

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEMUEL R. MEARS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN WAXING COMPOUNDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **165,942**, dated July 27, 1875; application filed April 7, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEMUEL R. MEARS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Waxing Compound; and the following is a description thereof:

The nature of my invention consists in an improved waxing compound, composed of tar, pitch, and paraffine, substantially as herein-after set forth.

My invention is intended for use on thread for sewing leather-work, particularly by or with the sewing-machine.

Wax-thread, when prepared with the ordinary shoemaker's-wax, which consists chiefly of tar and pitch, if not immediately used, is soon found to be greatly deteriorated in strength—an effect that is attributed to some property in the wax, and is called "rotting." When used on some of the wax-thread sewing-machines heat is employed to maintain its plasticity, and if reheated after being allowed to cool it becomes hard and brittle, and is very difficult of being worked.

I have ascertained, through a long series of experiments, that the use of paraffine, in combination with the wax, greatly reduces, or entirely removes, the tendency to rot the thread. By its use the wax may also be reheated more

or less without rendering it brittle, by adding at such time a very small portion of paraffine, and I have found the thread thus treated to work well without heat, and even when passing it through cold water on its way to the needle.

The manner of making and compounding my improved wax is to add, when preparing it, about one-quarter ounce, by weight, of paraffine to one pound, by weight, of wax, such as would be called "hard," for machine-work; for softer wax a lesser quantity will answer. The paraffine may be put in cold, and melted up with the ingredients of the wax when first prepared, or may be melted and put into the wax when both are at about the same temperature—in other words, in any way whereby the paraffine is incorporated with the wax by the use of heat.

I claim—

A waxing compound composed of tar, pitch, and paraffine, substantially as and for the purpose described.

LEMUEL R. MEARS.

Witnesses:

EARLE H. SMITH,
ALEX. OSTRANDER.