

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE WALTER MCFARLAND, OF WILMERDING, PENNSYLVANIA.

PROCESS OF PREPARING RAZOR-STROPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 722,129, dated March 3, 1903.

Application filed December 6, 1902. Serial No. 134,199. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE WALTER MCFARLAND, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Wilmerding, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have made a certain new and useful Invention in Processes of Preparing Razor-Strops; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the invention.

The invention relates to razor-strops; and it consists in the novel process of preparing the same, as hereinafter set forth.

It is well known in the trade that a razor-strop such as is furnished on the market must go through several months of usage before it will give the barber satisfaction.

It is the object of this invention to provide a strop which can be furnished to the trade in condition to do on the first using satisfactory work, such as would be accomplished by a strop which has had several months preparatory use.

The process consists in the following steps: First, I take a piece of suitable leather and scrape it thoroughly, removing from the surface all gritty matter, raising the fine fiber of the leather, and rendering the surface of the strop more uniform; second, I strain the piece of leather endwise by means of thumb-screw clamps secured to bearings or by any other suitable device, whereby I take all the elastic stretch out of the leather, make it more solid, and prevent the enameling from cracking and wearing off in use; third, I rub par-

ticles of steel into the surface of the leather by means of revolving steel blades having a speed of about one hundred revolutions to the minute. I usually employ sixteen steel blades on the rotary shaft, and the strop is pressed down upon these blades by means of thumb-screw clamps secured to the framework. In this manner it is designed to give the leather sixteen hundred strokes of steel per minute, and thereby to work into the leather through the wearing down of these steel blades the proper amount of steel enamel for the purpose in view. The time required to work this enamel into the surface of a strop of ordinary size is about fifteen hours; but a number of them may be worked at the same time.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The process of preparing razor-strops, which consists first, in scraping the surface of the leather to free it of grit, and raise the fine fiber; second, in straining the leather endwise to render it inelastic and solid; and third, in rapidly revolving steel blades in forcible contact with the surface of the leather, to enamel the same with fine particles of steel, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE WALTER MCFARLAND.

Witnesses:

H. H. WELSH, Sr.,
GEO. T. JACOBS.