# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CORK FABRIC AND PROCESS OF MAKING THE SAME.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PARASCHEVA SECHIARI, a subject of the King of Greece, and a resident of Paris, France, have invented a new and useful Cork Fabric and Process of Making the Same, which process is fully set forth in the following specification.

A process of effecting the combination of cork with materials of various kinds—such as leather, tissue, and the like—which consists in demineralizing or denaturizing molecularly-transformed cork cut into sheets and affixing such sheets to the tissue, leather, or the like by means of an agglutinant, consisting of petroleum, ether, ordinary india-rubber, and acetone, is known.

The present invention aims to provide a process which is an improvement over this process, and is particularly efficacious in effecting the combination of cork sheets with sheets of india-rubber or similar material and also to provide an improved cork fabric.

In carrying out the improved process the sheets of molecularly-transformed cork should first of all be submitted to the chemical treatment which serves to demineralize or denaturize them—viz., to remove their mineral components and thereby render them excessively supple. After being thus treated the cork sheets are prepared for being cemented to the india-rubber sheets or other fabrics by being allowed to soak for three or four hours in a bath of the following composition: benzin, one thousand grams; pure para, fifteen grams. The sheets are then dried on gratings and not used until completely dry. These sheets are then cemented to the india-rubber or other sheets by means of a cement having a base of india-rubber. In the case of fabrics which are to be subjected to considerable strains or to a high temperature it is preferable to employ thick india-rubber solutions, such as are obtainable commercially. When all these operations are finished, the fabrics covered with cork stuck by means of india-rubber cements or solutions are submitted to the process of vulcanization. By means of this operation, in addition to the fact that the vulcanized india-rubber then forms one with the fabric and the cork and is able to withstand high temperatures, the india-rubber, which frequently issues from the pores of the cork, is prevented from remaining adhesive.

Vulcanization may be effected by known means, either in a digester apparatus, in a hot chamber, or by means of heated presses.

The india-rubber cements or solutions employed may be provided with the quantity of sulfur necessary for effecting vulcanization. Nevertheless the formulæ for these cements remain variable in accordance with the different gums employed, (para, English sheet, or African india-rubber, and so on,) according to the quantity of solvent (benzin, turpentine, sulfid of carbon) employed, and also according as it is desired to obtain a solution of greater or less thickness. These formulæ may also vary should sulfid of carbon be the substance employed for fitting the india-rubber for vulcanization, as it produces a special vulcanization, or should a solvent of some kind mixed with flower of sulfur be used.

The process may likewise be effected by interposing any number of layers of material interposed between sheets of molecularly-transformed cork or by a number of sheets of cork stuck together, according to the particular use for which the finished fabric is required, whether for forming non-skid protecting bands for pneumatic tires for the wheels of motor-vehicles, cycle, and other vehicle wheels, or for any other purposes.

The process which has been described is equally applicable to sticking cork upon paper.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The process of manufacturing cork fabric, which consists in subjecting sheets of molecularly-transformed demineralized cork to a bath of benzin and pure para, then affixing said sheets to a suitable fabric by means of cement having an india-rubber base, and then vulcanizing the whole.

2. The process of manufacturing cork fabric, which consists in subjecting sheets of cork to a bath of benzin and pure para, in the proportion of one thousand grams of benzin to fifteen grams of para, drying said sheets, then affixing the same to a fabric by means

of india-rubber cement, and finally vulcanizing the fabric so formed.

3. As an article of manufacture, a fabric consisting of sheets of india-rubber and sheets of molecularly-transformed demineralized cork, said sheets being cemented together and vulcanized.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PARASCHEVA SECHIARI.

Witnesses.

EMILE LEDRET,

HANSON C. COXE.