

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. DARBY AND ELSON BLAKESLEE, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## PROCESS OF IMPREGNATING CHAMOIS-SKIN WITH ROUGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 372,207, dated October 25, 1887.

Application filed April 26, 1886. Serial No. 200,244. (Specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN E. DARBY and ELSON BLAKESLEE, citizens of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Process of Impregnating Chamois-Skin with Rouge; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Heretofore when chamois and rouge have been jointly used in burnishing silver-ware, jewelry, and like articles, they were separate and distinct from each other as articles of manufacture and sale. In no instance, as far as we are aware, have they been known or used in such combination and union as to constitute a single and complete article of merchandise. Ordinarily, when used together, the practice was to dip the chamois in the rouge, and to replenish it in this way as often as was deemed necessary; but the rouge was applied merely to the surface of the chamois, and, being exceedingly fine and light, was easily and quickly wasted and dissipated under the rubbing and handling incident to its use.

By our process of saturating the chamois with the rouge the rouge is so completely incorporated in the body and pores of the chamois that it is made a part of it, and is inseparable therefrom, except by the disintegration of the chamois. The distinctive character of the separate articles is thus destroyed, and a new article is produced into which the elements of each enter to modify and change the character of the other. The chamois can no longer be used alone as chamois, nor the rouge merely as rouge; but the two are henceforth united and constitute a manufacture embracing the constituents of both. In this way we obtain a product essentially new as a whole, and of exceptional utility and value wherever the combined properties of chamois and rouge are useful in the arts.

To carry our invention into effect, the chamois skin is first cleaned of all dust and grit by brushing, beating, and shaking the skin, and by washing it, if necessary, it being important that the chamois should be divested

of everything which might mar or injure the article upon which it is to be used. When this has been done, the skin is ready to receive the rouge. For the purposes of this manufacture only the best silver or gold rouge should be used. The next step in the process is to moisten the rouge with aqua-ammonia or other alkaline solution in such manner that the rouge may be rolled into balls or other convenient forms, and when dry be readily applied to the chamois. This application is made by rubbing the rouge thus formed into a mass over the inside surface of the skin until the skin is thoroughly covered, when a brush or pad should be used to distribute the rouge evenly over the surface, and at the same time work it into the tissue of the skin to some extent. The chamois is then ready for treatment with the permeating or impregnating agent, which may consist of alcohol, ether, chloroform, gasoline, or other volatile liquid sufficiently penetrating and active to accomplish the purpose. We have obtained very satisfactory results from ordinary commercial gasoline; and any of the lighter distillates of petroleum which evaporate quickly would answer as well. This liquid is applied to the chamois by means of a pad saturated with the liquid, which wets the rouge and rapidly penetrates and permeates the skin, opening the tissues of the skin in its passage and carrying the rouge with it thoroughly into the skin. The skin is in this way filled or saturated with the rouge, and as the liquid evaporates it leaves the rouge in the tissue of the skin. Indeed, so powerful and penetrating is the liquid when used in this way that we have been able to drive the rouge through five or six thicknesses of chamois at the same time and by a single application.

A convenient and simple form of pad for applying the permeating liquid may be made out of scraps of chamois suitably wrapped and bound, and the pad can be saturated by pouring the liquid into its ends.

Instead of using aqua-ammonia to moisten the rouge, a small quantity of a solution of soda or potash or other alkalies might be added to give the rouge an alkaline property, which will enable it to neutralize the greasy or acid properties of a tarnished surface and thus act with much greater facility and thoroughness.



By this process we obtain an article for polishing the precious metals which is complete in itself and always ready for use, in which the polishing properties are evenly distributed and retained without diminution or change until the chamois is worn out, and which is much more cleanly and pleasant to use, as well as more effective than when the rouge is simply applied to its surface.

After the process of filling the chamois with the rouge is completed and the skin becomes dry, it is brushed lightly to remove any superabundance of rouge from its surface, when it is ready for use.

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

1. The process of saturating chamois-skin with rouge, which consists in working the rouge while dry more or less into the tissue of the skin and then applying a permeating liquid to

drive the rouge into the skin, substantially as set forth.

2. In the saturation of chamois-skin with rouge by means of a penetrating liquid, the process of driving the rouge into the skin, which consists in applying the rouge to the inside surface of the skin and then saturating a suitable pad with the penetrating liquid and rubbing it over the rouge and skin, substantially as set forth.

3. As a new article of manufacture, chamois-skin saturated with rouge, substantially as set forth.

4. As a new article of manufacture, chamois-skin saturated with rouge containing alkaline properties, substantially as set forth.

JOHN E. DARBY.

ELSON BLAKESLEE.

Witnesses:

H. T. FISHER,

WM. M. MONROE.