

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. CLAXTON, OF BARREN FORK, ARKANSAS.

## TANNING HIDES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 501,586, dated July 18, 1893.

Application filed March 13, 1893. Serial No. 465,739. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES W. CLAXTON, of Barren Fork, in the county of Izard and State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and  
5 useful Improvements in Tanning Hides; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

10 This invention contemplates certain new and useful improvements in tanning hides, and has for its object the production of a cheap, simple and highly efficient compound whereby hides of all kinds can be readily  
15 treated and a good quality of leather produced therefrom.

The compound is composed of the following ingredients:—red oak bark; white oak bark; ash bark; table salt; lye soap; soda;  
20 gum gambria; alum; and pure phosphate of sodium. These ingredients are all thoroughly intermingled into a homogeneous compound ready for use. The compound above noted is free from all acids and its application to  
25 hides will result in the production of leather of a most superior nature.

If the hide to be treated is green I first apply on the hair side thereof a coating of lye-soap and ashes. I then double the hair side  
30 face to face and allow it to thus stand for five or six hours. Then to eight or ten gallons of rain water I add a half-bushel of lime and place the hide therein so as to remove all hair. The hide is then removed and thoroughly

cleaned. After it is cleaned the hide is placed 35 in a vat wherein the ingredients composing my improved compound have been previously placed. I allow the hide to remain soaking therein for a certain length of time until it is thoroughly treated and a superior quality of 40 leather is obtained.

The advantages of my invention are apparent to those skilled in the art to which it appertains and it will be seen that I have produced a compound which is extremely simple 45 and inexpensive and that by means thereof superior results are obtained.

I am aware that some of the ingredients of my compound have heretofore been used conjunctively and in connection with other elements, but I am not aware of any compound 50 embracing all the combined elements herein set forth.

I claim as my invention—

The herein-described improved compound 55 for tanning or treating hides, the same consisting of red-oak bark; white oak bark; ash bark; table salt; lye soap; soda; gum gambria; alum and pure phosphate of sodium, as set forth. 60

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES W. CLAXTON.

Witnesses:

J. C. SOUTHWORTH,  
WALTER METCALF.