

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE G. KENNEDY, OF NEWCASTLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

COMPOUND FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING TIN PLATES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 685,211, dated October 22, 1901.

Application filed May 17, 1901. Serial No. 60,698. (Specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE G. KENNEDY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newcastle, in the county of Lawrence and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Compounds for Cleaning and Polishing Tin Plates, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to compounds for cleaning and polishing tin plates; and the object of the same is to produce a compound containing no substance which will irritate the nostrils and lungs of the operators.

Before describing my compound a brief sketch of the method of polishing plates will be given, thereby emphasizing the utility and importance of my compound.

In the manufacture of tin-plate the sheets of "black-plate" are passed through a bath of molten tin covered with palm-oil. The consequence of this is that the plate after leaving the bath needs to be scrubbed to clean off the oil and to polish it. The usual method now employed for scrubbing the plates is to pass them through a "branner," in which the plates are carried by an endless conveyer and forced through a mass of cleaning compound contained in the machine. This compound generally consists of a mixture of lime, kerosene, and sawdust. The great objection thereto is that the lime becomes finely pulverized and floats in the air, thereby compelling every one in the room to wear a dust-protector over their nose and mouth.

The object of my invention is to provide an efficient substitute for the lime, which substitute shall be cheaper than the lime, comparatively harmless, and not liable to be converted into dust and permeate the air. I find that common fire-clay, which is used in laying up walls of fire-brick, not only fulfils all of these requirements, but is an efficient polishing agent. This fire-clay is used in combination with the kerosene and sawdust. The proportions of each ingredient may be varied within considerable limits, depending on the weight of the plate being polished. The following proportions give good results for plates of average weight: fire-clay, ten to twenty-five per cent., by weight; kerosene-oil, four gallons; sawdust, about one hundred pounds.

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

A compound for cleaning and polishing tin-plate and consisting of a mixture of fire-clay, kerosene-oil, and sawdust, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE G. KENNEDY.

Witnesses:

CHAS. E. MEHARD,
JNO. H. BITTNER.