

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WHEELER CABLE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN RUBBER-COATED FABRICS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **166,256**, dated August 3, 1875; application filed December 28, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WHEELER CABLE, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Manufacture of Rubber-Coated Fabrics, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to the finish of the rubber surface of rubber-coated fabrics; and it pertains to the preparation of such surface before vulcanizing the goods; and such preparation consists in coating the rubber surface with soap, such as castile, which is most preferable.

This soap, dissolved in water, is applied by pouring it upon the rubber surface; and, in the manufacture of the goods, it has been found best, for convenience and practice, to pour the soap solution upon the rubber surface as the goods pass from the calendering-machine to be wound up upon the wind-up roll, the goods being guided between the calendering-machine and the wind-up roll, so as to prevent the soap solution flowing to and between the calendering-rolls.

Soap applied to the rubber surface secures in the vulcanizing of the goods a lustrous and bright finish, and in these respects nearly

equals the ordinary luster-finished goods. Besides, it produces a soft, velvety finish, and is superior to the ordinary luster-finished goods, for the reason that the soap gives no body, as does varnish, to the surface of the rubber, and thus will not crack in use. The soap also enables the goods to be handled, as it overcomes the "tack" or stick of the rubber surface.

This preparation of the goods with the soap is particularly intended for goods which are to be cured by dry heat.

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

The mode, substantially as herein described, of finishing the surfaces of rubber-coated fabrics, the same consisting in treating the surface of such goods with a solution of soap while the same are being delivered from the calendering-rolls, as set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 26th day of December, A. D. 1874.

W. CABLE.

Witnesses:

EDWIN W. BROWN,
GEO. H. EARL.