

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES L. SNEED AND JOHN S. MOUNT, OF FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN BLEACHING HEMP.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **154,292**, dated August 18, 1874; application filed June 13, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES L. SNEED and JOHN S. MOUNT, of the city of Frankfort, in the county of Franklin and in the State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bleaching Hemp; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The nature of our invention consists in a process for bleaching hemp, as will be herein-after more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which our invention appertains to make and use the same, we will now proceed to describe it.

We take one pound of hemp as it comes from the break and place it in boiling water, where it is allowed to remain for about one hour. The hemp is then taken out and the water squeezed out thoroughly. Two ounces of chloride of lime are mixed well in about half a gallon of water, and the hemp placed in this solution, where it is allowed to remain for about two hours, at which time it will be bleached. The hemp is then taken out and washed well with clean water, after which it is squeezed out dry and hackled. It is then ready for manufacturing purposes.

This process is simple and cheap, and makes a soft white hemp, not injuring the fiber in the least.

When thus bleached it can be manufactured into fine linen goods, as well as many other articles.

We do not confine ourselves to the proportions of the ingredients above mentioned, as they may, perhaps, be varied somewhat, according to the quality of the hemp and the kind or articles to be manufactured therefrom.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The within-described process for bleaching hemp by soaking the hemp first in hot water, and then in a solution of chloride of lime, after which it is dried and hackled, substantially as herein set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands this 3d day of June, 1874.

JAS. L. SNEED.

JOHN S. MOUNT.

Witnesses:

J. T. HOCKENSMITH,
J. E. KIRTLEY.