

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OTIS W. SEVERNS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SWEEPING COMPOSITION.

No. 908,041.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

Application filed April 15, 1908. Serial No. 427,216.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OTIS W. SEVERNS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sweeping Compositions, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to dust collecting or absorbing substances such as are commonly known as "sweeping compounds" or "sweeping compositions" and has particular reference to a composition of the character specified which is especially adapted for use in sweeping wooden, tile, brick and other uncarpeted floors.

While it is old to add sand to a sweeping composition to enable such composition to be more effectively used I have found that improved results are obtained where sand or a like abrasive material is embedded in and forms a part of the main stock or base of the composition.

It is to be understood that the abrasive material is not located entirely within the particles of the absorbent material and wholly surrounded thereby, but that the minute particles of the absorbent material are secured to and rigidly held by the absorbent material. The abrasive particles are embedded in the absorbent material but not wholly embedded. They are held by the absorbent material, as specified but portions thereof extend outwardly therefrom.

I have found that sand belt dust such as produced in the use of sand paper or a sand or other abrasive belt, contains particles of the abrasive within its structure, and that such sand belt dust is particularly well adapted to form the base or stock of a sweeping composition.

In my experiments I have found that the best results are obtained by the use of hard wood sand belt dust and particularly hickory sand belt dust of such a degree of fineness as to constitute an impalpable powder.

In the production of my improved sweeping composition I employ a heavy mineral oil within the pores of the sand belt dust, to collect and hold the dust particles. A very effective sweeping composition can be obtained by the use of sand belt dust and an oil-like material to collect the dust particles. I prefer, however, to employ a disinfectant and additional silicious material with the sand belt dust and oil. In the preferred embodiment of my invention I mix the mate-

rials in the following proportions: sand belt dust, 50 lbs.; sand, 20 lbs.; heavy mineral oil, 12 lbs.; oil of mirbane, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

It is to be understood that I may employ any disinfectant, either with or without the addition of a perfume, such for example, as citronella.

While I prefer to employ very fine hickory sand belt dust it is to be understood that I contemplate as within the scope of my invention the use of any base or stock having silicious or other abrasive material embedded therein, however produced.

It is to be understood that the proportions of the ingredients hereinbefore recited may be widely varied and that certain of such ingredients may be omitted as hereinbefore indicated without departure from the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having described my invention, I claim,

1. A dust collecting or absorbing substance, comprising an absorbent base or stock of comminuted wood having particles of abrasive material secured to and rigidly held by the said wood, and a dust-holding liquid associated therewith.

2. A dust collecting or absorbing substance comprising sand belt dust as the base or stock thereof and an oil like dust collecting material associated therewith.

3. A dust collecting or absorbing substance comprising impalpable hickory sand belt dust as the base or stock thereof and an oil like dust collecting material associated therewith.

4. A dust collecting or absorbing substance comprising sand belt dust and a dust holding material.

5. A dust collecting or absorbing substance comprising sand belt dust and oil.

6. A dust collecting or absorbing substance comprising sand belt dust and a heavy mineral oil.

7. A dust collecting or absorbing substance comprising sand belt dust, oil and sand.

8. A dust collecting or absorbing substance comprising impalpable hickory sand belt dust, oil, sand and a disinfectant, substantially as described.

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

OTIS W. SEVERNS.

Witnesses:

WM. SEVERNS,
LOUISE M. JENSEN.