

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH N. BARATTA, OF AYER, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN LEATHER-DRESSINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 133,400, dated November 26, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH N. BARATTA, of the town of Ayer, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain Compound, called Leather-Dressing, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of this invention of the said BARATTA consists in mixing boiled linseed-oil, asphaltum, pitch, bees-wax, gum arabic, mutton-tallow, and lamp-black in such proportions and in the manner herein described; the object being to obtain a new and improved leather dressing and blacking which shall have a permanent gloss without rubbing, and shall also fill up the pores of the leather, rendering the same water-proof, and at the same time soft and pliable.

To prepare this dressing and blacking, melt together the following ingredients in about the quantities named: One-half gallon linseed-oil, one-half pound asphaltum or pitch, one-half pound bees-wax, three ounces gum arabic, four pounds mutton-tallow. When these ingredients are thoroughly melted and mixed together, add sufficient lamp-black to give the proper color and consistency to the mass—say about three ounces—and the dressing will then be ready for use, the amount made by the mixture in the quantities named above being about ten pounds.

This dressing has been found to be of the greatest practical utility, as it fills up the pores of the leather, rendering the same soft and pliable, while it also becomes water-proof; and in its application to boots and shoes it possesses

many advantages over the ordinary dressing in use, among which, besides the ones named, may be mentioned the quality it has of retaining a permanent gloss when once applied, which is not affected by exposure to snow or water, a single application a week being sufficient, without polishing by brushing, to give a bright gloss, and without injury, but advantage, to the leather.

It has been found that leather thus rendered water-proof is much better than rubber, having none of the disadvantages of the latter, and that, by means of the warmth and dryness of the feet when exposed to wet and snow, many persons who have suffered from rheumatism and similar diseases have been cured.

In practice this blacking or dressing has all the advantages of the best polish, is as useful in keeping the feet dry when applied to boots and shoes as India rubber, while it is lasting and durable and improves the leather to which it is applied.

In applying this blacking it is best to use a soft brush, and use the dressing slightly warm, but not sufficiently hot to burn the leather.

I claim as my invention—

The compound herein described, when composed of the ingredients named, in substantially the proportions mentioned.

JOSEPH N. BARATTA.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH B. GARDINER,
A. G. PAUL.