

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH T. REED, OF CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN DYEING KID-GLOVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 47,221, dated April 11, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSIAH T. REED, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Kid-Gloves; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same.

My invention has for its object the production of a colored kid-glove the outer surface or grained side of which is of some shade or color that is darker than the skin from which the glove is made, while the interior surface of the glove, which is the flesh side, remains of the same light color that it had in the skin before the glove was made up, the same being a new article of manufacture.

The outside of kid-gloves heretofore made has been of the same color as the skin from which they were cut out and sewed into the form of a glove—that is to say, if a black glove was to be made, the grain side of a skin was dressed and colored black by the use of such mordants and dyes as are well known to leather-dressers, great care being taken to keep the flesh side of the skin clean, free from dye, and in its natural condition, in order that the inside of the glove to be made from it may not stain the hand. If the glove was to be purple, brown, yellow, or any other shade, it was necessary that the skin, before its delivery to the glove-maker, should be manufactured and finished of the required shade or color. My improvement renders this unnecessary. The skin is made into gloves while in its white or natural condition, the manufacture of a colored glove being completed after it is cut to the required shape and size and the several parts sewed together. Gloves of light and delicate shades—such as lilac, lemon, and straw colors—are often soiled and injured by handling during the process of cutting and making; but in my improved glove this objection is obviated, as the color is applied after the glove is made up. White and light-colored gloves have been dyed by immersion in liquids; but the article thus produced was colored on the inside as well as on the outside, and was therefore of little value; it would stain the hands, and it was difficult to restore the glove to its original shape.

My improved glove is made as hereinafter described. The glove is drawn upon a mold or form, by which the fingers and thumb are extended, separated, and held in a suitable position to allow the application of the dye or color. I prefer for this purpose the molds for

which Letters Patent of the United States were granted to me on the 29th day of March, 1864. In case the glove is oily or slightly soiled, I first apply with a brush an alkaline or other suitable preparation for cleaning it, in order that the dye may strike uniformly over the whole surface. The mold, with the glove stretched upon it, is held in the hand and the dye or color is painted upon it with suitable pencils or brushes, care being taken that the dye is spread uniformly over the whole of the outside, and not allowed to touch the inside. This careful painting or staining is facilitated by the shape of the mold, which allows the brush to come in contact with every part of the surface. The end of the mold which projects beyond the mouth of the glove affords a convenient mode of holding it. The glove remains upon the mold until it is well dried, and during this time it contracts slightly and assumes the exact form of the mold. It is therefore desirable to give the mold such a shape that the glove, when taken off, will have the form required by the trade—that is to say, an elongated flattened form having the sides nearly parallel.

Prior to the removal of the glove from the mold an oil or any other suitable preparation is applied to it to impart the requisite gloss, softness, and elasticity. It is then taken off the mold, the thumb folded to the palm, and the gloves are put up in packages, ready for sale.

Gloves that have been made up from light or fancy colored skins may be treated in the same manner as those made of skins having the natural color, in which case the dye applied to them is of a darker shade. When painted or prepared by my process, slight blemishes in the skin and faults in the sewing are not apparent in the finished glove.

I claim as a new article of manufacture—

1. A kid-glove having the inside of the same color as the skin from which it was made, the outside being colored of any desired shade after the glove is cut out and sewed, substantially as described.

2. The art, method, or process of coloring kid-gloves by applying, with a brush or sponge, the required dye or color to the exterior of the glove while it is stretched upon a suitable form or mold.

JOSIAH T. REED. [L. S.]

In presence of—

JOHN M. BATCHELDER,
SAML. BATCHELDER, Jr.