UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE MUNGER, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

WRITING-TABLET.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **25,576**, dated September 27, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE MUNGER, of the city and county of New Haven, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful article of manufacture—to wit, an argillaceous-surfaced wood writing-slate; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

The nature of my invention consists in a new article of manufacture—to wit, an argillaceous-surfaced wood writing-slate—which is formed by uniting several layers of veneering or thin wood together, so that their grains run antagonistically to each other, and then coating the exterior surface of the compact mass with a composition of slate, emery, or other similar argillaceous material. Thus constructing artificial slates enables me to furnish the market with a cheap article which cannot be broken by a fall, and which will present as good a surface for marking upon as the most finished solid argillaceous article, as it is not liable to crack or warp by expansion and contraction, the antagonistic run of the grains of the several layers effectually preventing the same.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

Two or more thin layers of wood are attached to each other superficially, by glue or other adhesive substance, so as to form a single compact plate composed of several distinct layers. These layers are to be adjusted in such a manner that the grain or fiber of the wood shall not be parallel in either of the adjacent plates. The object of this disposition is that the contraction or expansion of each of the layers may reciprocally counteract that of the others by being in an opposite direction, and thus the plane surfaces of the combined plate may be preserved free from cracks or warps. The compact plate thus constructed is covered with a composition of slate, emery, or other materials put on in a liquid state, and which, when dry and hardened, shall form a surface on which marks can be made by a slate or soapstone pencil, as on an ordinary slate.

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

A new article of manufacture—to wit, an argillaceous-surfaced wood writing-slate which is formed by uniting several layers of veneering or thin wood together, so that their grains run antagonistic to one another, and then coating the exterior surfaces of the compact mass with a composition of slate, emery, or other similar argillaceous material, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

GEORGE MUNGER.

Witnesses:
JOHN C. HOLLISTER,
D. BOTSFORD.