

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY POYDENOT, OF BAYONNE, FRANCE.

BATING-POWDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 455,851, dated July 14, 1891.

Application filed April 4, 1891. Serial No. 387,667. (No specimens.) Patented in France December 23, 1887, No. 185,907.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY POYDENOT, of Bayonne, France, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Bating Powders or Compounds for Preparing Hides for Tanning, (for which I have obtained a patent in France, No. 185,907, dated December 23, 1887;) and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention has relation to the tanning of leather; and it consists in a bating powder, mixture, or compound composed of the ingredients and in the proportions substantially as hereinafter set forth.

In the tanning of leather there are a number of difficulties to be overcome. The pores of the skin should be opened without greatly distending them. A rapid tanning should be obtained by gradual and progressive extension of the skin without, however, shriveling or burning the hide or any portion thereof. These are essential requisites toward producing a skin of great firmness and good quality.

The object of my invention is to provide a powder, mixture, or compound which will answer all the requirements involved in the successful preparation of hides to be tanned, and which at the same time shall greatly accelerate the process and shorten the time consumed in completing the tanning.

I will now describe my improved powder or composition, so that others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may make and use the same.

The ingredients of which my improved powder is composed are pulverized gentian-root and bichloride of mercury or corrosive sublimate commixed and commingled in the proportions, preferably, of about nine hundred parts of gentian-root to one hundred parts of bichloride of mercury or corrosive sublimate. The gentian-root, before being commixed with the bichloride of mercury or corrosive sublimate, is preferably pulverized and finely ground. The whole is then mixed together in about the proportions described and thoroughly amalgamated. The composition is then complete and ready for use or to be packed for shipment.

In employing my improved powder in the operation, I use, preferably, the proportion of one kilogram of powder to one thousand

kilograms of hides, fresh weight, and by its use I obtain a skin of great firmness and good quality, and further claim to lessen the expense of tanning from twenty to thirty-five per cent., and to accomplish the tanning of calf-skins in from eight to fifteen days, according to their weight, and the tanning of heavy hides in from thirty to sixty days, according to their weight.

Hides to be treated after having gone through the ordinary process of the beam and being well depilated are ready to go into the bate, which is prepared substantially as follows: In a clean tank sufficient quantity of water is introduced to allow the hides to float freely and to be always well submerged. In this tank of water is then introduced a quantity of my improved powder or composition in proportion to the weight of hides to be bated, and the water is then well agitated in order to dissolve the powder, though some may remain on the surface of the water without materially interfering with the operation. The bate is then ready to receive the hides, which are put in one by one and spread out as much as possible.

The length of time during which the skins should be immersed in the solution varies according to the nature, weight, and conditions of the skins to be treated, and may vary, for instance, from ten to eighteen hours. As an illustration, light calf-skins, up to twelve pounds, should preferably remain in the bate from ten to twelve hours; heavy calf-skins, kips, and cordovans, preferably from fourteen to sixteen hours; cow, steer, and bull hides, preferably from sixteen to eighteen hours, &c.

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

The within-described powder or mixture, consisting of gentian-root and bichloride of mercury or corrosive sublimate, commixed in the proportions substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of March, A. D. 1891.

HENRY POYDENOT.

Witnesses:

BORDET,
LABADIE LÉON.