

# Charles B. Corbin Fur Stretcher

Les Barnes called me to discuss stretchers. He said he had one that looked like a Triumph stretcher even down to the brass rivet, but the pelt grippers were stamped C.B. Corbin. He asked if I knew anything about who this was. I did not but did a little research.

Charles B. Corbin was an inventor and salesman from Grand Rapids, Michigan. He married Georgia Estelle Cilley, and they did not have any children. He died in April of 1941 and she did not die until April 1975. At one time, he worked as a Deputy State Game and Fish Warden in Kent County.

Charles worked for the Michigan Tool and Stamping Works of Grand Rapids. He had several patents including one for a fur pelt stretcher. The drawing in the patent shows a stretcher design a little different from the picture provided by Les.

Charles had another interesting patent for a combined fishing rod and reel. Other patents include an adjustable window-shade shifter, extendable bracket, shoe form, garment hanger, and garment hanger bracket. His first patent was for the combined rod and reel in 1890 and his last patent was for the fur pelt stretcher in 1923.

Scot H. Dahms  
2270 W Willow Lane  
Peru, Indiana 46970  
ranger1971@comcast.net  
765-327-1531

