

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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METHOD OF MANUFACTURING AND FINISHING LEATHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 622,926, dated April 11, 1899.

Application filed November 21, 1898. Serial No. 696,975. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHRISTIAN EUGENE LAPPE and HENRY A. LAPPE, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Methods of Manufacturing and Finishing Leather, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to a certain new and improved method of manufacturing and finishing leather.

Our process particularly relates to the manufacturing and finishing of leather which is adapted for use for the vamps and tops of shoes and may be advantageously employed for the manufacturing of other articles.

The leather produced by our process possesses decided advantages over the leathers heretofore manufactured in cheapness, durability, utility, and general appearance, and particular attention is directed to the inner or flesh side of the leather, which is colored a dull blue-black, giving it a distinctive appearance, which is so desirable, and, furthermore, assisting materially to lessen the cost of its manufacture.

The process finally consists in the novel succession of steps hereinafter described, whereby the calf or kangaroo skin or hide when finished is adapted for the above purposes.

The process or steps used for the finishing of a calf or kangaroo skin or hide into a leather adapted for the above uses is as follows: An unstuffed calf or kangaroo skin or hide, tanned by a gambier, quebracho, or other vegetable tanning process, is stuffed to its proper consistency by the use of fat liquor and then dried in the usual manner. The inner or flesh side of the calf or kangaroo skin or hide is colored a blue-black by any desirable composition. After the flesh or inner face of the skin or hide is blue-black the outer or grained face thereof is colored a jet black by any desirable composition. After the outer and inner face of the calf or kangaroo skin or hide has been colored as desired the same is then slicked out smooth to set out the grain on its outer or grained face. It is then dried in the well-known manner. The skin or hide is then staked and trimmed in

the ordinary way. The calf or kangaroo skin or hide after it has been staked and trimmed as set forth is seasoned by the use of blue-stone, iron, logwood, ammonia, blood, and nigrosine, the proportions being as follows: blue-stone, one-half pint; iron, one-eighth ounce; logwood, one-half pint; blood, one pint; nigrosine, one-half pint. The skin or hide after it has been seasoned is then dried at the temperature of 120° to 180° Fahrenheit. The skin or hide after it is dried, as stated, is then glazed in any desirable manner. The skin or hide after it has passed through the glazing process is again staked. After it has been staked it is seasoned again by the use of blue-stone, iron, logwood, ammonia, blood, and nigrosine, the proportions being as follows: blue-stone, one-half pint; iron, one-eighth ounce; logwood, one-half pint; blood, one pint; nigrosine, one-half pint. The skin or hide after it has been seasoned is again dried at the temperature of 120° to 180° Fahrenheit. The skin or hide is then glazed in any desirable manner. The skin or hide after it has passed through the glazing process for the third time is again staked. After it has been staked it is seasoned by the use of blue-stone, iron, logwood, ammonia, blood, and nigrosine, the proportions being as follows: blue-stone, one-half pint; iron, one-eighth ounce; logwood, one-half pint; blood, one pint; nigrosine, one-half pint. The skin or hide after it has been seasoned is again dried at the temperature of 120° to 180° Fahrenheit. After the drying process it is glazed in any desirable manner, and the finished product is ready for the market.

The leather produced by the foregoing process has an unusually high-polished grained surface and possesses all the qualities of the ordinary leathers now in the market. It has the appearance of patent or enamel leather to a great extent, as well as glazed kids and other glazed leathers. At the same time when in use the leather will be free from excessive cracking or breaking, which is usual in patent or enamel leathers.

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

The herein-described improved method of

manufacturing and finishing leather which consists in stuffing and drying a tanned skin or hide, subjecting the same on the grain side to a composition of jet-black coloring-matter, 5 then slicking drying and staking the same, subjecting the skin or hide to a seasoning composition of blue-stone, logwood, iron, ammonia, blood and nigrosine, then drying in a temperature of 120° to 180° Fahrenheit, and

then suitably glazing to produce the finished product, substantially as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

CHRISTIAN EUGENE LAPPE.

HENRY A. LAPPE.

Witnesses:

H. C. EVERT,

E. W. ARTHUR.