

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK VAN VOORHIS, OF FINLEYVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

ART OF TANNING.

947,169.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 18, 1910.

No Drawing.

Application filed October 28, 1909. Serial No. 525,207.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK VAN VOORHIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Finleyville, in the county of Washington and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in the Art of Tanning, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the art of tanning leather and has for its object to produce a tanning compound which may be readily prepared and used and which operates in an exceedingly rapid manner to produce leather of high grade.

The ingredients which I employ are gambier—25 pounds, ground canaigre—10 pounds, ground Sicilian sumach—10 pounds, soda ash—12½ ounces, soft water—50 gallons. These ingredients are thoroughly mixed and into the compound thus formed is immersed the hide or hides after being prepared in the usual way for tanning.

By the use of the compound described I have thoroughly tanned calf skin from an animal six weeks old in from thirty to thirty-six hours, and horse hide in about a like length of time. The leather produced is of good light color, is firm and flexible, and finishes well, and tests have shown it equal to leather tanned by the bark process requiring several months' treatment.

The proportions of the ingredients mentioned are those which I have found to produce the best results, though they may be varied within a considerable range and satisfactory results be obtained.

The compound which I have described is especially adapted for use by those desiring to tan but a few hides at a time, as by ranchmen or farmers who do their own slaughtering, as it is easily prepared and operates quickly, and at a nominal cost. It is however, adapted for use on a large scale and where the advantages of rapid tanning and superior product are of great importance.

What I claim is:—

1. A compound for tanning composed of a mixture of gambier, canaigre, sumach, soda ash, and water.

2. A compound for tanning leather comprising the following ingredients in approximately the proportions named, namely—gambier, 25 pounds, ground canaigre, 10 pounds, ground Sicilian sumach, 10 pounds, soda ash, 12½ ounces, water, 50 gallons.

FRANK VAN VOORHIS.

Witnesses:

B. B. LYTTLE,
CLARENCE WILSON.