

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE MUNGER, OF MADISON, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE PROCESSES FOR SMOOTHING WOOD SURFACES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **152,572**, dated June 30, 1874; application filed June 4, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE MUNGER, of Madison, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Process for Finishing Wood Surfaces; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

This invention relates to an improvement in the method or process of finishing wood surfaces.

The usual method or process for finishing the surface of wood is by use of sand-paper or the "sand-belt." This smooths the surface of the wood, but leaves the pores unfilled and the dust escapes into the atmosphere, and is to a greater or less extent taken into the lungs of the workman. Various expedients to carry off this dust by artificial means have been resorted to, with but partial success.

The object of this invention is to employ the dust in the filling and perfect finishing of the surface; and it consists in rubbing the surface with a combination of sand and paraffine, or any equivalent therefor, which, when cold, will hold the sand, and which softens to some degree in warming.

In preparing the belt I thoroughly saturate the polishing-belt with melted paraffine or analogous material, and while warm fill the surface with sand of the grain required for working the wood. The belt is run and the

wood applied thereto to be smoothed in the usual manner. The friction of the wood upon the belt softens the paraffine, and while the sand smooths or works the wood the oily substance works into the pores of the wood and takes with it the dust which has been taken from the wood by the sand, and thus, by the mixture of an oily substance and the dust, I completely smooth and fill the pores of the surface, leaving it ready for varnish or other surface-polishing without the necessity of the usual filling, and at the same time avoid the dust which is so detrimental to workmen.

For hand-finishing, the material for rubbing is prepared in the same manner; it should, however, be a fibrous material; yet sand and paraffine together mixed in mass will accomplish the object in the most satisfactory manner.

While I prefer paraffine, and believe it to be the best material for this purpose, I wish to be understood by the use of the term paraffine to embrace all analogous substances.

I claim as my invention—

The method herein described for finishing wood surfaces, consisting in the combination of sand and paraffine.

GEO. MUNGER.

Witnesses:

GEO. B. MUNGER,
JOSEPH A. LEETE.