J. H. French,

School Slate.

No. 60,356. Patented Dec. 11, 1866.

Fig. 1.

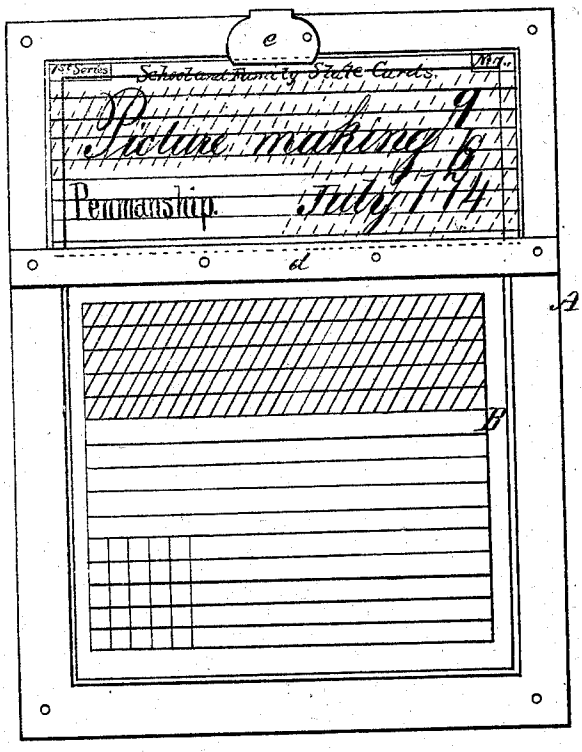
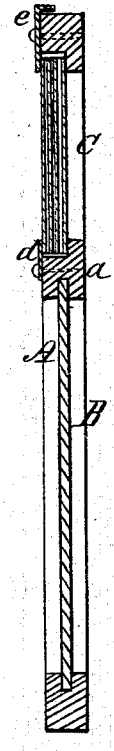


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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AM. PHOTO-LITHO. CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS.)

United States Patent Office.

SCHOOL AND FAMILY SLATE.

JOHN H. FRENCH, OF GEDDES, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 60,356, *dated December* 11, 1866.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. FRENCH, of Geddes, in the county of Onondaga, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved School and Family Slate; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a face view of this invention.

Figure 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention relates to a slate, the frame of which is made in two compartments, one of which contains a slate, while the other is so constructed as to admit of the insertion of any convenient number of cards of pasteboard, paper, or other material, upon which are printed, drawn, painted, or photographed lessons or copies for writing, printing, marking, or drawing, and exercises in arithmetic, either any, or all combined in such a manner that the pupil is enabled to copy the lessons upon the slate in the other part of the frame below, and that he has a great variety of exercises always in convenient reach. The operation of copying the lessons is materially facilitated by horizontal, perpendicular, or slope lines permanently pressed, drawn, marked, stamped, printed, ruled, or cut upon a part or the whole of one or both surfaces of the slate as guide lines, whereby the pupil is enabled to make his letters, figures, and drawings of the proper proportionate heights, widths, and slope.

A represents a frame, made of wood or any other suitable material, and of any convenient size. This frame is divided in two compartments, B C, one of which is intended to receive the cards containing the lessons, and the other the slate.

Said slate may be made of natural slate, or of any other material used for slates. Upon a part or the whole of one or both surfaces of this slate, I produce horizontal, oblique, and perpendicular lines, as follows: The horizontal lines are parallel and equi-distant, and of the proper distance apart to give good proportions to the short, stem, loop and capital letters and figures in printing and writing. The slope or oblique lines cross some of the horizontal lines, at any angle preferred, to correspond to the slope of the writing to be taught, and of the proper distance apart to give good proportions to the width of the letters. The perpendicular lines are parallel and equi-distant, and are designed as guides to the pupil in properly spacing his printed letters and figures in width, and in proportioning his drawings. The compartment B of the frame which contains the slate is separated from the compartment C by a cross-piece, *a*, which is grooved on one side to receive the slate, while its other side is partially cut away, rendering the same similar to that part of a window-sash into which the glass is put before it is fastened with putty. Into this compartment I put the cards res containing the lessons, to the number of twenty, thirty, fifty, more or less, according to the thickness of the cards and the depth of the compartment C. These cards are printed upon both sides, upon one side being copies of letters, words, and figures for writing and printing with, the space lines upon some of them, corresponding to the spacing on the slate in the lower compartment, and upon the other side drawing lessons and exercises in arithmetic. To keep the cards securely in their places in the frame, I attach a cross-piece, *d*, of wood or metal to the cross-piece projecting above its upper end, thus forming a groove on the lower part of the upper compartment, and also attach one or more buttons, *e*, or other suitable fastenings, made of brass or other suitable material, to the upper side or to the ends, or both, of the upper compartments in such a manner that the same can be readily turned out of the way when I wish to remove or change the cards. The cards having drawing lessons and exercises in arithmetic upon one side, and writing and printing lessons and figures on the other, if kept with the drawing lessons all facing one way, will always, when in the frame, present writing and printing lessons on one side of the slate, and drawing and arithmetic lessons on the opposite side. One side of the slate, left plain, is in no respect different from a common slate, and can be used for all the purposes for which the ordinary slate is used. To one side of a piece of board, or other suitable material, of the same size as one of the cards, I attach, by gluing, pasting, or otherwise, printed directions for the use of the slate and

cards, and the other side I cover with a piece of sand-paper, or emery paper, to be used as a pencil sharpener; said card thus formed being one of the series of cards connected with the use of the slate.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The frame A, made with two compartments, one of which contains a slate, while the other is so constructed as to admit of the insertion of any convenient number of cards of pasteboard or other material, containing lessons or copies for writing, printing, marking, or drawing, and exercises in arithmetic, either any or all combined, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The arrangement in one or both surfaces of a slate of permanent perpendicular and slope lines in combination with the ordinary horizontal lines, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN H. FRENCH.

Witnesses:

SIMEON SPAULDING,

WILLIAM HART.