

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH PETERS, OF ST. JAMES, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN TANNING AND STUFFING LEATHER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 128,246, dated June 25, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH PETERS, of the town of St. James, in the county of Phelps and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Composition of Matter, which is fully described in the following specification:

My invention consists of a new compound for bating, tanning, and finishing leather, and is made of the following ingredients, viz., for bating: To forty (40) gallons of water add one (1) bushel of wheat-bran. Mix thoroughly, and let it stand till it ferments and begins to smell; then add two (2) pounds of sulphuric acid and two (2) gallons of buttermilk. The hides are then immersed in this liquid, and properly handled until they are free from lime, which has been previously applied in the usual way.

The hides are then ready for the tanning compound and process, which is made and applied as follows, viz., tanning compound: To eight (8) gallons of water add ten (10) pounds of gambia, three (3) pounds of salt, one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) pound of saltpeter, and one (1) pound of sulphuric acid. The hides are placed in this liquor and properly handled several times a day for six or eight days till they are completely tanned.

The acid is then neutralized, and the leather finished by the following finishing compound: viz., to three (3) quarts of tanners' oil add two (2) pounds of melted tallow and one (1) quart

of strong lye for the flesh side; and for the grain side, to one (1) quart of tanners' oil add three (3) quarts of lye, and stir the compound till it is cold. The flesh side of the hides is then covered by a brush with the finishing compound one-third the thickness of the leather, and the hides are then hung in the shade to dry, and when they are dry the stuffing is all thoroughly removed by a steel sleek, and by a whitening-knife a shaving is taken from every part of the flesh side. The compound for the grain side is applied with a sponge, all it will carry, and the hides packed away, flesh side to flesh side, for four or five days before the stuffing is applied to the flesh side.

I claim—

1. The compound for bating hides, of the materials and in the proportions substantially as described.

2. The compound for tanning leather, of the materials and in the proportions substantially as described.

3. The compound for finishing leather, of the materials and in the proportions as described.

In attestation of the foregoing specifications and claims I hereto subscribe my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOS. PETERS.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH F. KERN,
LYDIA E. KERN.