

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN S. ROSENTHAL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN TREATING ASBESTUS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **130,538**, dated August 13, 1872.

Specification describing a Mode of Treating Asbestos, invented by JOHN S. ROSENTHAL, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Chemical Treatment of Asbestos and Products of the same.

The object of my invention is to reduce crude asbestos or amianthus to a condition which permits the disintegration of its fibers by hand or mechanical appliances prior to washing, combing, carding, and otherwise treating the fibers, so as to render them available for making the finest yarn.

I have found that by subjecting crude asbestos or amianthus to the action of coal-oil, benzine, benzole, or other equivalent hydrocarbons, it is rendered easy of disintegration. The asbestos may be subjected to the petroleum while the latter is in a cold state for an hour or more, according to the quality of the asbestos—for the characteristics of the mineral differ in different localities—or the petroleum

or its equivalent hydrocarbon may be heated or applied both under heat and pressure; or the mineral may be subjected to the action of the vapors of petroleum, benzine, or other equivalent hydrocarbon under heat or pressure.

The result of the hydrocarbon treatment is the loosening of the fibers and reducing them to a condition in which they can be washed, combed, carded, and otherwise treated preparatory to spinning.

I claim—

The treatment, substantially as herein described, of asbestos or amianthus, for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

J. S. ROSENTHAL.

Witnesses:

H. HOWSON,
WM. A. STEEL.