

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAX KAMAK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TREATING HORN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 355,998, dated January 11, 1887.

Application filed June 17, 1886. Serial No. 205,455. (Specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAX KAMAK, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Treating Horn, of which the following is a specification.

This invention consists in a method of treating horn, whereby the horn is subjected to the action of a solution of water, sugar of lead, and vinegar, substantially as hereinafter set forth.

The horn may then be further subjected to the action of a solution of muriatic acid.

To carry my invention into effect I heat one pint of water to about 75° centigrade, and introduce into the water about two pounds of sugar of lead, (normal acetate of lead,) and about one-quarter of a pint of wine vinegar. The sugar of lead dissolves in about ten minutes. The solution is then allowed to cool to about from 25° to 28° centigrade. The horn of any shape or size desired is then introduced into this solution and left therein until the horn assumes a light-brown hue, which will generally be in from one-quarter to half an hour. The liquid is then poured off, the horn is washed in cold water, and then dried. The drying of the horn can readily be accomplished by means of sawdust.

In order to give the horn the appearance of mother-of-pearl, or to impart to the same any desired color, I introduce the horn into a dilute solution of muriatic acid in water. The horn is left in this muriatic acid for several minutes, until it assumes a shade or color such

as desired, about five minutes for a whitish shade and ten minutes for a brown shade, the time depending also upon the strength of the acid. The horn is then taken out of the solution and dried and left to lie for some hours. The drying can be accomplished by sawdust, as before.

The solutions should be stirred while the process is being carried on, to prevent sticking. I have found the most satisfactory results to be obtained when the solution of water, sugar of lead, and vinegar is of such a consistency that the horn floats in the same.

After having been treated as above stated the horn may be formed or pressed into any suitable form by warming the horn and introducing the same between two plates into a pressing-machine.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The method of treating horn, which consists in subjecting the horn to the action of a solution of water, sugar of lead, and vinegar, substantially as set forth.

2. The method of treating horn, which consists in subjecting the horn to the action of a solution of water, sugar of lead, and vinegar, and then introducing the horn into a solution of muriatic acid, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MAX KAMAK. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.