

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. W. TAYLOR, OF NORTH COLLINS, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVED TANNING COMPOUND.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 44,234, dated September 13, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, J. W. TAYLOR, of North Collins, Erie county, State of New York, have invented a new Tanning Compound; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The ingredients which I use to form my new compound are terra-japonica, sumac, and alum. The proportions of these three ingredients are about forty parts of terra-japonica, ten parts of sumac, and one part of alum; but where the stock is very light a slightly larger quantity or proportion of sumac is used.

The method of preparing these substances before mixing them together is to thoroughly dissolve the terra-japonica in hot water, and steep the sumac also in hot water until the tannin is liberated. The alum is also dissolved in water, after which the three solutions are mixed together in a vat and the proper quantity of water added.

For the first liquor, for, say, one hundred average skins, I take forty pounds of terra-japonica, ten pounds of sumac, and one pound of alum, treated as above, and put them into a vat with a suitable quantity of water. The skins, which have been prepared for the tanning process in the usual manner, are put into the vat with the liquor and handled in a manner common to tanning with bark-ooze. As

the tanning process progresses the liquor is strengthened from time to time, and the skins are allowed to remain in the liquor the usual time for tanning with other substances—*i. e.*, there is nothing new in the process of strengthening up the liquor or handling the skins when my compound is used.

As alum constitutes one of the essential elements of my compound, I will state that caution must be observed in its use, as its office is simply to toughen the fiber of the hide, and if more than I have specified is used (the proportions of the other ingredients being as above stated) it will reappear upon the surface of the leather, which would be objectionable.

While I prefer to use the three ingredients in the proportions herein mentioned, I do not limit myself to these proportions nor to deviate very far therefrom.

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

A tanning compound composed of the three ingredients prepared and mixed together in about the proportions herein specified.

JOSEPH W. TAYLOR.

Witnesses:

HENRY K. BEVIER,  
M. HATHAWAY.