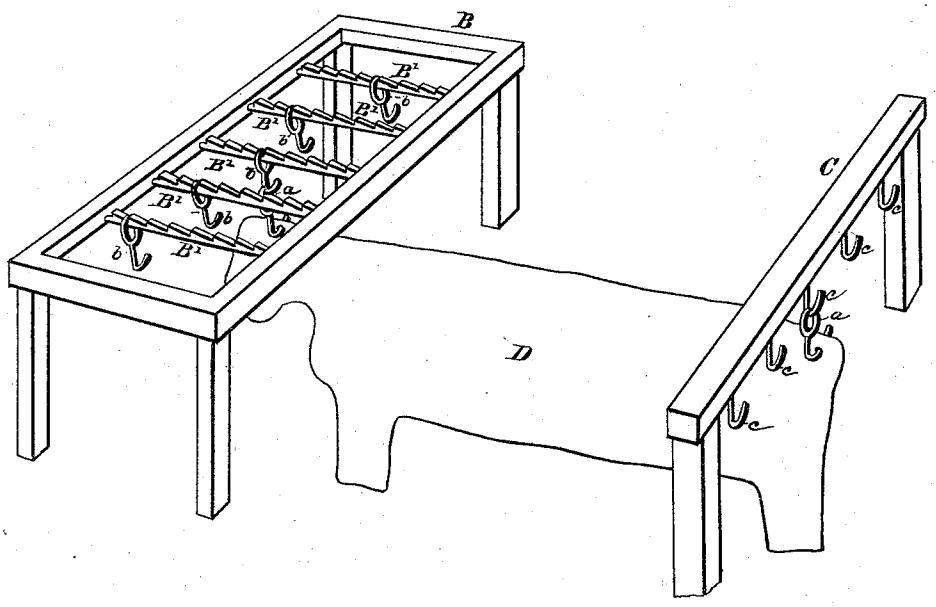
(No Model.)

B. SCHNEPP.

LEATHER HANGING FRAME.

No. 457,014. Patented Aug. 4, 1891.



WITNESSES.

Frank Pardow,
R. Gilchrist

INVENTOR
Bernard Schnepp
by R. M. Kirby
Attorney

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENEARD SCHNEPP, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

LEATHER-HANGING FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 457,014, dated August 4, 1891.

Application filed June 19, 1890. Serial No. 356,027. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENEARD SCHNEPP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Carrying and Hanging Leather; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to devices for hanging sides of leather; and it consists in the novel construction of hanging-frame with adjustable hooks for holding the sides in proper position for drying, substantially as hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the subjoined claim.

Hides of leather intended for sole, saddle, or harness purposes in the process of dressing are slit through the middle, making two sides with straight edges where they are slit, and after these sides are "set" by the finishers they are hung up to dry. The usual way of doing this now is to cut three holes in the side along the straight edge—one at each end of the side and one about the middle. The operator has hooks to go through the holes, provided with handle-rings. To carry the hides from the setting-tables, he puts one hook through the hole at the tail end of the side and one through the hole in the middle, and then grasping the handle-rings carries the side to the hanging-frames. Then the hook is withdrawn from the end hole and the hide is attached to the hanging-frame by catching the hole over a nail driven in the frame. The other end is then carried to an opposite point on the frame till in reach of a string, which is permanently tied there. This string is passed through the hole in that end of the side, and the side is stretched till it is straight by tightening the strings and the other hook is withdrawn. The objection to this mode of carrying is that the side being soft and flexible, when it is lifted from the table by hooks at one end and in the middle the loose end will fold over and make a crease which is very difficult to smooth out after the side dries. Cutting a carrying-hole in the middle of the side wastes leather, as the portion where the hole is has to be trimmed off. The end holes are made through parts of the hide that have to be trimmed off anyhow.

By the use of my improved hanging-frame I dispense with the middle hole in the hide and hang the hide at the proper tension without the use of strings.

The accompanying figure of drawing is a perspective view of my hanging-frames, showing how the sides are hung and stretched.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout.

The hanging-frames consist of a single beam C, having hooks *c* inserted in its lower surface, supported on posts or suspended by hangers from a ceiling, and two beams B, opposite and parallel to it at a distance suitable to the length of the leather sides, supported in the same way and at the same height. The beams B are separated from each other by a distance roughly corresponding to the difference in length of the longest and shortest sides. Stretching across from one of these beams to the other are cross-pieces B′, notched into ratchet-teeth on their uppes surfaces. Around each of these cross-pieces is a loosely-fitting ring *b*, with hook attached, similar to the ring and hook *a* used with the carrying-pole.

In the drawing I have shown a hide in position in the frame, and on reference thereto it will be seen that rings *a* are caught onto the hooks *b* and have depending hooks, which are shown as inserted through perforations in the hide. These rings *a* are originally supported on a pole of any suitable construction, which is used for carrying the hide from the setting-table to the leather-hanging frame.

When my invention is used and the operator carries the side stretched on the pole from the setting-table to the hanging-frames, he catches the ring *a* on one end of the carrying-pole onto the hook *c* on the beam C and the ring on the other end of the pole onto the hook *b*, dependent from the ring, passing round the ratcheted cross-pieces B′ on the beams B, at the same time withdrawing the carrying-pole, and then moves the hooked ring *b* over the ratchet-teeth in B′ until the side is stretched tight. Besides the manner

of carrying the hides by hooks with hand-rings passing through the holes cut along the straight edge, as described, it has sometimes been the practice to bring a pole to the table on which the hide is lying after being "stuffed" and the straight edge of the hide is stretched along the pole and nailed to it, and the pole, with hide attached, is mounted on the hanging-frame.

The means above referred to (viz., a carrying-pole having the removable rings and hooks) for carrying the hide from the setting-table to the frame is especially adapted for use in connection with my improved leather-hanging frame, and for this reason is preferably employed; but any suitable carrying means can be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

The herein-described frame for hanging a series of leather sides on, comprising a rectangular frame having a series of laterally-extending bars formed with ratchet-shaped upper faces, a ring adjustably engaging each of said bars and formed with a dependent hook, and a separate beam having a series of dependent hooks, substantially as shown, and for the purposes specified.

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

BENEARD SCHNEPP.

Witnesses:
L. G. DAVIS,
GEO. B. EASTIN.