

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE SPEIZ, OF DUTCH KILLS, NEW YORK.

## PRESERVING WOOD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 387,375, dated August 7, 1888.

Application filed April 14, 1888. Serial No. 270,692. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE SPEIZ, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Dutch Kills, in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Processes for Preserving Wood, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates especially to methods employed for preserving wood, and has for its object the rendering of the wood substantially impervious to the attack of insects, &c., and also greatly retarding the process of natural decay.

To attain the desired end, my invention consists, essentially, in treating the wood (more particularly railway-ties) to a hot bath of water wherein are placed sulphur and mercury, all of which will be hereinafter first fully described, and then pointed out in the claim.

In carrying out my process I employ any suitable boiler or tank, which may be closed to prevent the escape of vapor and large enough to contain a number of railway-ties. When the ties are placed in the boiler or tank, they are covered with water, to each thousand gal-

lons of which are added from ten to fifteen pounds of sulphur and one pound of mercury. Heat is then applied in any desired manner, and the ties are left in the bath for about ten hours, when they are removed and are ready for use.

By this process the ravages of insects, &c., are prevented, and it will be found that the ties may lie in the ground for a long time without decay.

Having now fully described my process, what I claim as new therein, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described process of preserving wood—that is to say, subjecting the same to a hot bath consisting of water, sulphur, and mercury, in about the proportions specified, and as set forth.

Signed at Long Island City, in the county of Queens and State of New York, this 3d day of April, A. D. 1888.

GEORGE SPEIZ.

Witnesses:

A. M. PIERCE,  
J. F. CROWLEY.