

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CRAWFORD H. HUMPHREY, OF RUMFORD FALLS, MAINE, ASSIGNOR, BY  
DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO LYMAN L. HAINES, OF MEXICO,  
MAINE, AND SETH E. BEEDY, OF FARMINGTON, MAINE.

## COMPOSITION FOR FILLING AND CLEANING WOOD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 771,984, dated October 11, 1904.

Application filed February 6, 1903. Serial No. 142,215. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CRAWFORD H. HUMPHREY, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Rumford Falls, Androscoggin county, State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Compositions for Filling and Cleaning Wood, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a composition of matter for filling, finishing, and cleaning wood, and it is designed to be used for doors, floors, and other house-finish, as well as for all kinds of woodwork where the wood is to be finished in natural colors or stained.

The object of the invention is to produce a compound which will quickly and thoroughly fill the pores of the wood so that the varnish, wax, or other outside finish may be applied, and which will act as a cleaner as well, removing all stains and dirt from the wood in the same operation. This I accomplish by means of my present invention, which consists of a liquid formed of linseed or other drying oil, turpentine, oxalic or other suitable acid holding in suspension pulverized clay, preferably china-clay, and having added thereto a suitable drier.

In finishing the woodwork of houses and other buildings it often happens that the wood becomes soiled and stained before it is ready to be finally finished. The present method of cleaning wood in this condition is to sandpaper and scrape off the dirt, and this in many cases is a difficult and unsatisfactory thing to do and takes a great deal of time and money. By the use of my composition I do away with this operation, as my filler does the work of cleaning, as well as filling all dirt and stains on the wood coming off when the partially-dried filler is rubbed off, as in the ordinary process of filling wood with a liquid filler.

In making and using my filler I obtain very good results by proceeding as follows: I mix the following ingredients in the following proportions: raw linseed-oil, one quart; turpentine, one quart; china-clay, one quart; oxalic acid, three ounces (liquid); a small quantity

of japan, or when the mixture is to be transparent a small quantity of white or colorless drier. These ingredients are mixed and stirred together and applied with a brush to the surface of the wood in the usual manner, and after becoming partially dry it is rubbed down, preferably across the grain of the wood, after which it is ready to receive the varnish or other finishing coat.

My filler does not raise the grain of the wood as does shellac, and by doing the work of cleaning it enables the work of finishing to be done with a great saving of time, and consequently reduces the expense of finishing wood.

The proportions of the ingredients here specified may of course be varied without departing from the spirit of my invention and equivalent substances may be used for some of the ingredients used.

The substance which effects the cleaning of the wood is the acid, and for this may be substituted any cleansing or dirt-dissolving liquid, such as ammonia, borax, and the like. The action of the oil prevents the acid or cleaner from dissolving and carrying the dirt into the pores of the wood or "setting" it and enables it to be wiped off when the filler is rubbed down.

The liquid acid specified above is made by dissolving one-half pound of acid-crystals in one quart of water.

I claim—

1. The herein-described composition for filling and finishing wood consisting of pulverized clay, drying-oil, turpentine, acid and a drier.

2. The herein-described composition for filling and finishing wood consisting of pulverized clay, drying-oil, turpentine, oxalic acid and a drier.

3. The herein-described composition for filling and finishing wood consisting of china-clay, drying-oil, turpentine, acid and a drier.

4. The herein-described composition for filling and finishing wood, consisting of pulverized clay, thirty-two per cent., drying-oil

thirty-two per cent., turpentine thirty-two per cent., a cleaning liquid three per cent., and a drier one per cent.

5. The herein-described composition for filling and finishing wood, consisting of china-clay, linseed-oil, turpentine, oxalic acid, and a drier.

Signed at Portland, Maine, this 4th day of February, 1903.

CRAWFORD H. HUMPHREY.

Witnesses:

S. W. BATES,

FREDERICK C. ROBINSON.