

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM COUPE, OF SOUTH ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS.

LEATHER BELTING.

No. 834,361.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 30, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM COUPE, of South Attleboro, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Leather Belting; and I do hereby declare the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same, to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to an improved belting, and has for its object to provide a belting which will readily accommodate itself and adhere to the curved surface of a pulley and at the same time possess great strength and durability, together with a minimum of stretch and crookedness.

To this end my invention consists in producing belt-leather in which the inner stratum is more rigid and unyielding than the outer surface. To accomplish this result, the hide from which the leather is to be formed after being prepared in the usual way is placed in the customary tanning liquor and allowed to remain there until the hide is struck or tanned a part way through from each surface—that is, the hide is tanned in slightly from its surfaces, while the center stratum between the surface layers of the hide remains in the raw state. The hide is then removed from the tanning liquor and tempered or dried until the tanned portion thereof is in a condition to take the grease which is applied to full or stuff said tanned portions. This tempering or drying operation will not affect the condition of the center stratum of rawhide, which remains wet by reason of the fact that the tanned portion will dry about three times as fast as the rawhide center stratum. Leaving the center stratum wet and soft not only prevents the grease from entering such rawhide stratum by reason of the resistance of the water to the entrance of the grease, but also the soft condition of this stratum prevents any ma-

terial action of the fulling-machine thereon when the fulling-machine is used to stuff the grease into the tanned portions. The tanned portion is stuffed sufficiently to give it a soft, pliable, and adhesive surface, and then the hide is stretched and rendered bone dry, when it is in condition to be finished and cut up into belting in the customary manner. With this novel form of belting the serious objections existing in the present beltings are obviated, and a belting is produced which will be soft, pliable, and adhesive on its surface, will run true, and will not stretch.

While my preferred belting consists in having the center stratum entirely rigid, I do not intend to limit myself to such a form, but desire to cover a belting in which the center stratum is more rigid and unyielding than the tanned outer surfaces, which constitutes the important feature.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, leather having tanned surfaces and a center stratum which is more rigid and unyielding than the tanned surfaces.

2. As a new article of manufacture, leather having yielding surfaces and a rigid center stratum.

3. A new method of preparing belt-leather consisting in tanning the outer surfaces tempering and fulling the same to make them pliable and leaving the center stratum in its raw state and drying the same to make it rigid.

4. The method of preparing belt-leather which consists in tanning the outer surfaces, drying or tempering the tanned portions and then fulling the same to make said tanned portions pliable, leaving the center stratum substantially rigid and unyielding when dried.

WILLIAM COUPE.

Witnesses:

W. H. THURSTON,
J. H. THURSTON.