

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH H. BAUER, OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN PROCESSES FOR TREATING SOUNDING-BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **149,426**, dated April 7, 1874; application filed March 7, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSIAH H. BAUER, of Scranton, in the county of Luzerne and in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Processes for Preparing Sounding-Boards for Musical Instruments; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The nature of my invention consists in a process for preparing sounding-boards for pianos or other instruments, tuning-post for violins, and other articles of similar character, or the wood from which such articles are to be made, for the purpose of increasing and improving the tone and sounding qualities, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

The sounding-board, tuning-post, or other article, or the wood from which they are to be made, is boiled thoroughly in water for about five hours, more or less, for the purpose of opening the pores and removing all sap, pitch, and other impurities from the wood. It is then taken out and dried for a couple of days, more or less. A glue is then made of about one pound of white glue in about two gallons of water, in which the wood is boiled for about two hours, more or less. The boiler is then lifted off from the fire and the wood allowed to remain in the glue-water till it is nearly cold, when the pores of the wood will be com-

pletely filled with the finer particles of the glue. The wood is then taken out of the glue-water, and when cold it is thorough wiped off with a sponge and warm water, so as to remove all the glue from the outside of the wood, while the glue remains in the pores where the sap and pitch were before. The wood is then thoroughly dried, which completes the process.

By this process the sounding-board is materially improved in giving it a uniform harmonious clearness, and imparts strength and richness in the melody to all stringed musical instruments.

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

The process herein described of treating the sounding-boards of musical instruments, to divest them of all impurities, by first boiling and then saturating them with liquid glue, for equalizing, strengthening, and purifying the tone of the instrument, as is herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 7th day of March, 1874.

JOSIAH H. BAUER.

Witnesses:

H. J. SMITH,
C. L. EVERT.