

United States Patent Office.

JAMES STARRATT, OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO HANDLEY STARRATT AND BENJAMIN McKEEN.

Letters Patent No. 105,506, dated July 19, 1870; antedated March 23, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINES FOR REMOVING GREASE FROM LEATHER.

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

To all persons to whom these presents may come :

Be it known that I, JAMES STARRATT, of Salem, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Machine for Removing Grease from Leather; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawing, which denotes a vertical section of the machine.

The common machine for removing grease from leather, after having undergone the process of being "stuffed," is very like the common and well known machines for dicing leather, except that, in the place of a dicing-tool, a scraper is employed, it being affixed to a pendulous arm to play or swing over a curved bed with a reciprocating movement, the bed being indirectly supported by springs, and provided with adjusting-screws, by which its elevation, with respect to the tool, may be regulated as circumstances may require.

It has been found very difficult, while the scraper was in operation, to remove from it, by manual power, the grease which in the course of the operations of the scraper would collect on it. If not removed, such grease is liable to drop from the scraper and fall back upon the leather.

To effect this removal of the grease from the scraper is the object of my invention, which accomplishes the same automatically.

For this purpose I have applied to the machine an elastic abstractor or auxiliary scraper, that is, one, or a plate mounted on a spring, and arranged about at the terminus of the advance movement of the main scraper, the auxiliary scraper being situated so that the main scraper shall be carried against it so as to cause any grease that may have been scraped from the leather and be on the main scraper to be abstracted therefrom by the auxiliary scraper, such grease thereby being prevented from falling back upon the leather.

In the drawing—

A denotes the frame of the machine.

B is the curved bed, supported by adjusting-screws *a a*, which extend up through girts or cross-timbers *b b* of the frame, and screw into the bed.

Each screw goes through one of a series of helical springs, *c*, resting on the girts, and bearing, at their upper ends, against nuts *d*, screwed on the shanks of the screws.

The main scraper is shown, at C, as arranged over the bed, and extended from a stock, C', pivoted to a pendulous arm, D, which, at its upper part, is pivoted to the frame A.

A connecting-rod, E, fastened to the scraper-stock, extends to and embraces the wrist *h* of a cranked wheel, F.

When the said wheel is put in revolution, reciprocating and other movements will be imparted to the scraper, so as to cause it to scrape grease from a skin or piece of leather when laid on the bed.

In advance of the bed is the auxiliary scraper or grease-abstracter, G, which consists of a plate of metal mounted on an elastic standard or spring, H, the whole being arranged, relatively to the bed and main scraper, in manner as represented.

The main scraper, during its advance, and after having passed off the leather, will be carried against the auxiliary scraper, and the two will be so moved together as to cause any grease that may be on the front, or next adjacent side of the main scraper, to be removed therefrom.

I am aware of the machine described in Letters Patent No. 101,081, dated March 22, 1870, and granted to James T. Barnstead, in which there is claimed the combination of a knife and a brush in a peculiar manner, and for the purpose of removing surplus grease from leather when arranged in the bed of such machine.

In the said patent the said Barnstead also claims another brush, arranged and operated in the manner therein shown and described, for the purpose of cleaning the knife.

Under such an arrangement and application of the brush its supporting spring is fastened to the pendulous arm, and swings or moves with such arm and the scraper, when moved over the bed or table, and the leather placed thereon, thereby causing more or less of the grease removed from the scraper to drop back upon the leather.

I have no such arrangement and application of a brush for freeing the scraper of grease removed from the leather.

The device or mechanism I use for removing the grease from the scraper is not only differently arranged, but differently applied, and operates in a different manner.

In the first place, it is not supported, directly or indirectly, by a spring depending from the pendulous arm D, and is not carried in any way by such arm, or any other device, to and fro over the table and leather while the arm may be in operation.

My auxiliary scraper G is disposed entirely beyond the table, so that the grease abstracted by such scraper from the main scraper C shall not fall back upon the table, or the leather or hide when thereon, but, in dropping off the scraper G, will fall clear of the table or bed, or the leather when thereon.

I therefore claim—

In the machine for scraping or removing grease from leather, the auxiliary scraper G, as arranged, and supported in advance of the bed B, and independently of the arm D, in manner substantially as hereinbefore described, and as represented in the accompanying drawing.

JAMES STARRATT.

Witnesses:

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