No. 755,099. PATENTED MAR. 22, 1904.

C. A. BERTRAND.

TRACE HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 24, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

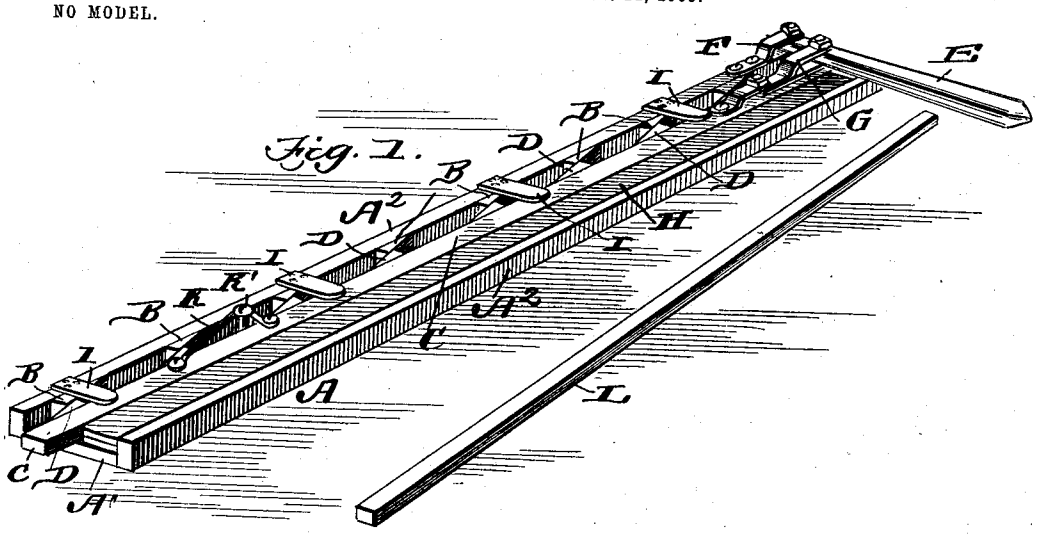


Fig. 2.

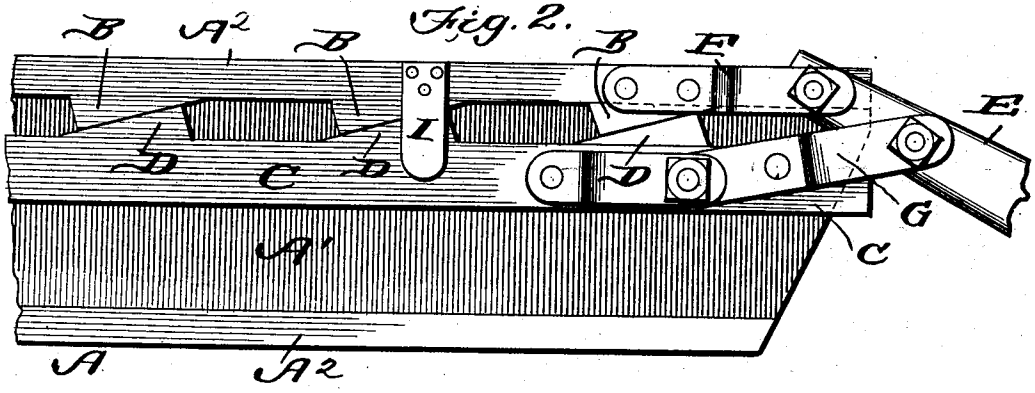


Fig. 3.

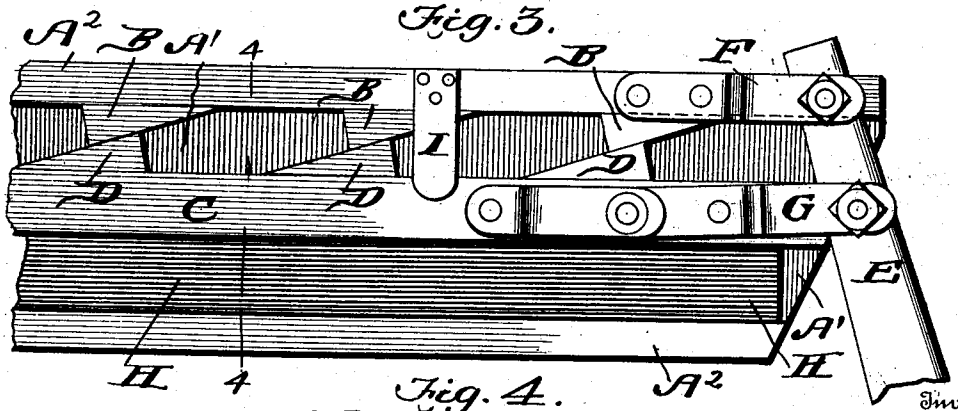
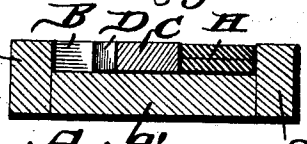


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
M. L. Blondel,
Casimir Thaw

Inventor
C. A. Bertrand,
By O'Mearat & Brock
Attorneys

No. 755,099. Patented March 22, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. BERTRAND, OF LOOGOOTEE, INDIANA.

