

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HUNTER, OF SOUTH MELBOURNE, NEAR MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

ELASTIC COMPOSITION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 395,394, dated January 1, 1889.

Application filed June 26, 1888. Serial No. 278,263. (No specimens.) Patented in Victoria March 22, 1887, No. 4,511.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HUNTER, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Howe Crescent, in the city of South Melbourne, near the city of Melbourne, Victoria, a colony of Great Britain, in Australia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Elastic Compositions, (for which I have obtained Letters Patent in Victoria, dated March 22, 1887, and numbered 4,511,) of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to produce an elastic composition specially suited for cold expansion-joints—such as those between the wood blocks in the permanent way of tramways—or for other purposes. For this purpose I utilize the refuse material from stearine-stills, which is commonly known as “pitch” or “black-jack,” and with it I mix a certain amount of slaked lime, in the manner and substantially the proportion following:

To two hundred pounds of the boiling refuse from stearine-stills I add about two ordinary bucketfuls of lime slaked so as to bring it to a powder. The lime must be sprinkled gradually over the surface of the boiling stearine refuse, so as to allow it to sink into and be absorbed by the latter. In order to ascertain whether sufficient lime has been added, I take a sample of the mixture and let it cool. If there is an insufficient proportion of lime, it will be sticky and will not rebound if dropped or thrown on a hard surface; but if it has the proper proportion of lime it will rebound without sticking. The thinner the stearine refuse

the more lime it will require. This mixture forms my improved compound, which should be poured hot into the joints.

This composition is further designed and is adapted for the purpose of coating wire cables now in use for tramways or street-railways; also for insulating telegraph or telephone wires either for use overhead or underground, and for covering all kinds of iron-work to secure it from corrosion or rust.

This invention is also adapted to be used in covering the hulls or decks of ships, roofs of buildings, wood-work of any description, or for asphaltting purposes of any kind.

Having thus described my invention, its nature, and the manner of using the same, I would have it understood that I do not confine myself to the exact proportions of the two ingredients which constitute my new composition, as for different purposes the proportions may be varied. I have stated those which I have found to be most useful in practice for the purposes mentioned.

I claim as my invention—

An improved elastic compound consisting in the combination of black-jack, being the refuse of stearine-stills, with slaked lime, in or about the proportions substantially as described.

JOHN HUNTER.

Witnesses:

JOHN MCINDOE,

Tramway Inspector, 70 Queen St., Melbourne.

JOHN LORD,

Notary Public, Melbourne.