(No Model.)

A. V. MANLEY.

TANNER'S APRON SUPPORT.

No. 346,487. Patented Aug. 3, 1886.

Fig. 1.

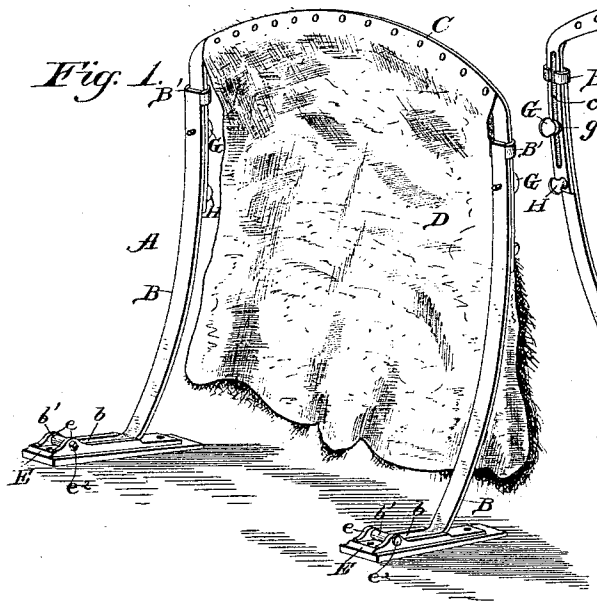


Fig. 2.

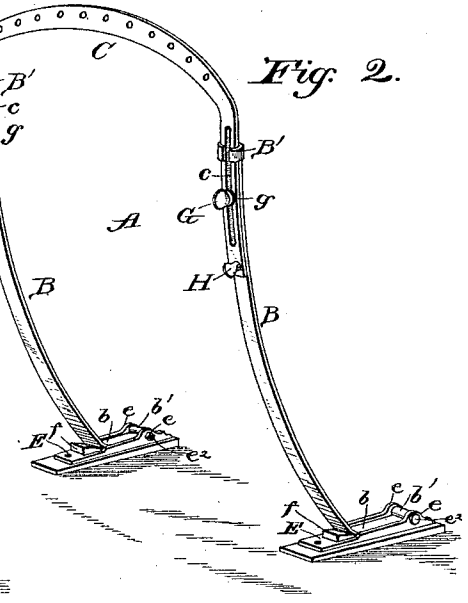


Fig. 3.

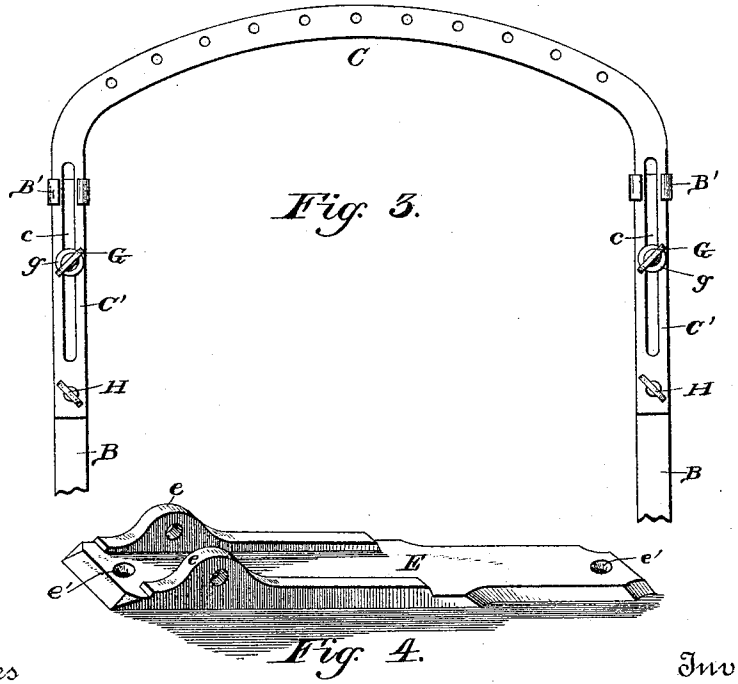


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTHONY V. MANLEY, OF NORWICH, NEW YORK.

TANNER'S APRON-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,487, dated August 3, 1886.

Application filed December 30, 1885. Serial No. 187,186. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTHONY V. MANLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Norwich, in the county of Chenango and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Apron-Supports, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in apron-supports; and the novelty consists of the peculiar construction, combination, and adaptation of parts, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

The primary object of my invention is to provide means for supporting an apron in proper relation and juxtaposition to the fleshing-beam of a tannery, so as to relieve the workman or attendant of the considerable weight and inconvenience of having an apron tied or otherwise secured around his body, while at the same time the apron serves to protect the workman from becoming wetted.

A further object of my invention is to provide means which shall yield and accommodate itself to the movements of the operator, to provide means whereby the inclination of the apron can be varied and adjusted, to provide means for quickly and readily attaching the supporting-frame to the floor, and to combine simplicity, strength, durability, and lightness of construction with thorough effectiveness of operation and cheapness of manufacture.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view taken from the front of the device, showing the apron applied to and suspended from the supporting-frame. Fig. 2 is a perspective view taken from the rear side of the device, with the apron detached. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail view of the adjusting devices for the upper cross bar or bow. Fig. 4 is a detail view of one of the brackets in which the main frame or the standards thereof are pivoted.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in the several figures, A designates the main supporting-frame, which consists, essentially, of upright standards or side bars, B, and a vertically-adjustable cross bar or bow, C, mounted on the upper ends of the upright standards, and adapted to be adjusted in an inclined position at an angle thereto, to accommodate the apron D to the requirements or wishes of the workman.