TRACE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 755,099, dated March 22, 1904.

Application filed January 24, 1903. Serial No. 140,403. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. BERTRAND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Loogootee, in the county of Martin and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Trace-Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is a novel construction of trace holder or clamp, the object being to provide a simple and efficient device for the purpose of holding the pieces of leather together while being tacked preparatory to being stitched and made into a trace or tug.

Another object of the invention is to provide a clamp or holder in which the trace or tug can be securely held upon its ends or edge for the purpose of burnishing the end or edge.

With these objects in view the invention consists, essentially, in the employment of a narrow box having wedge-shaped projections secured to one side thereof, a clamping-bar arranged in the box and provided also with wedge-shaped projections adapted to contact with and ride upon the wedge projections upon the side of the box, and an operating-lever pivotally connected to the clamping-bar.

The invention consists also in certain details of construction hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a holder or clamp constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of one end of a device, the lever and clamping-bar being moved to an open position ready to receive the pieces of leather to be held or clamped. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the lever and clamping-bar adjusted to bind against the strips of leather arranged in the box of the holder. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3.

In carrying out my invention I employ a long narrow open-ended box A, comprising the bottom piece A′ and the side pieces A^2, said side pieces projecting above the bottom A′, as most clearly shown in Fig. 4. The box may be any desired length and width, according to the character of the work to be performed. One of the side pieces A^2 is provided with wedge-shaped projections B, which extend inwardly toward the center of the box, and it will be understood that these projections may be formed integral with the said side or connected thereto in any suitable manner. A clamping-bar C is arranged longitudinally within the box, said clamping-bar being of substantially the same length as the box, and this clamping-bar is also provided with wedge-shaped projections D, which are adapted to contact with and ride upon the wedge-shaped projections B whenever the clamping-bar is moved longitudinally within the box, and in order to so move the clamping-bar I employ a hand-lever E, which is pivoted in a suitable bracket F, attached to the side of the box and pivotally connected to the clamping-bar by means of a link G. The strips of leather H are arranged longitudinally within the box between the clamping-bar and the opposite side of the box, and the hand-lever is then thrown forwardly into the position shown in Fig. 3, and the clamping-bar being moved longitudinally the inclined or wedge-shaped projections contacting with and riding upon the wedge-shaped projections upon the side of the box cause the said clamping-bar to be moved toward the opposite side of the box and tightly bind or clamp the strips of leather and securely hold them in that position, and by having the side of the box and the clamping-bars straight and even the edges of the strips of leather will be held exactly even, and the strips can then be tacked together preparatory to being stitched or sewed. The clamping-bar is held in place during all its movements by means of the guides I, attached to the upper edges of the side of the box having the projections, said guides projecting inwardly and overlapping the clamping-bar. The movements of the clamping-bar are limited by means of a triangular-shaped bail K, connected to the clamping-bar adjacent to its free end, and the post or screw K′, fastened to the bottom of the box and arranged within the bail K, said bail contacting with the said screw or post and limiting the movements of the clamping-bars. Whenever narrow strips of leather are to be clamped and held or when the trace is to be held for the purpose of burnishing the edges, a supple-

mental clamping-bar L is arranged within the box alongside the main clamping-bar, so that the limited inward movement of the clamping-bar will be sufficient to tightly bind the strips together.

It will thus be seen that I provide an exceedingly cheap, simple, and efficient device for clamping and holding strips of leather while being tacked together or while the edges are being burnished.

By making the bail essentially triangular in shape the inclined side contacting with the post will serve to draw the clamping-bar away when the lever is thrown back to open the device.

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

In a device of the kind described, a box, having wedge-shaped projections upon the interior of one side, a clamping-bar having wedge-shaped projections, a lever pivoted to the box a link connecting the lever and clamping-bar, the guides attached to the box and overlapping the clamping-bar, the bail carried by the clamping-bar, and the post attached to the box and adapted to contact with the bail, as specified.

CHARLES A. BERTRAND.

Witnesses:
FRED J. MASTEN,
WM. MASTEN.