

(No Model.)

R. W. CHAPMAN.

PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING IMITATION LEATHER COVERED BAG
FRAMES.

No. 300,763.

Patented June 24, 1884.

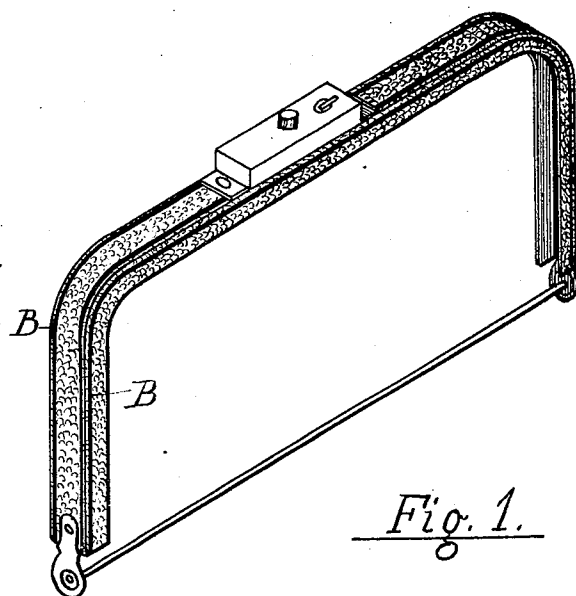


Fig. 1.

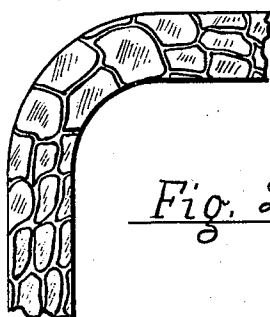


Fig. 2.

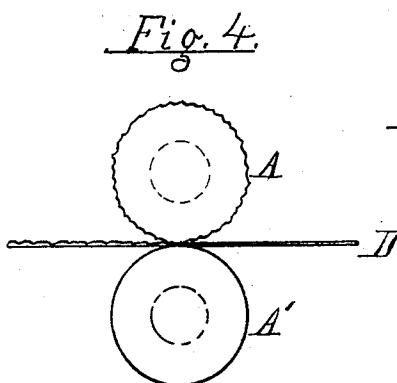


Fig. 4.

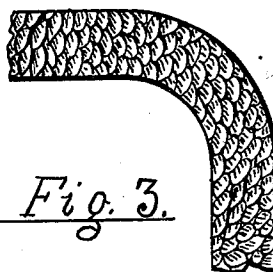


Fig. 3.

Attest.

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PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING IMITATION-LEATHER-COVERED BAG-FRAMES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,763, dated June 24, 1884.

Application filed March 13, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT W. CHAPMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing in Newark, Essex county, in the State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Imitation-Leather-Covered Traveling-Bag Frames, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

This invention consists in the process herein shown and described for pebbling or graining metallic bag-frames in imitation of leather, consisting in first pebbling the sheet metal by pressure, then cutting, bending, and working the same into bag or satchel frames, and, finally, in japanning the pebbled surface of such frames, as and for the purpose set forth.

The term "pebbled" is used herein with the same sense that is given to the term "pebbled" or "grained" in the manufacture of bag and shoe leather—that is, having a surface artificially embossed or raised to resemble the natural "grain" or pitted surface of some animal's tanned skin. By the process of "pebbling" one kind of leather may have the grain of another impressed upon its surface, and by the means herein described the iron frame of a bag may be pebbled so as to resemble any specified kind of skin—as goat-skin, alligator or seal skin—and may retain its pebbled surface much longer than a genuine-leather-covered frame.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents the bag-frame for an ordinary railroad-bag. Fig. 2 is a sample of alligator-pebbling upon a corner of such a frame. Fig. 3 is a sample of goat-skin pebbling upon an opposite corner, and Fig. 4 a section of the pebbling-rolls.

The process of manufacturing my improved frames is as follows: I take the sheet-iron of which the frames are to be constructed, and emboss or pebble its surface by pressure between rollers, as at A A' in Fig. 4, D being the iron, and A being represented as the pebbling-roll, while A' is shown with a smooth surface. When the sheet-iron has been thus embossed, it is bent and finished up into frames in the usual manner, and then provided with a coating of japan upon its surface, to protect the same from rust.

For certain kinds of grain, rollers engraved

to match the grain at opposite sides of the sheet-iron may be used, for with such rolls as are shown at A and A' greater pressure is required, because the impression is confined to one side of the metal only. The sheet metal, when pebbled, is worked up into bag-frames by the usual methods, and is then preferably japanned of a color suited to imitate most closely the proper kind of skin. When worked up into bags, such frames have qualities far surpassing the article they are intended to imitate, while the process of manufacture reduces the cost thirty-three per cent. by saving the cost of the covering-leather and the labor of applying it.

The leather usually applied to the covering of bag-frames is very thin, and when subjected to wear tears and chips off in places, presenting a very unsightly appearance.

My pebbled metallic frames may be made so as to look well until the bag is entirely worn out, as the embossing of the iron and baking of colored japan thereon secures a finish that is almost indestructible. The appearance of such frames is partly indicated in the drawings, by which it is obvious that the grain pressed into the sheet metal is absolutely permanent, independent of the colored coating that may be applied to it. It is also plain that the indenting or embossing of the sheet-iron tends to stiffen it, and thus renders it possible to secure the same strength with thinner metal.

In Fig. 1 creases B are shown formed along the edges of the frame in a manner common with real-leather-covered frames. Such creases may be formed in the metal by any suitable means, and thus effectively imitate the leather patterns in common use.

I am aware that it is common to coat canvas and other fabrics with japan and emboss the surface in imitation of leather, and that one kind of leather is sometimes grained or pebbled to imitate another kind. The material used in the manufacture of bag-frames is, however, so hard that the coating of japan, baked into a thin and brittle crust upon its surface, would be entirely destroyed if subjected to the action of grained or pebbled rollers; and my invention therefore consists, first, in applying the embossing-rollers to the naked sheet metal,

then working the same into bag-frames, and finally japanning the embossed surface of such frames. I therefore disclaim the graining or pebbling of any material as a finishing operation, especially after a coat of japan has been applied, as with enameled cloth or leather, and restrict my invention to the use of my particular process.

I therefore claim as follows:

- 10 The process herein shown and described for pebbling or graining metallic bag-frames in imitation of leather, consisting in first peb-

bling the sheet metal by pressure, then cutting, bending, and working the same into bag or satchel frames, and, finally, in japanning the pebbled surface of such frames, as and for the purpose set forth. 15

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

ROBERT W. CHAPMAN.

Witnesses:

THOS. S. CRANE,
C. C. HERRICK.