

United States Patent Office.

JAMES B. CRANE, OF DALTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 62,318, dated February 26, 1867.

IMPROVED COVERING FOR BOTTLES, STEAM PIPES, &c.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JAMES B. CRANE, of Dalton, in the county of Berkshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Covering for Bottles, Steam Pipes, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

My invention consists in the application of a substance commonly known as paper pulp to different articles as a covering, thereby accomplishing results heretofore obtained by the use of various substances in a much more difficult and expensive manner.

The material consists of vegetable fibres beaten and ground, and saturated with water until the mass becomes pulp, after which it is usually spread out by machinery into thin sheets forming paper, but for my purpose it is taken in its pulpy state or in sheets of pulp and spread upon the surface to be covered to any desirable thickness. After being so spread, as it dries thereon, it has a tendency to shrink or contract, and thus is fastened closely around the article it covers and adds strength thereto, which is particularly useful in articles formed of glass, such as bottles, jars, demijohns, &c., and forms a cheap and durable substitute for the cases of wicker-work, leather, &c., heretofore used, and affording equal protection against accident by its strengthening and resisting qualities. Another quality of this substance is, that when placed around anything, it forms an air-tight covering, rendering it useful in sealing bottles, &c., and also in preserving fruits or meat, for if a coating of this substance be laid on ripe or unripe fruits, so as to envelope the same, they may be kept in the same condition for a great length of time. In the preservation of eggs this quality, combined with its protective qualities, renders a coating of this substance extremely useful for preserving and preventing breakage. Another quality of this substance is, that it is a non-conductor of heat, and as an envelope for steam pipes and similar situations it is very useful preventing heat from escaping, and thus, also, preventing condensation of the steam contained in the pipes, and forming a cheap and durable covering easily put on and having great advantages over the mode of winding these pipes with cloth commonly employed. These instances will serve to show somewhat the extent to which this substance may be applied as a covering, and the results accomplished thereby. But I do not wish to confine myself to its application to the articles named; but—

Now, having described my invention, what I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The use of paper pulp for the purpose of obtaining an air-tight, non-conducting, and protective covering, substantially in the manner set forth.

JAMES B. CRANE.

Witnesses:

J. B. GARDINER,

EDWARD H. HYDE.