

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. CHENOWETH, OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FLUID COMPOUNDS FOR EMBALMING HUMAN BODIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **144,602**, dated November 18, 1873; application filed June 2, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. CHENOWETH, of Baltimore county, Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Fluid for Embalming Human Bodies; and I declare the following to be a full and exact description of said compounded fluid.

I take, of gum-camphor, two ounces; pulverized aloes, one and a half ounce; sulphate of potassa, four ounces; balsam odendron myrrh, two ounces; pulverized saltpeter, four ounces; arsenic, six ounces; carbolic acid, two ounces; bromide of potassa, six ounces; acorus calamus, one and a half ounce; hydrochloric acid, or muriatico-zinc acid, two pounds. These I well compound and mix together, and then add one and a half to three gallons of high-rectified spirits of wine, the quantity to be determined by the state the body is in. If much decomposed, I use the lesser quantity of the spirits of wine, and so on.

When the mixture or fluid has stood for some time, it is again agitated, when, after settling, it is fit for use.

I do not claim any particular method of injecting this fluid into the subject; but I gen-

erally inject it by opening the femoral artery, and then, with a Davis No. 1 force-pump, I inject the fluid; or I use any ordinary pump for injecting fluid into the human system. When this operation is over—that is, after the embalming—I cleanse out the entrails, and inject the sulphate of lime at the anus, which fills up the diaphragm, and the subject then is placed in a casket, and the operation is complete.

I am aware there are a number of solutions made for the purpose of injecting into the bodies of dead persons to embalm them; but the above I have tried in quite a number of instances, and it has never failed to give entire satisfaction, and has always proved effectual.

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

The chemical compound mixed with the fluid as described, used and operated as shown, and for the purposes set forth.

WILLIAM E. CHENOWETH.

Witnesses:

W. N. WALTON,  
L. H. MILLIKEN.