

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. CROOKER, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO THE ELECTRIC BOOT AND SHOE FINISHING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

DYEING AND POLISHING PARTS OF BOOTS OR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 469,385, dated February 23, 1892.

Application filed October 1, 1890. Serial No. 366,765. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. CROOKER, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Art of Dyeing and Polishing Parts of Boots or Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the art of finishing heels, tops, soles, and sole-edges of boots or shoes, so as that the same shall have a glossed or polished surface.

It is the object of the invention to provide such improvements as will secure an absolute dyeing or coloring of the parts and a highly-polished smooth surface with a relatively small expenditure of labor and time.

In carrying out my invention I first dye the part to be treated, using, by preference, though not of necessity, an aniline dye which will secure an absolute dyeing of the leather and not a mere coating or covering of the same with coloring-matter, and after the dye so applied has dried, I treat the part a second time with the dye, which may be of a similar kind to that first applied, which at this second application may contain a small amount of gum-arabic or other suitable viscous or resinous compound, and brush the part to a polish as high as it is capable of readily attaining. I then apply wax and again brush it to a polish, and finally rub up the polished surface with a soft friction medium, such as a flannel or silk cloth or other suitable means. The "wax" here mentioned may consist of bees-wax, three parts; rosin, two parts; vegetable wax, six parts, the same being combined with naphtha or other suitable solvent.

While I have described my invention as embracing two acts of dyeing, I may in some instances treat the parts more than twice with the dye or proceed with but a single act of dyeing, as circumstances suggest.

I have ascertained that by brushing the dyed surface to a polish before treating the same with wax and polishing a much higher and more durable gloss is secured than could be obtained if the dyed surface were not polished before the waxing operation is performed. I have also ascertained that by first

brushing the wax-treated surface to a polish and finishing the same by "rubbing up" with a soft friction medium the work of securing a high gloss to the parts can be more expeditiously and economically performed than by the usual process employed for the same purpose after the parts have been prepared for the waxing operation, and at the same time a better result is obtained.

The step or act of dyeing entering into my improved process is to be distinguished from that of "blackening" or "inking" as commonly practiced, in that it imparts absolutely and with certainty the color it is desired to give the part and it is not necessary to employ a hard smooth-surfaced rubbing-tool to "bring up" the color as well as the polish.

In a patent granted to me October 14, 1890, I have described and claimed a process of finishing parts of boots or shoes, consisting of dyeing the parts black, then treating the same with wax, and polishing through the medium of a rapidly-moving yielding surface. Hence I do not broadly claim such mode of procedure herein, but confine myself to the peculiar steps or acts and order of performance herein set out.

Having thus explained the nature of my invention and described the manner in which the same may be carried out, I declare that what I claim is—

1. The improvement in the art of finishing parts of boots or shoes, which consists in first dyeing the parts, then brushing the entire surface of such dyed parts to as high a polish as they will readily attain, then treating the entire polished parts with wax and brushing the wax-treated parts to a polish, and finally rubbing up the said parts with a soft friction medium, as set forth.

2. The improvement in the art of finishing parts of boots or shoes, which consists in first dyeing and drying the parts, then treating the said parts with dye containing viscous or resinous substance, then brushing entire surface of the said parts to as high a polish as they will readily attain, then treating the entire polished parts with wax and brushing the wax-treated parts to a polish, and finally

rubbing up the said parts with a soft friction medium, as set forth.

3. The improvement in the art of finishing parts of boots or shoes, which consists first
5 in dyeing the parts, then brushing the entire surface of the said dyed parts to as high a polish as they will readily attain, then treating the said entire surface with wax, and brushing the said surface to a polish, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 27th day of September, A. D. 1890.

WILLIAM W. CROOKER.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR W. CROSSLEY,
A. D. HARRISON.