

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HORATIO N. SLATER, OF WEBSTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLOCKING CLOTH.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,057**, dated December 14, 1875; application filed October 5, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HORATIO N. SLATER, of Webster, of the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Flocking Cloth; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described, as follows:

Heretofore, in combining, with cloth, flock, or very short wool, in the process of fulling the cloth, it has been customary to put the flock and the piece or pieces of cloth into the fulling-mill promiscuously, the flock being made thereby to combine with the cloth in and by the process of fulling the cloth, while being carried on. In this way both surfaces of the cloth or one only has been flocked. Where but one surface has received the flock, it has been customary to first double or fold the cloth along its middle, and to sew it together at its ends, as well as at its lists or selvages. This having been done the cloth was introduced into the mill, and its ends duly connected; the flock also being placed in the mill, whereby it had access to the outside surface of the cloth only, the inner surface being insulated from the flock.

In carrying out my improvement I properly distribute or scatter upon the surface to be flocked the necessary amount of the flock, after which I double or fold the cloth along its middle longitudinally, and sew or otherwise properly connect the edges, lists, or selvages together, so as to inclose the flock as it were within a bag or tube of the cloth. I next pass the piece between the rolls of the fulling-

mill in the usual way, and connect it together at its ends by sewing or otherwise, thereby forming it into an endless bag or tube, in which the flock is confined then, as well as during the process of fulling it. In this way it will be perceived that the outside surface of the cloth becomes completely insulated from the flock.

By my improvement I attain important advantages, for by it I am able not only to accurately determine the amount of flock to be taken up by the cloth to obtain any desirable weight per yard, but to save much, if not all the waste of flock incident to the old process hereinbefore mentioned. Furthermore, by my improvement, the flock becomes evenly distributed over and combined with the inner surface of the cloth.

Another mode of insulating one surface of a piece of cloth may be effected by sewing or applying thereto another or like piece of cloth, or a water or flock proof-sheet, the two being sewed or otherwise properly connected at their edges and ends.

I claim as my invention—

The improvement in the art of flocking cloth, such consisting in employing the flock within a bag or tube composed of the cloth in whole or in part, substantially as set forth, while the said bag or tube is being subjected to the action of the fulling-mill, as specified.

HORATIO N. SLATER.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,
J. R. SNOW.