

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN S. MERRITT, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF JAPANNE LEATHER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 115,083, dated May 23, 1871.

*To all persons to whom these presents may come:*

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN S. MERRITT, of Boston, of the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Manufacture of Japanned Leather; and do hereby declare the same to be described as follows:

The object of the invention is to produce a peculiar finish or figure upon the japanned surface, such figure bearing a very close resemblance to that usually existing on the surface of unjapanned seal-skin or goat-skin, and produced by the process of boarding them.

After the leather has been japanned in accordance with a method described in a recent application for a patent made by me, or by any other well-known means, it is to be wet or moistened with water, and while in that state it is to be subjected to the operation of boarding, a process well known to leather-dressers.

Heretofore it has been customary to board the leather in a dry state when japanned; but I have discovered that by boarding it when wet with water a much better or different figure results, and the japanning is not cracked or injured.

I therefore claim as my invention—

1. The boarding of japanned leather while in a wet state, or the employment of water with the leather during the process of boarding it, as set forth.

2. The improved manufacture of japanned leather, produced by the processes of wetting and boarding the leather after being japanned, all being substantially as described.

FRANKLIN S. MERRITT.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,  
GEORGE BRABROOK.