

United States Patent Office.

BRUNO SCHMIDT, OF HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY.

Letters Patent No. 76,824, dated April 14, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN RESTORING OLD 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, BRUNO SCHMIDT, of Hoboken, in the county of Hudson, in the State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Restoring Leather; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same.

The object of this invention is to restore old leather, which has become useless or dead by long use, or by the action of fats and other causes; so that such old leather, by being subjected to my process, obtains again all the qualities of new leather, and becomes fit for renewed use.

In order to effect this purpose, I subject the old leather to the action of steam, whereby it becomes soft and pliable. The leather is then cleaned, from the dirt and impurities adhering to it, by suitable scrapers, and, after having been cleaned, it is introduced into a bath of tepid water containing a small quantity of soda, where it remains for two or three hours. After having been removed from this bath, the leather is again subjected to a scraping process, so as to remove all the remaining dirt and impurities, and then it is introduced into a concentrated tepid solution of oak bark, or other material containing an abundance of tannin, where it remains for twenty-four hours.

By these means the leather absorbs a fresh quantity of tannin, or, in other words, it undergoes a renewed tanning process, and all the tannin which may have been lost, by the action of fats or other impurities on the leather, is restored to it.

When the leather has been removed from the tannin-solution, it is dried, and well rubbed with a mixture of tannin and fat, and it is ready for use.

Old leather treated according to this invention is equal in strength and pliability to new leather of the same quality.

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

The within-described process of restoring old leather, by subjecting the same to the various manipulations above set forth.

BRUNO SCHMIDT.

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.