No. 884,998. PATENTED APR. 14, 1908.

R. W. BOOTH.

ORNAMENTAL ARTICLE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 6, 1907.

Fig. 1.

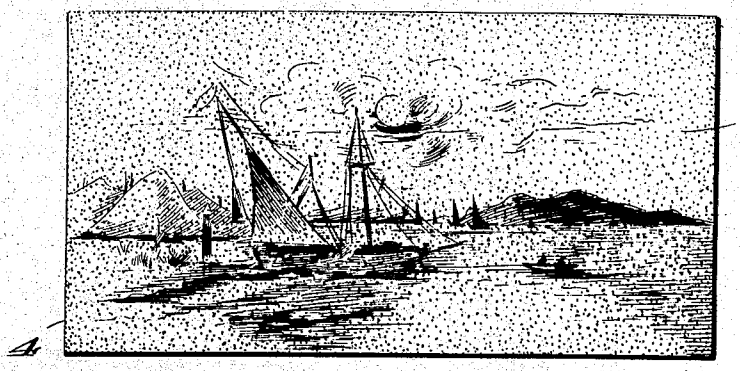
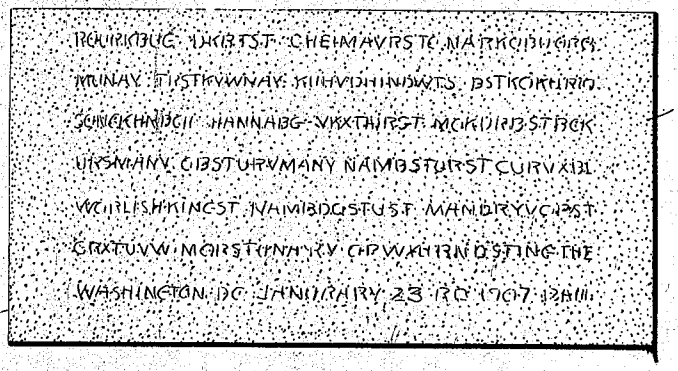



Fig. 2.




Fig. 3.




WITNESSES:

R. C. Braddock.

INVENTOR

Ralph W. Booth

BY

William W. Deane

his ATTORNEY

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH W. BOOTH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO RALPH W. BOOTH, JR., OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## ORNAMENTAL ARTICLE.

No. 884,998. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 14, 1908.

Application filed May 6, 1907. Serial No. 372,252.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RALPH W. BOOTH, citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ornamental Articles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the fine arts; and it seeks to provide a simple, easily produced and inexpensive article of manufacture adapted to be used for ornamental purposes and also adapted to serve the two fold function of a match scratcher and ornamental advertising medium susceptible of use on or as part of calendars, maps and the like.

The invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when the same are considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my novel article of manufacture. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1, illustrative of a modification hereinafter referred to in detail.

Referring by numeral to the said drawings, and more particularly to Figs. 1 and 2 thereof: 1 is the base of my novel article which is preferably of glass, as shown, though it may be of metal, wood, cardboard, textile fabric or other material suitable to the purpose of my invention, without involving departure from the scope thereof. On its face the said base 1 bears a picture 2 which may partly or wholly cover the said face, in the discretion of the manufacturer.

3 is a layer of binding material which is preferably extended over the entire face of the base 1, though it may when desired correspond in area to the picture 2 when the latter does not extend entirely over the face of the base. The said layer of binding material is transparent in order to assure advantageous display of the picture 2 therethrough; and it is preferably composed of animal and fish glue mixed with acetic acid or vinegar or any other solvent suitable to the purpose.

After the layer of binding material 3 is applied to the face of the base 1 over picture 2, and before said binding material sets or hardens, a mixture 4 of comminuted bronze and transparent sand is applied to the face of the layer 3; and consequently it will be apparent that when the layer 3 hardens or becomes set it will securely hold the commingled bronze and transparent sand and effect secure connection of the same to the base 1. It will also be apparent that in addition to enhancing the ornamental appearance of the article and displaying the picture 2 to advantage, the mixture 4 constitutes an efficient match-scratcher—*i. e.*, a surface on which matches may be easily and expeditiously ignited as will be manifest, the comminuted bronze will illuminate and in that way greatly increase the attractiveness of the foremost layer of the article.

The sand I prefer to employ in the layer or mixture 4 is washed sea sand which, as is well known, is transparent, and in order to avoid robbing said sand of its transparency incident to the mixing of the sand and bronze I effect the mixing in a non-metallic vessel having a celluloid or other non-metallic top; metal being objectionable for the purpose inasmuch as it would be likely to discolor the sand and render the same non-transparent.

When the base 1 is of transparent glass, the picture or other matter to be displayed may be embedded in the glass or arranged at the back thereof, without involving departure from the scope of my invention as claimed.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that when the base 1 bears a picture, ornamental figure or other matter to be displayed, my novel article of manufacture constitutes an ornamental device adapted to embellish either the interior or the exterior of a building; and it will also be appreciated that my improvements may be used on a map, calendar or the like to enhance the finished appearance thereof and to serve as a match scratcher; also, that when desired the improvements may be made to serve the additional function of an advertising medium in which event lettering or printed matter will be provided upon the face of the base 1 in lieu of the picture before described, as indicated by $2^a$ in Fig. 3. When the improvements are used upon a map, calendar or analogous device, as stated, the base of the improved article will of course be formed by the cardboard or textile body of the map or calendar.

When the improved article is used on the lower portion of a wall map, the face of the base may, for instance, be provided with the direction "Scratch your matches here", this with a view of lessening the liability of persons using the wall for match-scratching purposes.

I prefer to provide the face of the base 1 with a picture, an ornamental figure, or an advertising or other inscription with a view of adding to the utility of the article, but I do not desire to be understood as confining myself to the same since without the provision of a picture, ornamental figure or other matter on the face of the base 1, the article is calculated to enhance the appearance of any device in or on which it is employed, and is also adapted to serve as an efficient match-scratcher.

It will further be noted from the foregoing that all of the materials entering into my novel article are cheap and easily procurable, and that the facility with which the article may be made contributes materially to its inexpensiveness.

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

1. An article of manufacture for the purpose described, comprising a base bearing on its face a picture, advertising matter, directions, or other matter to be displayed, a layer of transparent binding material arranged on the face of the base and over the matter thereon, and a layer of commingled bronze and transparent sand arranged on and held by the layer of binding material.

2. An article of manufacture for the purpose described, comprising a base of glass bearing a picture, advertising matter, directions, or other matter to be displayed, a layer of transparent binding material arranged on the face of the base, and a layer of commingled bronze and transparent sand arranged on and held by the layer of binding material.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RALPH W. BOOTH.

Witnesses:
R. C. BRADDOCK,
WM. A. CROMWELL.