

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MOSES REED, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

IMPROVED COMPOSITION FOR CLEANING PAINTS, WOOD-WORK, STONE, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **36,368**, dated September 2, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MOSES REED, of St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and Improved Composition for a Cleansing-Powder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

This invention consists in a compound made by mixing together pulverized pumice-stone, pulverized sal-soda, and pulverized borax, in about the proportion hereinafter described, for the purpose of cleaning painted work or stone-work, to be used instead of soap and scrubbing-brush.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

The compound consists of pumice-stone, sal-soda, and borax, all reduced to impalpable powder and mixed together in about the following proportions: pumice-stone, twelve pounds, sal-soda, two and one-half pounds; borax, one pound. These ingredients are first reduced to an impalpable powder, (as previously stated,) and they are then intimately mixed together and the cleansing-powder is ready for use.

If desired, the powder can be colored by introducing some coloring-matter, such as rose

or pink color, in order to distinguish the powder from the white painted work to which it may be applied.

For using the powder, take a moist sponge or cloth, dip it slightly into the powder, and apply by briskly rubbing the work to be cleansed. Then wipe off with a clean sponge, and the work is done.

This powder is applicable to all kinds of wood-work painted with oil-paint—such as doors, windows, &c.—in ordinary dwelling-houses, and also to stone-work, and it is preferable to soap, because it requires but little water and makes no slop to be cleaned up after the powder has been applied. It leaves the work with a brighter and better color than soap, and it requires no brush to apply it. An ordinary sponge or piece of cloth answers every purpose.

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

The employment or use of a composition made of the ingredients above specified, mixed together in the manner and about in the proportions herein described.

MOSES REED.

Witnesses:

THOS. SMITH,
JOSEPH BROOKS.