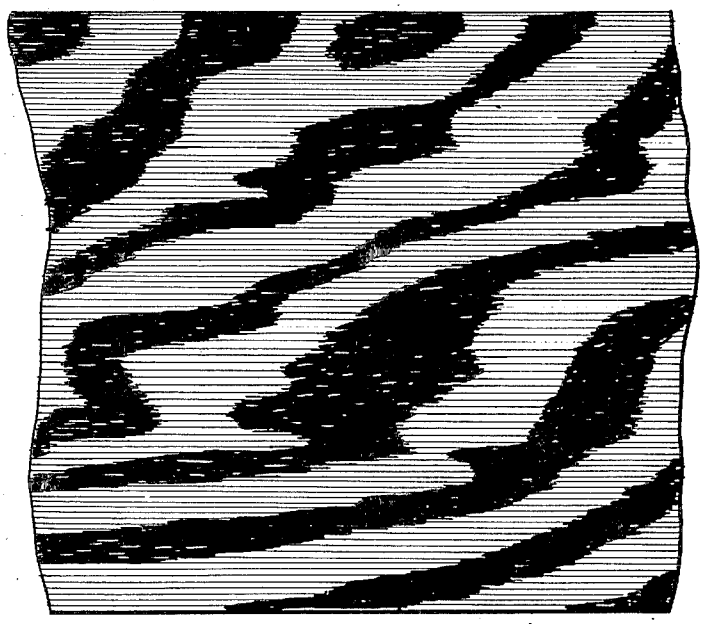
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J. SHULER

PROCESS OF TREATING WOOD

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Inventor

John Shuler

Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN SHULER, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

PROCESS OF TREATING WOOD.

Application filed July 23, 1925. Serial No. 45,698.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SHULER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Processes of Treating Wood, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a process of treating wood to enhance the appearance thereof.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a process wherein the natural grain of the wood will be prominently brought out in order that the surface of the wood will be beautified in order that such wood can be used in places or on articles wherein pronounced decorative effects are desired.

A further object of the invention is to provide a process wherein wood which heretofore could not be used satisfactorily for decorative purposes can be utilized.

The accompanying drawing illustrates one of the numerous effects.

I am aware that wood has been subjected to heat and then rubbed, but this process has been used successfully, as far as I am aware on cypress, the natural characteristics of such wood aiding the process.

My process is such that woods of various kinds can be used, such for instance as pine, gum, fir and oak, as well as cypress.

In carrying out my process I use a solution of fifty parts water, forty-five parts muriatic acid and five parts saltpeter which is applied to the surface to be treated. However, I wish it to be understood that the proportions of ingredients of the solution can be varied in some instances, but I have found from actual practice that the proportions as above give perfect results are attained.

In practising my process I take a piece of wood of the desired kind and coat the same with the solution, then apply the flame of a blow torch to the coated surface a sufficient time to char the grain or "highlight" as it is sometimes termed in the wood finishing trade. The heat can be applied immediately after coating or some little time thereafter, as desired. After the burning or charring operation steel wool is preferably used to remove the charred surface of the soft portions of the wood and some of the charred surface of the grain or "highlights." The softer portions of the wood will naturally absorb more of the solution than the grain or harder "highlights," consequently the heat resisting properties of the solution will permit the heat to sufficiently char the surface of the grain or so called "highlights" before the softer portions can become charred as much as the harder grain. Thus it will be seen that after the application of heat the steel wool when rubbed across the surface will remove all of the charred surface of the soft portions and most of the charred surface of the harder grain, but not enough to destroy the blackened effect thereof, the softer portions retaining their natural color. In this manner the grain or "highlights" are left in relief and consequently producing an extremely decorative effect. Since the softer portions of the wood are more porous than the harder grain it will be obvious that such portions will absorb more of the solution than the remaining portions of the wood, thereby preventing charring of the softer portions to as great an extent as the harder grain or "highlights." Therefore the rubbing operation will remove all of the charred surfaces of the softer portions leaving them in their natural color.

After the rubbing operation the surface can be waxed, tinted or treated in any suitable manner to obtain the desired result or finish, the wood so treated being admirably adapted, whether solid or veneer for making cabinets, wall panels, furniture or in fact for any purpose wherein it is desired to beautify the wood by distinctly displaying the natural grain or pattern thereof.

What is claimed is:—

1. A process of treating wood which consists in coating the surface thereof with a solution which protects the softer portions thereof against charring to a greater degree than the harder portions, then applying heat to the coated surface which chars the harder portions to a greater extent than the softer portions, then rubbing the surface to remove the charred surface of the softer portions and leaving the harder portions charred.

2. A process of treating wood which consists in coating the surface thereof with a solution of water, muriatic acid and saltpeter, which solution is absorbed to a greater degree by the softer portions of the wood than by the harder portions thereof to resist heat to a greater degree than the harder portions, then applying heat to the coated surface to char the same, then rubbing the

surface to remove the charred surface of the softer portions and a portion of the charred surface of the harder portions.

3. The herein described process of treating wood which consists in coating the surface thereof with a solution of water, muriatic acid and saltpeter to fire proof the soft grain to a greater degree than the hard grain, then apply heat to the surface to char both grains, then rubbing the surface to remove the charred surface of the soft grain to expose the natural color of the wood and leaving the hard grain charred.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN SHULER.