

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JUSTUS G. POTTER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

METHOD OF MAKING IMITATION GOLD-LEAF.

1,023,960.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 23, 1912.

No Drawing.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JUSTUS G. POTTER, a citizen of the United States, and residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Method of Making Imitation Gold-Leaf, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to the manufacture of a composition for making imitation gold leaf for use in the making of signs, in decorating books and for various other purposes and it consists of a new and useful process for producing imitation gold leaf which resembles in all respects the genuine article, but which is much more durable and much tougher and which may be used for many of the purposes for which genuine gold leaf is employed.

In the practice of my invention I provide a solution of gold bronze, alloy of gold and carlo stripping collodion; said solution being formed by taking approximately eight ounces of the gold bronze and two and two-third ounces of the alloy of gold, said articles being in the powdered form, and these articles are thoroughly mingled in any suitable vessel or receptacle, after which a sufficient amount of the carlo stripping collodion is stirred into the product thus formed to form a watery liquid. The carlo stripping collodion above referred to consists of guncotton, one part; shellac one fourth part; glue one fourth part; ether, three parts and alcohol four parts, and the solution which I employ therefor consists of approximately eight ounces of gold bronze, and 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces of alloy of gold, said articles being in powdered form and combined as above described, after which the guncotton, shellac, glue, ether and alcohol product is stirred thereinto to form a watery liquid. I then take a sheet of tin and place it on the liquid thus produced and in this operation a thin coating of the liquid adheres to the sheet of tin, and said sheet of tin is then removed from the liquid and the said coating is allowed to dry thereon, either in a natural temperature or in an artificial temperature of preferably not over one hundred degrees. After the liquid coating has dried on the

sheet of tin, it may be removed therefrom, or peeled off of the sheet of tin in the form of a thin sheet or leaf resembling in all respects ordinary gold leaf. The imitation gold leaf, thus produced, is tougher than the genuine article and much more durable and may be used for many of the purposes for which genuine gold leaf is employed, such as making signs, decorating books, placing the names or titles on books and gilding the edges of the leaves of books.

When produced, as above described, my imitation gold leaf is not quite so bright in color as the genuine gold leaf but the difference in this respect is very slight; and a different color may be given to the product by changing the alloy or substituting another alloy for the alloy of gold specified, as for instance, if a silver colored leaf is desired an alloy of silver is substituted for the alloy of gold.

Instead of placing the sheet of tin on the liquid as above described and thus producing one leaf of the required product, the sheet of tin may be immersed in the liquid so that said liquid may adhere to both sides thereof and after said sheet of tin has been removed from the liquid and the liquid coating allowed to dry on the opposite sides thereof, said coating may be removed from both sides of said sheet of tin as will be readily understood.

Although my imitation gold leaf is not quite so bright in color as the genuine gold leaf, it is of a brighter color than, and more durable than any other artificial gold leaf made as far as I know.

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

1. A composition for imitation gold leaf consisting of guncotton, one part; shellac one fourth part; glue one fourth part; ether three parts; and alcohol four parts combined with eight ounces of gold bronze and 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces of alloy of gold.

2. A method for making a composition for use in making an imitation gold leaf which consists of forming a carlo stripping collodion comprising guncotton, one part, shellac one fourth part; glue one fourth part; ether three parts, and alcohol four parts, and combining therewith 8 ounces of

gold bronze and 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces of alloy of gold, the gold bronze and alloy of gold being in powdered form and stirred into the guncotton, shellac, glue and ether and alcohol to form a watery liquid.

5 In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in

presence of the subscribing witnesses this 5th day of October 1910.

JUSTUS G. POTTER.

Witnesses:

C. E. MULREANY,
B. M. RYERSON.