

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COMPOSITION FOR CLEANING METALS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 244,937, dated July 26, 1881.

Application filed April 18, 1881. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERTRAM GEORGE SEEBACH, of Peru, in the county of La Salle and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Compositions for Cleaning Metals; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to an improved composition for cleaning zinc, nickel, brass, copper, or any royal metal, and imparting to the same a fine polish; and it consists in the following ingredients and proportions:

First, I take commercial potash and dissolve it in water, one part potash, by weight, to ten parts of water. This solution is filtered, evaporated as dry as possible, then powdered and mixed with an equal weight of fresh lime, (also powdered,) and the mixture then sifted through bolting-cloth No. 13.

Secondly, I take a mineral-oil product, such as is used in making lubricating-oils, and known as "machine-stock." This is filtered to free it from impurities.

Thirdly, I take an oil obtained from the fruit of *Elais guiniensis* by expression. This is purified by first beating the oil, and when in a liquid state adding one part, by weight, of chalk, to one hundred parts of the oil, to free it from any present acid. It is then maintained at a temperature of 115° Fahrenheit for four hours, after which the clear oil is decanted and filtered, so as to free it from any gritty substance

there may be in the same. Equal parts, by weight, of these two oils, are then mixed together, and a given part, by weight, of this mixture, is added to an equal part, by weight, of the powdered mixture of potash and lime, and the whole then ground together to the consistency of a homogeneous paste. This paste I preferably perfume with equal parts of the oils of sassafras and bitter almond; but this is not essential to the cleaning and polishing effect of the compound, and may be omitted.

To use this composition it is only necessary to dip a rag into the same and apply it to the metal by rubbing, and then finish off the surface with smooth chamois-skin, which will cause the surface to be polished to reflection, giving on zinc-work a particularly fine effect, and a good finish for all metals.

This composition is not injurious to the metals, and produces a fine polish, even on surfaces which are temporarily subjected to high temperatures.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

The composition for cleaning and polishing metals herein described, consisting of potash, lime, mineral oil, and the oil of *Elais guiniensis* prepared and compounded in the manner and in about the proportions described.

BERTRAM GEORGE SEEBACH.

Witnesses:

H. W. UNDERHILL,  
H. S. CORWIN.