

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DEMETRIUS M. STEWARD, OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE.

## CLEANSING MATERIAL AND PROCESS OF PRODUCING SAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 544,601, dated August 13, 1895.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DEMETRIUS M. STEWARD, of Chattanooga, county of Hamilton, State of Tennessee, have invented a certain  
5 new and useful Cleaning Material and Process of Producing the Same, of which the following is a complete specification.

My cleaning material consists of hardened  
10 steatite, talc, or soapstone in a finely comminuted state, preferably combined with soap or saponaceous material in any suitable proportions. The proportions may be widely varied to adapt the compound for different purposes.

15 Steatite, talc, or soapstone in its natural condition is soft, slippery, and is not possessed of abrasive qualities; but by treating the natural substance in powdered form with heat it can be rendered almost as hard as diamond  
20 dust. Any suitable method of applying the heat may be selected, and the degree of temperature and duration of treatment should be regulated by the degree of hardness to which the powder is desired to attain.

25 The temperature necessary to produce the chemical change in steatite that is proposed by my invention is approximately 2,000° Fahrenheit. No degree of heat less than perhaps 1,500° will affect the natural steatite. The  
30 best results are obtainable at about 2,000°, as above stated, and 1,500° may be stated as the minimum limit, although practically the range of temperature is not so much below 2,000°.

35 Care and good judgment should be exercised in the selection of the material to be treated, inasmuch as some qualities of stone produce better results than others.

After the steatite powder has been properly  
40 treated the hard powder produced by the treatment is combined in suitable proportions with soap or saponaceous material. The proportions which I prefer to employ for ordinary purposes are one of soap and three of hard  
45 powder. The powder and soap are thoroughly mixed and incorporated together to produce a homogeneous compound. When dried, the compound becomes hard and durable. It may be applied by rubbing a damp cloth or  
50 sponge upon the cake and then upon the article to be cleaned. The surface to be cleaned

having been thoroughly rubbed with the compound it is polished off with a clean cloth or chamois.

My cleaning material is adapted for clean- 55  
ing and polishing gold, silver, copper, brass, nickel, aluminum, tin, and polished iron or steel, without injury to the finest metals. It is equally serviceable for cleaning polished  
60 plate-glass windows, cut glassware, painted, varnished, or polished wood surfaces, or the like; removes grease or dirt from carpets, oil-cloth, or floors, &c.

What I claim is—

1. As an improved cleaning and polishing 65  
material, powdered steatite, talc, or soap stone, hardened by being treated with heat at a minimum temperature of 1,500° Fahrenheit, substantially as set forth.

2. The herein described cleaning com- 70  
pound, consisting of steatite, talc, or soap stone, hardened by being treated with heat, in a finely comminuted state, at a minimum temperature of 1,500° Fahrenheit, and combined with saponaceous material in suitable  
75 proportions, substantially as set forth.

3. The process of producing a cleaning and polishing material, which consists in treating  
80 steatite, talc, or soap stone with heat at a minimum temperature of 1,500° Fahrenheit, substantially as set forth.

4. The process of producing a cleaning and polishing material, which consists in reducing  
85 steatite, talc, or soap stone to a finely comminuted state, and treating the powder with heat at a minimum temperature of 1,500° Fahrenheit, substantially as specified.

5. The process of producing a cleaning and polishing compound, which consists in reduc- 90  
ing steatite, talc, or soapstone to a finely comminuted state, treating the powder with heat at a minimum temperature of 1,500° Fahrenheit, and combining the hardened powder with saponaceous material in suitable proportions, substantially as specified. 95

In testimony of all which I have hereunto subscribed my name.

DEMETRIUS M. STEWARD.

Witnesses:

C. S. STEWARD,  
MAE SELLERS.