

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAV HELM, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

## RAZOR-STROP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 368,667, dated August 23, 1887.

Application filed September 23, 1886. Serial No. 214,362. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GUSTAV HELM, of Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Razor-Strops; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in the manufacture of razor-strops; and the invention consists in the method of treating the strops, as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

I take three pounds of good rendered beef-tallow, three pounds of soda, and three pounds of a kind of scap made of pork-fat, mutton, and beef-tallow in about equal proportions, with potash and an admixture of powdered soapstone. From this the nature of the soap will be well understood, and any soap of similar kind in the market may be used. These ingredients I place in a kettle and bring to a boil, with enough water to form a thickened fluid, then put the canvas strops into this mass and keep boiling for about twenty-four hours, after which the strops are taken out, rinsed with pure water, and dried. I then apply a good coating of the above-mentioned soap previously boiled to the under side of the canvas strops, and then press the latter to cause this semi-fluid coating to be forced through the strops and to the upper side. Then I dry and polish the upper side with pumice-stone. The strops are then finished, except putting on such handles as the market demands.

To manufacture razor-strops of leather, the leather strops are first well polished with pumice-stone, then wetted, and again polished until perfectly smooth. Then the strops are well rubbed in with the compound above described, but which is now used in a solid form. The strops are again polished with pumice-stone until they shine, when they are finished, except providing them with suitable handles or other mechanical devices for stretching them.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The herein-described method of treating razor-strops, which consists in boiling the canvas in a saponaceous mixture, then rinsing the same, then filling the pores of the same with the mixture, and finally polishing the same, substantially as described.

2. The herein-described method of treating razor-strops, which consists in boiling the canvas or other material in a saponaceous mixture, then rinsing the same and drying it, then applying to the under side of the strop a mixture of beef-tallow, soda, and soap, and finally drying the upper side and polishing it with pumice-stone, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

GUSTAV HELM.

Witnesses:

H. S. SPRAGUE,  
CHARLES J. HUNT.