UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VAIR CLIREHUGH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN PREPARATIONS FOR THE HAIR.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **2,551**, dated April 11, 1842.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VAIR CLIREHUGH, of the city of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful medicated compound for promoting the growth of hair, for restoring it when it has fallen off, for preventing it turning gray, and for removing scurf or dandruff, which compound so formed by me I denominate "Tricopherous;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

In preparing my compound I use the following ingredients, and employ them in the proportions, or nearly in the proportions, herein indicated—that is to say, in preparing a hundred parts of the compound I take, by weight, of highly-rectified alcohol, seventy parts; of castor-oil, fourteen parts; of cantharides, two parts; of iodine, two parts; of muriate of ammonia, ten parts; and of essence of bergamot, two parts. These ingredients I mix together and agitate the mixture occasionally until the iodine is dissolved, and until time has been allowed for extracting the active principles of the cantharides; and the compound, when poured off clear, is fit for use.

The foregoing recipe gives what I believe, from experience and observation, to be the best proportion of the respective ingredients; but this will admit of some variation without essentially altering the nature of my compound. I do not, therefore, intend to limit myself to the precise quantities named; nor is it pretended that the articles are all equally essential in giving to the compound its valuable properties. The essence of bergamot, for example, is used principally for its odor, and any other essence that may be preferred may be substituted for it, or the essence may be altogether omitted. Instead of cantharides, the tincture of cantharides may be used in the proper proportionate quantity.

What I consider the essential ingredients of my compound are the alcohol, the cantharides, and the iodine, and where these three are combined together I claim such compound as of my invention, in its use and application to the purpose of preserving, promoting the growth of, and restoring the hair, and also to prevent its turning gray, and to cleanse the head from scurf or dandruff; but although the three articles above named are deemed by me the most important in producing the desired effect, the compound is greatly improved by the addition of the castor-oil and of the muriate of ammonia, and they never will be omitted, excepting for the purpose of sophistication or evasion.

This compound is most easily applied to parts where the hair has been shaved off, or which have become bald, or nearly so. In all cases, when it is applied, the skin should be moistened with it, as its useful action is dependent upon its being applied to the roots of the hair. It should be rubbed in with a hair-brush, the operation being continued for the space of ten or fifteen minutes, observing to keep the skin moistened with it during the whole time of rubbing. This may be done most advantageously every night before going to bed.

Having thus fully described the nature of my compound for promoting the growth of hair, &c., and shown the manner of applying the same, what I claim therein as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combining together of alcohol, of the active principle of cantharides, and of iodine, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The further combination of muriate of ammonia and of castor-oil, or of either of them, with the first-named compound of alcohol, cantharides, and iodine, the respective ingredients being employed in the proportions, or nearly in the proportions, herein designated and made known.

VAIR CLIREHUGH.

Witnesses:
WARD GIBSON,
WM. KEILY.