

MARK W. MARSDEN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 683,789, dated December 11, 1900.

Application filed August 10, 1897. Serial No. 647,745. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARK W. MARSDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Compositions of Matter for Use as Paint and the Like, of which the following is a specification.

10 The object of my invention is to provide a comparatively inexpensive, reliable, and durable paint adapted for use on oil-cloth and other fabrics and on iron, steel, and metal objects and for other purposes and which possesses an attractive rough-cast appearance
15 and presents a soft and smooth feeling to the touch and which shall be a non-conductor, and therefore proof against dampness due to condensation.

20 In practicing my invention I make use of ground vegetable pith, such as dried corn-pith, and I mix this vegetable pith in its granular condition with a suitable vehicle, as oil, and suitable coloring-matter or pigments.

25 The pith may be ground in oil, and the coloring-matter or pigment may be added, or the pith, coloring-matter, and oil may be all ground together. In some cases in order to

30 obtain a comparatively rough appearance the ground or powdered pith may be stirred into ordinary paint. The paint may be made fire-proof by adding sal-ammoniac or silicate of soda or equivalent material. The proportion in which the pith is used may be varied ac-

35 cording as it is desired to have the mixture more or less fluid, and by adding the pith in comparatively large quantities the mixture may be caused to assume the consistency of a plastic. However, I may state the follow-

ing proportions, which I have found to produce an excellent white paint: twenty-five ounces of linseed-oil, three ounces of powdered pith, three pounds of Spanish whiting, three pounds of white lead, and three ounces of Japan or other drier. However, these proportions may be increased, diminished, or varied according to the consistency required by the user. Two quarts of silicate of soda and two gallons of water and one pound of sal-

ammoniac may be added to forty gallons of 50
the described paint, and after the same has
been thoroughly mixed oil may be added to
thin the mixture. In this way the paint is
made fireproof, as has been already stated.

The paint of my invention when applied to a surface imparts to it a rough-cast appearance immediately. This rough surface presents that appearance commonly designated "rough cast;" but it differs from the rough-cast surface in that it is quite soft to the touch, whereas many rough - cast surfaces are so rough to the touch that they actually abrade the skin if brought in contact with them. It is known that vegetable pith is absorbent and is a non-conductor, so that such pith when incorporated with paint as described and applied to metallic surfaces serves to prevent condensation due to changes of temperature and the like. This quality adapts paint of my invention for use on iron ships and the like, where at the present time much difficulty is encountered by reason of the deleterious effects of the condensation of moisture. The fact that vegetable pith is a poor conductor of heat and cold causes it when incorporated with paint as described to render the latter also impervious to the passage of heat and cold.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains that modifications may be made in details without departing from the spirit thereof. Hence I do not limit myself to the precise proportions hereinabove set forth; but,

Having thus described the nature and ob- 85
jects of my invention, what I claim as new,
and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The within-described rough-cast paint consisting of a suitable vehicle combined with dried vegetable pith in a granular condition, 90 substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature
in presence of two witnesses.

MARK W. MARSDEN.

Witnesses:

**A. B. STOUGHTON,
V. W. MIDDLETON.**