The uprights or standards B are curved in the direction of their length, and at their lower ends they are bent abruptly to form straight arms *b*, which are provided with enlarged perforated heads *b'*, which are fitted between upwardly-extending and spaced-apart lugs *c*, which are cast with a base-plate, E, the lugs and plate forming a support for the upright standards B. A support is provided for each of the uprights B, and the supports have openings *e'* at or near the ends of the base-plate, through which are passed screws or other suitable fastening devices, to secure the supports in proper relative position and juxtaposition to the fleshing-beam of a tannery.

The lugs *c* of the supports are perforated, and the openings in the enlarged heads *b'* of the arms *b* are adapted to coincide or register therewith, thus permitting pivot pins or bolts c^2 to connect the supports and standards pivotally together.

If it is desired to vary the inclination or adjust the angle of the standards B or the main frame A, a key or block, *f*, is fitted beneath each of the arms *b*, to elevate the same and throw the frame and its standards forward, the blocks being made wedge-shaped and adjusted beneath the arms until the proper inclination has been attained.

The upper ends of the standards B have brackets B', rigidly secured thereto, and these brackets provide supports for the lower arms, C', of the cross bar or bow C, said arms passing through the brackets and bearing against one of the faces of the uprights or standards B. The arms C' are slotted longitudinally, as at *c*, and through these slots pass the threaded shanks of adjusting and clamping set-screws G, the shanks of which enter threaded sockets in the upper ends of the upright standards B. A washer, *g*, is interposed between the head of set-screw G and the slotted end of the bow C. The lower ends of the arms C' have adjusting thumb-screws H, which are adapted to vary the inclination or angle of the bow-shaped cross-bar C with relation to the standards B, and independently thereof. Thus, when it is desired to adjust the bow C, the clamping

thumb-screws G are loosened and the adjusting-screws H are turned in the required direction until the desired adjustment has been attained, after which the clamping set-screws G are turned to bind on the arms C' of the bow to rigidly clamp it in the proper position.

The upper bow-shaped cross-bar C is provided with a series of openings, through which are passed rivets or other suitable devices for securing the upper edges of the apron D to said bow-shaped cross bar, the lower and side edges of the apron being left free and unsecured to permit the attendant to use his legs and body freely and without hinderance from the apron.

The standards B and the bow-shaped cross-bars are made of spring metal, preferably flat bars or strips of tempered steel, to allow the frame to accommodate or move itself to the motions of the operator when he bends or leans over the fleshing beam of a tannery, and when he raises himself up the frame automatically rights itself to its proper position.

The improved apron-support can be readily adapted for use in other relations than that herein stated, and various slight changes in the form and proportions of parts and in the details of construction may be made without departing from the principle of my invention.

The device is very simple, strong and durable in construction, can be manufactured and sold very cheaply, is readily adjustable and quickly secured in position, obviates the inconvenience of burdening the workman with a heavy and cumbersome apron, and at the same time effectually prevents him from getting wet, while it permits him the free use of the hands, body, and limbs without hinderance, and effects a saving in the number of aprons used.

The key or block *f* may be employed or omitted, as preferred, and the device placed nearer to or farther from the fleshing-beam, the supporting-frame yielding to the movements of the operator and automatically righting itself when released from pressure.

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

1. In an apron-support, the combination of the spring-uprights to yield to the motions of the operator, and a cross-bar secured to the uprights and adapted to have an apron suspended therefrom, said apron being suspended from the cross-bar and disconnected entirely from the uprights, substantially as described.

2. An apron-support consisting of the yielding uprights adapted to be secured to a floor, and a vertically-adjustable cross-bar from which an apron is to be suspended, detachably connected to the uprights, substantially as described.

3. An apron-support consisting of the flexible yielding supporting-uprights adapted to be secured to a floor, and a cross-bar connecting the uprights and adjustably mounted thereon, said bar being adapted to be adjusted by means substantially as described, and held at an angle to the uprights, and have an apron suspended therefrom, substantially as described.

4. The combination of the hinged flexible uprights, an adjustable cross-bar connecting the same, and an apron suspended from the cross-bar, substantially as described.

5. The combination of the supports, the flexible standards pivoted thereto, the brackets secured on the standards, and an adjustable cross-bar mounted in the brackets and having the apron suspended therefrom, substantially as described.

6. The combination, of the uprights, the brackets, a cross-bar having slotted arms, a clamping-screw, G, passing through each arm and entering the uprights, and an adjusting-screw, H, mounted in the lower ends of the arms of the cross-bar, substantially as described.

7. The combination of the main supporting-frame, the apron suspended therefrom, the supports having the perforated ears or lugs, and the pivot-pins for connecting the supports and frame together pivotally, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ANTHONY V. MANLEY.

Witnesses:
H. G. PRINDLE,
J. E. NICKERSON.