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Leather

Clara Louise Guild

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Leather.

Leather is made from skins of animals such as calves, oxen, kids, goats. After the skins are taken off the animals, it has to be tanned to preserve it. First it is washed then soaked in lime-water. After that, it is dried. The next process is to take the bark off from oak trees in the spring of the year, which is ground up. Then large deep pits are dug. First a layer of bark is put in, then the skins until the pit is filled. On the top is put boards and stones, and water is poured over it and left two or three months, it is turned two or three times until it is entirely tanned. After it is taken out of the pits the next process is currying

First stretched and carded to get off
the outer skin. There are different kinds
leather such as ox, calf, goat, kids which
are used for making boots. Dogskin
for gloves. Chamoi for cleaning silver
and jewelry. Shek's skins for binding
books. Russia leather for porte-monnaie.
There another kind of leather called
patent leather, which is used for little
children's slippers.

Clara L. Guild

Jan, 1877