No. 691,214. Patented Jan. 14, 1902.

H. C. WEBB.

INLAYING OF WOOD.

(Application filed May 27, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

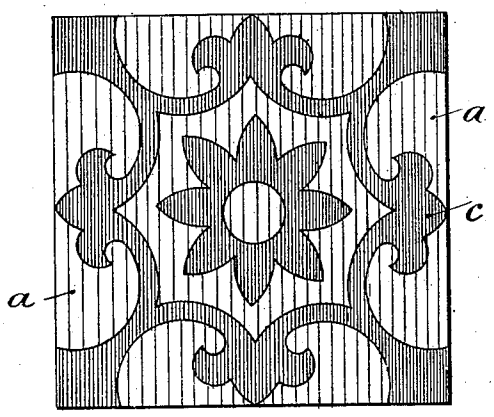


Fig. 2.

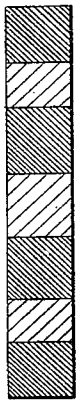
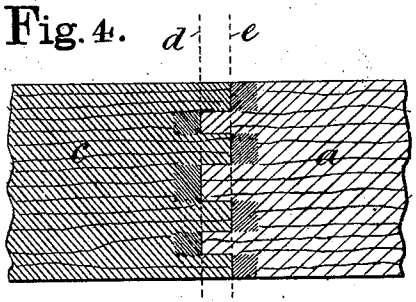


Fig. 4.



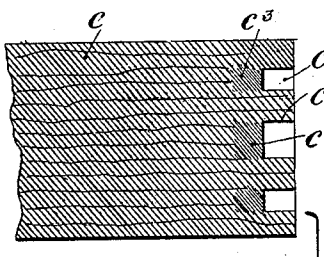


Fig. 3.

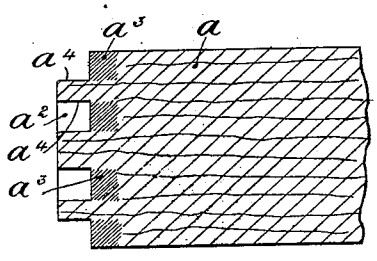
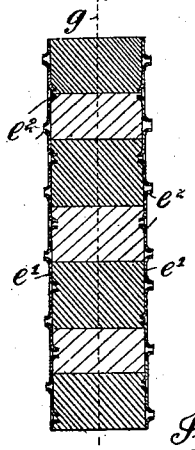


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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HENRY CHALK WEBB, OF SMETHWICK, ENGLAND.

INLAYING OF WOOD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 691,214, dated January 14, 1902.

Application filed May 27, 1901. Serial No. 62,104. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY CHALK WEBB, builder, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at 22 Clifford road, Bearwood, Smethwick, in the county of Stafford, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Inlaying of Wood, Particularly Tiles and Slabs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention deals with the inlaying of one wood into another for decorative and other purposes, and has for its object an inexpensive production of an effective all-through inlaid wood tile or slab.

A tile or slab according to my invention is formed by compressing two pieces of suitable wood by the aid of dies endwise of the wood's grain, so as to form them with registering parts in relief and in intaglio, which said parts are laid, placed, or forced the one within or over the other and cut from the wood pieces, the resultant tile or slab having as its essential features an all-through inlay, an absence of any of the compressed or crushed wood formed consequent upon the formation of the registering parts, and the contact sides or surfaces of the said registering parts parallel throughout the whole of the design.

An all-through inlaid tile so formed is shown in the annexed sheet of drawings in Figs. 1 and 2 and its production is illustrated by Figs. 3 and 4, the last two views, however, on a smaller scale than Figs. 1 and 2.

With reference to these figures, which show the production of a simple design of tile, it is assumed, for illustration, that the woods inlaid are canary and walnut, the first named being represented by the light-tinted wood *a* and the last named by the dark-tinted wood *c*. A log or bar of the wood *a* and also a log or bar of the wood *c*, Fig. 3, are subjected endwise of the grain to the pressure of dies to form the design illustrated in Fig. 1 in relief and in intaglio upon their respective ends a^2 c^2, such dies penetrating to the full thickness of the tile to be produced and compressing or crushing back parts of the wood in the manner represented by the denser section-linings a^3 c^3 in Figs. 3 and 4. The design so formed in relief and in intaglio registers exactly, the one being the counterpart of the other, with the sides or faces a^4 c^4 of the sinkings and protuberances parallel. These two pieces of wood *a* and *c* are now put or forced together, so that the relief and intaglio parts of them engage, as represented in Fig. 4, after which, by suitable saws working on the dotted lines *d* and *e*, Fig. 4, is cut from the said two wood pieces the all-through inlaid tile, as represented in the section, Fig. 2, the important feature of such tile being that in cutting it from the two pieces of wood, as defined with reference to Fig. 4, the whole of the compressed or crushed wood is got rid of—that is to say, out of the tile, this latter being one of the characteristics in the tile's construction which makes it suitable for general decorative and useful purposes, particularly in cases where it comes in contact with water or is laid in a moist atmosphere, it being understood that if it contained any compressed or crushed wood changes of temperature would materially distort it. Tiles so formed can have the inlay of any design or pattern so long as such pattern or design is at all workable in metal from which the dies are preferably made, the same in some instances being a part of a continuous design giving broad effects and which is spread over several tiles. Further, the inlay can be of any color and may be either of natural-colored wood or stained wood, this only depending upon the effects desired.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings an all-through inlaid tile, constructed as before defined, but thicker than the one in Fig. 2, is provided upon its faces with metal plates or grids e' e', having hollow protuberances e^2 e^2. These plates or grids serve to lock the registering parts *a c* of the tile together and to form keys to the cement or other plastic substance upon which tiles are usually bedded, the said protuberances being hollow and smashed into the wood on the one side and standing out free on the other side. The tile, Fig. 5, is intended to be saw-cut on the line *g* to form two tiles, the cut surfaces in each case forming the faces, which may be subsequently polished.

Tiles constructed according to the foregoing are suitable for all interior decorative work and can be placed side by side to form panelings of every description, floors, ceilings, wainscotings, dadoes, furniture, stair-treads, table-tops, &c.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, an all-through inlaid wood tile or slab produced from two pieces of wood by compressing such woods endwise of the grain so as to form them respectively with registering parts in relief and in intaglio, such parts having parallel sides or surfaces and being subsequently laid the one within the other and cut from the wood pieces so that the resultant tile or slab produced by them does not contain any of the compressed or crushed parts of the woods resulting from the formation of the said registering parts, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with an all-through inlaid wood tile produced by compressing woods endwise of the grain as described, of a metal or similar attachment plate or grid connected to the side or face of the tile for forming a lock to the registering parts when they engage, and a key to the cement or other plastic substance upon which the tile is bedded.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY CHALK WEBB.

Witnesses:
A. F. BIDDLE,
ALBERT NEWEY.