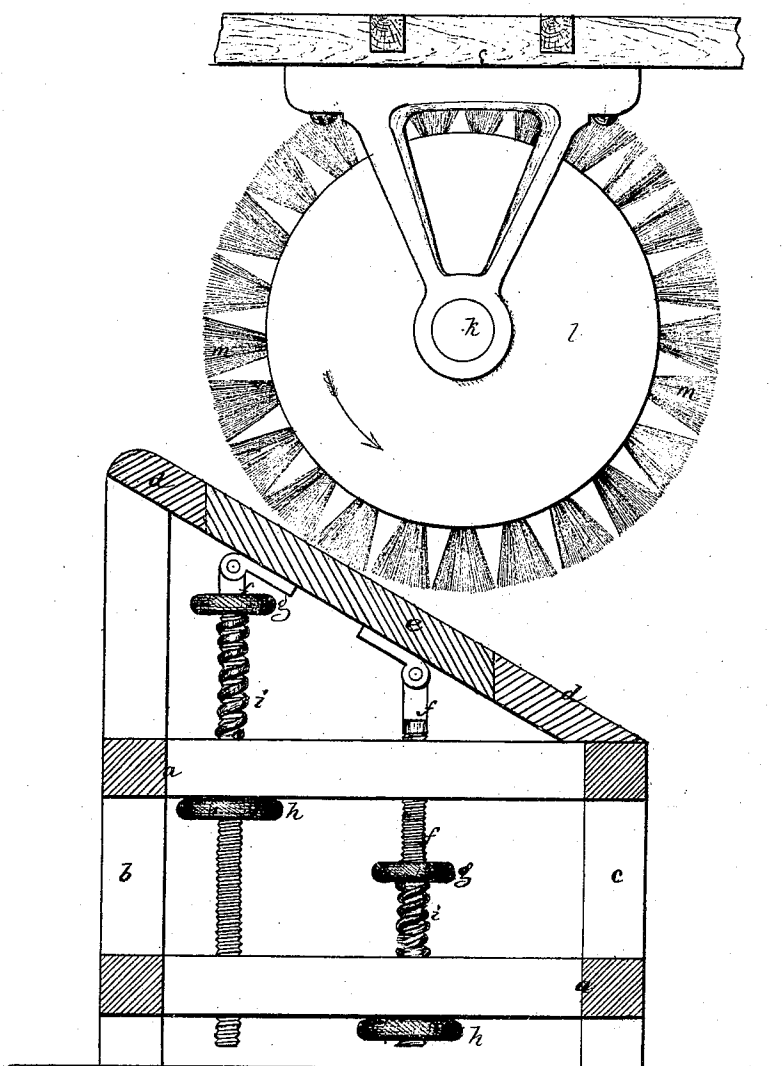


Reed & Wilson,
Dressing Skins.
No. 107,625. Patented Sept. 20. 1870.



Herbert P. Reed
Thomas & Wilson
by their attys.
Crosby Halstead & Gould
Witnesses
J. B. Kidder
M. W. Frothingham.

United States Patent Office.

HERBERT P. REED AND THOMAS E. WILSON, OF PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 107,625, dated September 20, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINERY FOR DRESSING SKINS.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HERBERT P. REED and THOMAS E. WILSON, both of Peabody, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented jointly an Improved Manufacture for Cleansing and Polishing Skins; and we do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of our invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

Our invention relates to an improved means of brushing, coloring, and polishing skins, in the manufacture of leather; and

Our improvement consists in combining with a table or beam, mounted upon a suitable frame, and in an inclined position, and resting upon springs which permit it to yield vertically, a cylindrical and rotary brush, whose axis is parallel to the beam, and whose bristles rotate in contact with the beam, the skin to be treated being drawn in over the end of the beam, under the brush, and up over the top of the beam, while the brush is driven in the opposite direction.

The drawing represents an arrangement of mechanism embodying our invention, the beam or table being shown in sectional elevation, and the brush in end elevation.

a denotes a strong frame-work, the rear posts *b* of which are carried to a greater height than the front posts *c*, for the reception within the top rails *d* of a table, *e*, which is mounted in an inclined position corresponding to the relative heights of the front and rear posts.

This table for supporting the skin to be treated corresponds to the support technically known to curriers as the "beam." To each end of its under surface screw-rods *f* are hinged, these rods extending down through the cross-beams of the frame *a*, and each having working upon its screw-thread two nuts, *g* *h*.

Between each upper nut *g* and the top of the beam below it is a coiled spring, *i*, the springs *i*, by their upward stress, pressing the table up into position, the extent of its upward movement being determined and

controlled by the nuts *h* striking the bottoms of the beams, against which the stress of the springs forces them.

It will readily be seen that the table virtually rests upon the springs, thus having a yielding support, that the stress of the springs may be increased or diminished by turning the nuts *g*, and that the top of the table may be kept in position by the lower nuts *h*.

Above the table, with its shaft *k* journaled in suitable pendent bracket-bearings, is a brush-cylinder, *l*, extending lengthwise of the table, and so that its bristles *m* just sweep the table-surface as the cylinder is rotated.

The cylinder is rotated by any suitable power, and in the direction denoted by the arrow, and the skin to be treated is drawn in upon the table at the end of the machine, and below the brush, and is then drawn in between the brush and the table, and upward over the upper rail, in such manner as to subject its whole surface to the action of the bristles, the manipulations of the workman being guided by the condition of the skin and the treatment required.

The cylinder is driven rapidly, and by its action skins are very speedily dressed, and with but a small fraction of the very hard labor required to effect the same results by hand, the operator having no brush to work, but simply having to draw through the skin in such manner as to bring its whole surface properly to the action of the bristles.

The machine is intended particularly for removing grease and dirt, and to polish morocco, upper leather, grain leather, &c., where a soft polish is wanted, and where the use of a "slicker" renders the surface too hard.

We claim—

The cylindrical brush *m* and the yielding inclined table *e*, when constructed and relatively arranged and combined, substantially as shown and described.

HERBERT P. REED.
THOMAS E. WILSON.

Witnesses:

G. HOLMAN,
S. F. REED.