

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE C. WALTER, OF HASTINGS, MICHIGAN.

## PROCESS OF TREATING HIDES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 455,674, dated July 7, 1891.

Application filed February 13, 1891. Serial No. 381,353. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. WALTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hastings, in the county of Barry and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Process of Treating Hides, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved process for treating hides which after treatment are especially adapted for use as halters; and it has for its object to provide a process to be performed in conjunction with certain ingredients forming certain compounds that will hasten the completion of the tanning of the hides after the removal of the hair to save much time and labor, also rendering the leather stronger and more durable and impervious to water.

The process is as follows: After the removal of the hair from the hides by the ordinary means the hides are placed into a solution composed of twenty-five ounces of oil of vitriol, three quarts of salt, six pounds of alum, and twelve gallons of water, the proportions of which may be varied according to the number of hides to be treated. The hides are allowed to remain in the above solution forty-eight hours, are removed, and sleeked, when the same will be ready to be placed in a mixture composed of four quarts of soap, one quart of lard-oil, one quart cod-oil, and twelve quarts of water, the proportions of these ingredients composing this solution being also regulated by the number of hides to be treated, the effect of this second compound being to overcome any subsequent chemical

action from the first compound and also to impregnate the pores of the hides and render them impervious to water. The hides are allowed to remain in this second solution for about twenty-four hours, until thoroughly saturated, after which they are removed and dried in the ordinary atmosphere or hot air, which of course hastens the drying process. They are then broken and sleeked as before, when the same will be ready for use.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The herein-described process of treating hides, consisting, first, in subjecting the hides from which the hair has been removed to the action of a compound consisting of oil of vitriol, salt, alum, and water for about forty-eight hours, then removing them from this solution and sleeking, then placing them in a mixture composed of soap, lard-oil, cod-oil, and water to overcome subsequent chemical effects from the first compound and also to impregnate the pores of the hides and render them impervious to water, then removing them from this second solution and drying them by exposure to hot or cold air, and finally breaking and sleeking them as before, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE C. WALTER.

Witnesses:

DAN W. REYNOLDS,  
R. B. MESSER.