

# United States Patent Office.

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LOUIS KLEIN, OF DANSVILLE, NEW YORK.

*Letters Patent No. 67,320, dated July 30, 1867.*

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## IMPROVED MODE OF TREATING RATTAN.

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*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

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### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, LOUIS KLEIN, of Dansville, in the county of Livingston, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful improvement in Compressing Rattan; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

This invention consists in compressing rattan to give it better properties as a substitute for whalebone.

The common rattan or calamus is possessed of great strength and elasticity, and is useful for many purposes where a light, elastic, strong, and yet cheap wood is required, as in the manufacture of umbrellas, &c.; but its usefulness is seriously impaired for many of the purposes where it would otherwise be most valuable, by reason of its bulkiness, porosity, and want of firmness. I have discovered that it can be compressed so as to become permanently reduced in size, and rendered harder, firmer, and less porous, and be nearly assimilated in character and usefulness to whalebone. It may, while under pressure, be made to assume permanently any form of rod or stick that can be made from the material used, and any desired color may be imparted to it. After being thus compressed it is impervious to water, and is susceptible of a beautiful polish. The usefulness of the material for the purposes referred to is so greatly enhanced by such compression that I desire to avail myself of the exclusive right thus to prepare it.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—  
The compressing of rattan or calamus, as and for the purpose specified.

To the above specification of my improvement I have signed my hand this third day of June, 1867.

LOUIS KLEIN.

Witnesses:

C. JOS. WIRTH,  
FRANZ REINHARDT.