

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. RYCKMAN, OF BROOKLYN, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND FRANK
B. BURT, OF NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMPOSITIONS FOR FIRE-PROOFING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 186,881, dated January 30, 1877; application filed
December 18, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. RYCKMAN, of Brooklyn, county of Kings, State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Fire-Proofing Compound, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to provide for stage-scenery—curtains, dresses, and fabrics in general—an improved composition, by which the same may be rendered perfectly fire-proof, so as to prevent the spreading of a fire on the stage or similar places.

The invention consists of a composition principally of borax, alum, and muriate of ammonia.

The fire-proofing compound is prepared of equal parts of borax, alum, and muriate of ammonia, which are dissolved in water and applied in a more or less concentrated solution, either by brushes with the common sizing, consisting of glue and whiting, to the scenery, curtains, &c., or to the canvas or other fabric

used for the same, or for dresses, &c., by saturating the same in the solution.

The composition imparts thereby to the fabric the quality of resisting the spreading of fire, as it is merely charred by exposure to fire, but does not burn.

The fabrics so prepared form thereby a reliable preventive of fire in theaters, and reduce the danger of fire to which such structures are exposed.

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

A sizing compound for fire-proofing fabrics and bringing out the subsequently-applied paint, consisting of equal parts of borax, alum, and muriate of ammonia, as described.

WM. J. RYCKMAN.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,
C. SEDGWICK.