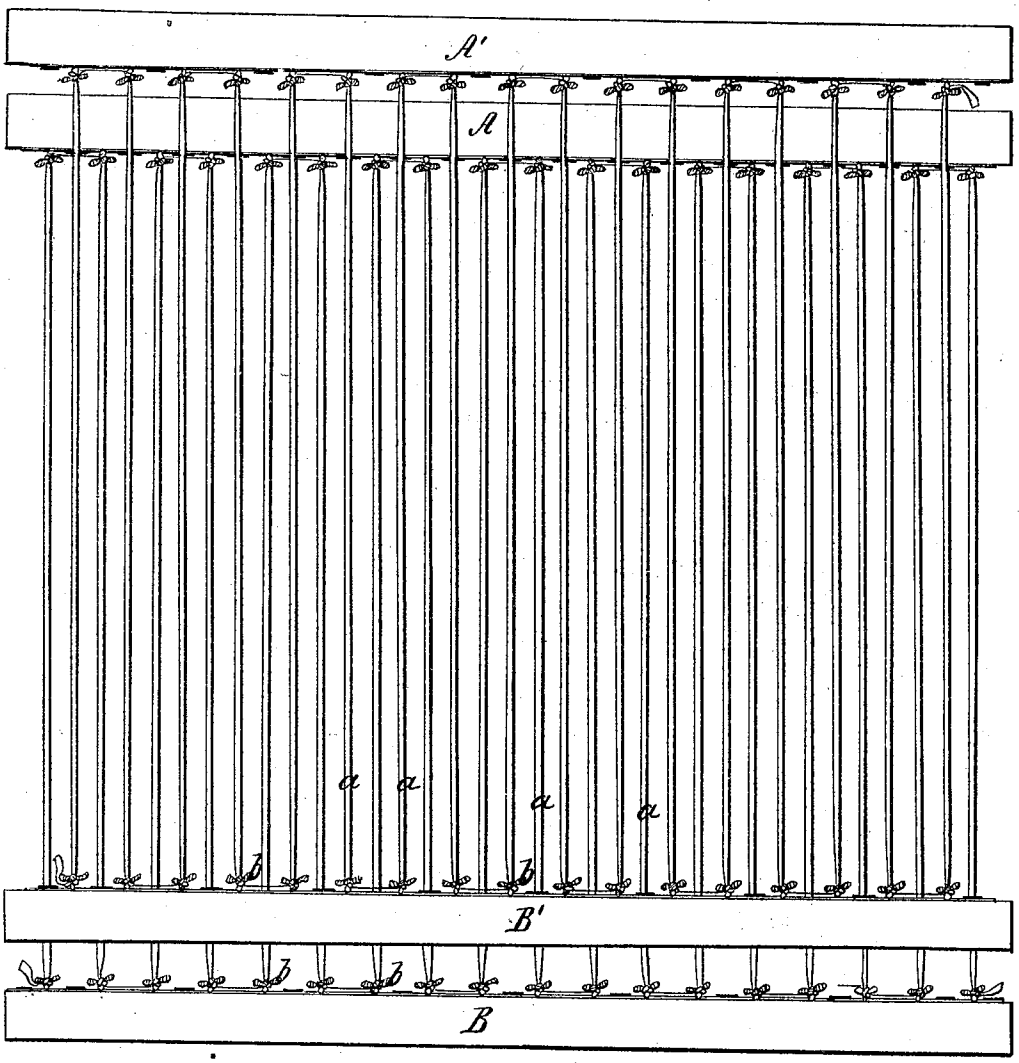
W. Tanner,

Theatrical Scenery.

No. 68467. Patented Sep. 3 1867.



Witnesses;
Edward P. Flint.
Peter D. R. Emery

Inventor;
William Tanner By
his Atty Alfred Boardman

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

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM TANNER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 68,467, *dated September* 3, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN THEATRICAL SCENERY.

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, WILLIAM TANNER, of the city and county of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Theatrical Scenery, and which I have styled a Golden Shower or Prismatic Torrent; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, in which is shown one of the applications of my improvement.

This invention relates more especially to that variety of scenery intended to represent the various phases of falling or moving water, such as rain, conic fountains, water-falls, and the like, the drawing being intended to show the invention when applied to illustrate a rain scene.

The substantial parts of my invention consist of a roller, A, and a flat batten or strip of board, B, both of which, I provide with loops or holes, the one on the edge, and the other on the surface in the direction of its axis. Through these loops or holes, I place a thin and narrow strip of silver-plated metal, having a polished or lustrous surface, as shown by *a a*, and tie the strip at each loop or hole, as I have shown by *b b*, in the drawing, thus dividing the strip in sections, and maintaining the general effect and union of the scene in case one of the sections breaks.

By these means the falling rain scene may be secured in all its completeness, by arranging on the stage, in a properly-adjusted light, a series of these scene sections, one behind the other, as shown by A′ A and B′ B, and by then slightly moving either the roller or the batten, so as to secure a quivering vibration of the strands or strips of polished metal, by which the light is made to gleam and dance like rain in the sunlight, the effect being similar to that of a series of prisms under the influence of light and motion.

The strands *a a* need not necessarily be of plated silver, but may be made of any thin sheet metal, or material with a surface sufficiently lustrous and brilliant to give the desired effect under the influence of light.

It will be readily seen that these strands may be arranged so as to produce a variety of water scenes, such as waterfalls, fountains, and the like. I do not, therefore, intend to confine my claim to arrangement of the scene represented in the drawing, but what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The manufacture of theatrical water scenes, by arranging strips of thin, polished or lustrous metal in respect to each other, substantially as described, upon the stage of a theatre, and in the light thereof, as set forth.

WILLIAM TANNER.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. ROONEY,

JOHN ROONEY.