

## 5-17 UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OLIVER P. CATHERMAN, OF MIFFLINBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

COMPOUND FOR REMOVING PAINT AND VARNISH FROM WOODWORK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,150, dated February 24, 1903.

Application filed June 21, 1902. Serial No. 112,654. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, OLIVER P. CATHERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mifflinburg, in the county of Union and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Compound for Removing Paint and Varnish from Woodwork, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to compounds for removing old paint and varnish from woodwork.

The object of the invention is in a ready, effective, and rapid manner and without the employment of heat, with attendant danger of burning and scorching, to remove old paint and varnish from woodwork.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the compound for removing paint and varnish from woodwork, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In carrying the invention into effect there is taken of the following ingredients, by weight: clear cow-dung, three pounds; clear horse-manure, two pounds; chicken-manure, two pounds; human feces, one pound; quicklime, one-half pound; concentrated lye, one pound. These ingredients are thoroughly incorporated, and the mixture becomes boiling hot and must be left to stand a sufficient time to cool. There is then taken one-fourth ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) pound of rye-flour mixed with water to a thin paste, and this is then added to the before-described ingredients. The compound is then run through a paint-mill to reduce it to a soft and pasty mass, after which one quart of water, more or less, is added, and the compound is then ready for use. The amounts of the ingredients stated will make about two gallons of the compound.

In use the compound is applied to the surface to be treated with a bristle brush, and the thickness of the applied coating will vary with the thickness of the coats of paint or varnish to be removed.

The compound is allowed to remain on the

treated surfaces until it has cut the paint to the wood or metal body to which it is applied, when it can be readily removed with a putty-knife on smooth surfaces, and on moldings or other curved work a hard stiff brush can be used for the purpose. As soon as all of the paint is removed the exposed surface is wiped and as soon as dry can be repainted the same as new work.

As a rule, one application of the compound will be all that is required for any and all kinds of paint or varnish, as the compound will retain moisture for about twelve hours in the shade and about one hour in the sun and under either condition will afford ample time to allow the compound to effect its work.

It is to be understood that any other alkali suited to the purpose other than concentrated lye may be employed and still be within the scope of the invention.

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

1. A compound for removing old paint and varnishes from woodwork and the like, consisting of the following ingredients: clear cow-dung, clear horse-manure, chicken-manure, human feces, quicklime, concentrated lye, rye-flour paste and water, substantially in the proportions specified.

2. A compound for removing old paint and varnishes from woodwork and the like, consisting of the following ingredients in about the proportions specified: clear cow-dung, three pounds; clear horse-manure, two pounds; chicken-manure, two pounds; human feces, one pound; quicklime, one-half pound; concentrated lye, one pound; rye-flour paste, one-quarter pound; and water, one quart.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

OLIVER P. CATHERMAN.

Witnesses:

NOAH MAUSER,

JOHN HASSENPLECY.