

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN FLETCHER, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVED FABRIC TO BE USED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR JAPANNED LEATHER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **57,307**, dated August 21, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN FLETCHER, of Newark, in the county of Essex, State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Manufacture of Japanned Fabrics; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a fabric which is intended as a substitute for japanned, or what is generally known by the term "patent," leather. Said fabric is composed of muslin, silk, leather, or other suitable material, which is combined with tissue or other suitable paper and coated with the ordinary leather-japanner's varnish in such a manner that a cheap and durable fabric is produced, which can be used in many cases with great advantage in place of patent-leather, the paper giving the articles of muslin, silk, &c., great strength and elasticity, and also a desirable finish.

In manufacturing my fabrics I take muslin, silk, leather, or other suitable material, and coat it first with oil boiled down to a suitable consistency—say the consistency of honey or sirup—

and mixed with lamp-black. When this first coating is dry, I apply a second coating of boiled oil and lamp-black, and while this second coating is still adhesive I apply tissue or other paper, according to the nature of the fabric to be produced, and on the paper, when dry, I apply one or more coatings of ordinary leather-japanner's varnish, and when this varnish is dry the fabric is ready for use.

By these means I am enabled to use a light fabric—that is, comparatively thin muslin, silk, or leather—and an article is produced which is more elastic and pliable than ordinary patent-leather, and which requires much less varnish and labor to produce the desired finish.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A fabric produced of muslin, silk, leather, or other suitable material, united with paper by means of the compound herein specified, and coated with leather-japanner's varnish, as specified.

JOHN FLETCHER.

Witnesses:

BENJAMIN F. MOREHOUS,
WM. N. CARR.