

United States Patent Office.

SMITH DYAR, OF CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 62,120, dated February 19, 1867.

IMPROVED PREPARED LEATHER.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, SMITH DYAR, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented Improved Prepared Leather; and I do hereby declare that the following is a description of my invention, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practise it.

My invention relates to the preparation of leather for the purpose of imparting a finished or ornamented surface to the same, having particular reference to converting cheap or light skins into material for car seats and linings, boot and shoe linings, trunk covers, &c., where light stock may be used to advantage, if it has a finished and uniform surface.

In accomplishing this object the surface of the skin to be prepared is first filled with a composition, (using a compound which can be polished by friction,) and the dead or lustreless surface of the leather left by application of the composition is next printed (by any one of the ordinary printing processes) with any suitable design or figures, and in any desired colors. The surface is then solidified and polished by working a tool over the skin, laid upon a bed, as in ordinary levelling, solidifying, or polishing machines. The skin to be prepared is preferably in a dry condition when treated, and the composition I prefer to use is made up of a mucilage or pulp obtained by soaking flax-seed in water, and straining off the pulp, and dissolving in said pulp, freed from the seed, white soap, adding also a little linseed or other oil. This composition is thoroughly worked into the surface of the leather, and the leather subsequently dried. Then the pattern or design is laid or printed on the prepared surface, after which the leather is subjected to the action of the polishing tool, the mucilaginous and saponaceous surface so combining with the imprinted colors that a uniformly polished and hardened surface is imparted to the whole skin, the tool gliding over the printed characters without moving or spreading them. Deer, neat, goat, calf, and sheep skins may all be prepared in this manner, and upon either the grain or flesh side, as circumstances may make desirable.

I claim as a new article of manufacture, skins prepared, printed, and polished, substantially as set forth.

SMITH DYAR.

Witnesses:

J. B. CROSBY,
F. GOULD.