

Hides that are in weak liquor grow slippery, while those in strong liquor feel rough to the hand on the grain side.

When these hides and skins are tanned, haul and let drain, and lay on the table and oil the grain side; then hang in the shade to dry. When dry, dip them in water so as to make them just damp enough for skiving and shaving. When skived and shaved scour them. First put them in a tub of water and then place them on the curry table flesh side up; then take a stiff brush and apply it faithfully to the leather. Then wash the water and filth off with an iron sleek; then dip in water again and lay on the table, grain side up, and apply brush as before; then apply stone sleek faithfully to work down every wrinkle. Then with a cup throw water over the leather and finish scouring by applying the brush and iron sleek, sleeking the water out as dry as possible.

STUFFING.—The next thing is to stuff the leather with stuffing proportioned as follows: Make hot two pounds beef tallow and pour it into three quarts tanner's oil, and stir occasionally; when nearly cold stir in one gill best kerosene oil. Just before stuffing, oil on the grain side, put oiled side on the table and then, with an iron sleek, sleek down the leather every way smoothly. Then apply with a soft brush the stuffing to the flesh side evenly, leaving it one-third as thick as the leather; next hang up in the shade to dry.

When dry, take the leather to the table, and with a sharp iron sleek remove all the stuffing from the leather. Then take a bunch of hair taken from horses' manes or tails, and use it to rub off every particle of stuffing from the grain of the leather. Then take it on to the whitening beam, and with the whitening knife take a shaving from every part of the flesh side, making it completely smooth. (This can be done with whitening sleek on the table). Then sleek on the grain with a stone sleek; then use the grain-board to soften; lay the leather on the table flesh side down, and commence at one corner of the leather with the grain-board in the right hand, and grain or bow the leather "cattering" across two ways, leaving the grain "diamonding." Now the leather is ready for the

BLACKING.—Put a dozen on the table, the largest first, the smallest last. Then with a stiff brush apply faithfully to the flesh side of the blacking, compounded as follows: To two quarts of tanner's oil add half a three cent paper of lampblack; stir well and then stir into this half pint Japonica liquor. After this blacking has dried in, rub the blacked side over with a clean woollen cloth to remove all loose particles; then with a soft brush apply evenly a paste made as follows: To two quarts boiling rain water, add a few shavings of bar soap, and to this add two-thirds of a pint of thickening made of fine flour and soft water well stirred in. Let boil a few minutes, then let cool; then stir into this paste one-fourth as much of melted Gum Tragacanth. When this paste is dried into the leather, take it on the table and sleek the black side over with a sharp glass sleek. The next coat of paste should be half gum and put on evenly with a fine sponge. When dry, to finish, set down with a glass sleek.

HOW GRAIN BLACKING IS MADE AND PUT ON.—Put into an iron vessel a quantity of old iron; then put four ounces extract logwood into a gallon of sharp cider vinegar, dissolve over a slow fire; when dissolved pour it into the vessel with the old iron, and cover tight; the longer it stands the better it is. When blacking is wanted, set a deep stone jar into an open room and put into it four ounces copperas, then two ounces logwood, then add to this aquafortis sufficient to dissolve the whole; immediately cover tight; when dissolved add it to two quarts of the