

# United States Patent Office.

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CALIFORNIA.

*Letters Patent No. 72,977, dated January 7, 1868.*

## IMPROVED COMPOSITION FOR ROOFING.

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

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, ALLEN CODY, JAMES BARTLETT, and HENRY M. JONES, of Ukiah City, county of Mendocino, State of California, have invented an improved Composition for Roofing; and we do hereby declare the following description sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use our said invention or improvement without further invention or experiment.

The object of our invention is to provide a plastic composition for the purposes of roofing, which, upon drying, will form a solid roof, which will be proof against the extremes of heat and cold, and impervious to water.

For this purpose we employ common clay, slightly dampened, and ground in a clay-mill until it is free from lumps, when it is formed into bricks, and burned until it is hard and will ring quite clear. This brick is then pulverized until it becomes a powder, when to two parts of this powder we add one part of finely-pulverized shale-stone and two parts of coal-tar, so as to bring the compound to the consistency of mortar. The roof being prepared by laying the sheathing-boards close together, or having them tongued and grooved, so as to form a tight and level surface, this mortar is then spread over this surface with a trowel, until it is about an inch in thickness. This having been done, it is allowed to remain unmolested for two days, in order that it may acquire the desired firmness, when a thin solution of the above mortar is made, by adding coal-tar until it is of about the consistency of paint, and spread on evenly with a brush, in order to fill up any fissures or defects in the roof so made.

By this means we are able to prepare a roof that will withstand the most intense extremes of heat and cold without being affected in any manner; and a piece of the above-described composition will not be affected by being placed for a long time in a blacksmith's forge, subject to the most intense heat, while it will not be affected by water in the least.

This thin solution may also be used as a paint for common shingle-roofs, having the effect to prevent the sun from shrinking or warping the shingles, and rendering them completely fire-proof, thus avoiding the danger of the roof catching on fire from burning buildings contiguous to it, and rendering it unnecessary to re-shingle the roof for many years after it would otherwise necessarily have to be.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A compound cement for roofing purposes, prepared and applied substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals.

Witnesses:

C. W. M. SMITH,  
J. L. BOONE.

ALLEN CODY. [L. s.]  
JAMES BARTLETT. [L. s.]  
HENRY M. JONES. [L. s.]