

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH DAVIS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BLEACHING OILS AND FATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,558**, dated June 17, 1879; application filed March 12, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH DAVIS, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Process for Bleaching Fats and Fatty Oils; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

This invention relates to an improved process for bleaching all oils and fats known as "fatty oils" and "fats," products from all animals, fishes, and vegetables.

My improved process is intended to remove the coloring-matter caused by decomposition and organic matter absorbed into the fats and fatty oils, which make them dark-colored, and to render them light or white colored, making the oils and fats more valuable.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

To one and one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) pounds of bichromate of potash and one (1) pound of caustic soda I add one (1) gallon of water. After the bichromate of potash and caustic soda are dissolved in the water, I agitate one (1) gallon of the solution in twenty (20) gallons of the oil to be bleached, or in that proportion for any quantity—namely, five (5) per cent. of the above solution. After the oil is well agitated

with the solution, I add forty (40) fluid ounces of sulphuric acid and agitate again. The oil then separates and rises to the top, and on being drawn off and washed with water and steam is ready for use.

I do not confine myself to the exact proportions of the ingredients specified, as they may be varied somewhat in accordance with the quality of the oils and fats to be bleached.

I am aware that fatty oils and fats have been bleached by bichromate of potash and sulphuric acid, followed by soda-washing; but such is not my method, and is therefore not claimed by me.

I claim as my invention—

The process of removing coloring-matter from fats and fatty oils, consisting, first, in agitating the oil in a solution of bichromate of potash and caustic soda, and then adding sulphuric acid thereto, and again agitating the oil therewith, and subsequently drawing off the oil, and, finally, washing it with water or steam, or both, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto sign my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH DAVIS.

Witnesses:

JOHN URIAN,
WM. G. CARROLL.