

# United States Patent Office.

GEORGE T. WOODBURY AND THOMAS BURCH, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

Letters Patent No. 77,792, dated May 12, 1868.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FINISHING SKINS AND 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 we, GEORGE T. WOODBURY and THOMAS BURCH, of the city of Newark, in the county of Essex, and State of New Jersey, have discovered or invented a new and improved mode or manner of producing upon leather, prepared for that purpose, a perfect *fac simile* of the appearance of the dressed skin of the hog, when prepared for saddle, carriage, and bookbinding purposes; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same.

First, an exact copy of the hair, hair root, and other peculiar indentations and surface marks, is made and engraved upon a prepared steel roller, which, being hardened, is then used to transfer, by pressure, the figure to a soft-steel roller.

The roller, with the transferred figure thereon, after being properly tempered, is then connected with the arm of what is known as the "pebbling-machine." The roller is then forcibly passed over the leather, by which means the figures, marks, and indentations upon the roller are permanently impressed upon and into the surface of the leather. By this means the marks are indelibly impressed, and therefore are not effaced by subsequent wear or exposure, the surface of the leather being slightly pierced or punctured, as well as pressed down by the action of the roller, which is a new feature in the process of dressing leather.

We are aware that engraved and etched plates have been employed for the same purpose, but, from the imperfect work they produce, their use is becoming quite rare, it being almost impossible to make therewith joinings of the figure that will not appear, or that they should make the indelible impressions that only a roller can uniformly effect, and give the perfect resemblance of the hog-skin.

We make no distinctive claim to the figure as a design, nor to the production of a figure by the process of transferring it from one roll to another; but

What we do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A metallic or other roller, provided with such marks, prominences, and depressions as will produce, when passed over leather, under pressure, an imitation hog-skin.
2. The means of producing an imitation of the dressed skin of a hog upon leather adapted thereto, by the use of a roller, prepared and employed substantially as described.
3. An imitation hog-skin, when produced by the use of a metallic or other roller, having engraved, indented, transferred, or otherwise prepared upon its circumference, such marks, depressions, and projections as will secure a representation of the marks left by the removal of bristles and otherwise, when pressed upon and revolved over leather, the whole substantially as described.

GEORGE T. WOODBURY,  
THOS. BURCH.

Witnesses:

WM. M. GOODING,  
M. J. NASCIMENTO,