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PETER WELCH, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRESERVING WOOD.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 129,503, dated July 16, 1872.

SPECIFICATION.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER WELCH, of the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented a Wood-Preserving Compound; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and correct description of the same.

My invention consists in the composition of a liquid mixture to be applied to the preservation of wood against decay from the action of water and marine worms, while rendering it less liable to destruction by fire than it is in its natural or unprepared state.

In the preparation of my compound I use the following ingredients, viz.: Asphalt from coal-tar, heavy oil from coal-tar, soda-ash, lime. The heavy oil and asphalt I mix together while hot, and add to them a solution of soda-ash and lime in water, or in the heavy oil before mentioned, either hot or cold. The proportions of the ingredients named I vary according to the use to which the treated wood is to be applied. When protection from the action of water and marine worms is the object in view, I use less of the alkaline solution than when I desire to add protection against fire to the preservative qualities of the asphalt. For

railroad timbers and structures above ground the alkaline solution becomes of the greatest importance as a corrective to the inflammable character of the other ingredients, and a larger proportion of it would therefore be required in a coating for wood employed for such purposes.

The compound thus prepared is to be applied to wood either by a brush or by the use of an open or closed tank, in which the wood can be immersed in the compound, which may be subjected to pressure, if required.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The wood-preserving compound hereinbefore described, prepared by the addition of an alkaline solution to the asphalt and heavy oil from coal-tar, substantially in the manner and for the purposes specified.

The above specification of my said invention signed and witnessed at St. Louis.

PETER WELCH.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS NOHL,
EDW. S. WARNER.

129503

OR IN 424/356