

# United States Patent Office.

SAMUEL B. JENKS AND FREDERICK A. HOLCOMB, OF GRAND RAPIDS,  
MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 111,214, dated January 24, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF 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, SAMUEL B. JENKS and FREDERICK A. HOLCOMB, of the city of Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented a new and improved Mode of Manufacturing Leather, of which the following is a specification.

Take skins that have been fitted ready to go into tanning solutions. Place them in any of the so-called tanning solutions for a longer or shorter time, according to the nature of the skins and the quality of leather it is desired to produce, but not so long as to fully tan them, (in other words, not so long but that they would become hard and horny if allowed to dry undisturbed.) Then take them from the tanning liquor and hang them up to dry, and as they are drying, and are still in a damp condition, they are to be stretched or pulled apart.

Thus, if proper care be exercised that the skins do not dry too rapidly, and are stretched as they dry, this mechanical action will prevent the adherence or agglutinating of the fibers of the skins during the process of being made into leather, and the small amount of tanning material used will so envelop the fibers that they will not afterward adhere together.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of a chemical with a mechanical action upon skins for the purpose of producing leather, substantially in the manner above set forth.

SAMUEL B. JENKS.

FREDERICK A. HOLCOMB.

Witnesses:

W. A. SHINKMAN,

E. J. SHINKMAN.