

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS C. TAYLOR, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN METHODS OF PACKING CAUSTIC ALKALI.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **184,925**, dated November 28, 1876; application filed April 3, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS C. TAYLOR, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Packing Caustic Soda, of which the following is a specification:

Caustic soda is an article which is extensively used, and is an important article of commerce; and the "putting up" or packing of it in quantities suitable for use has been attended with considerable difficulty. When exposed to the air it deliquesces, and the lye exudes through the can wherever it can find egress. If confined in air-tight cans, extreme care must be used in putting it up to keep it in normal state, as it must be hermetically sealed to render this mode effective, which is both troublesome and expensive.

By my invention the caustic soda is poured into a mold when in liquid state, and then it is put into ordinary metallic cans, (iron cans preferred,) not necessarily air-tight, but a little larger than the molded caustic soda; and then the cake of caustic soda is covered and surrounded with any mineral powder which will absorb the lye from the deliquescence of

the soda. This lye forms a carbonate when combined with the absorbing-powder, which protects the caustic soda when it is exposed to the air. Caustic soda may be packed in this manner, in any cheaply-made metallic cans, without the employment of skilled labor or especial care, and may, consequently, be afforded to the consumer at a reduced price. Any desired number of these cans may be packed in large cases, or in barrels or boxes, for transportation to distant customers; and the caustic soda may be protected by the mineral or absorbing powder as described for single packages.

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

The herein-described method of putting up or packing caustic alkali by inclosing the same in a solid molded form in a can, with a surrounding envelope of absorbent powder, substantially as and for the purpose described.

THOMAS C. TAYLOR.

Witnesses:

T. B. MOSHER,
ALEX. F. ROBERTS.