H. SEGALL.

SYMBOL OR LETTER.

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1,259,787. Patented Mar. 19, 1918.



Fig. 1.

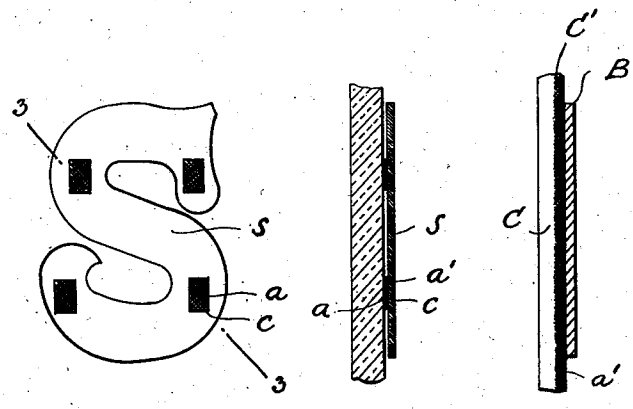


Fig. 2. Fig. 3. Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

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HENRY SEGALL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SYMBOL OR LETTER.

1,259,787. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Mar. 19, 1918.**

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY SEGALL, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Symbols or Letters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to signs and symbols such as letters and other symbols and it consists in a symbol or letter combined with an adhesive of the character hereinafter described, whereby the symbol may be readily attached to any material, in any location, without tools, other than the hands, will maintain its position in the desired location and yet may be detached without tools, without injury to the symbol or to the material from which it is detached, and is then ready for subsequent attachment in the same or a new locality.

Signs have been heretofore made of individual letters, attached to a backing, such for instance as a bulletin board, by cutting the letters out of paper and gumming them to the board and letting them dry in place, but such letters cannot be removed without moistening them so as to reduce the cohesive strength of the adhesive and when that is done the letter is almost certain to be injured. Indeed the usual course is to throw the letters away when they are removed from the board.

In other instances, metal letters are cemented to a backing of some kind, say a window, but in such cases the cement sets and then it is impossible to remove them without using a tool for the purpose and almost impossible to remove them with the tool without injury to the letter or to the backing. At the same time it is often desirable to place a letter or a symbol in one location, temporarily, and to remove it shortly afterward and also to place letters and symbols more permanently, say on the window of a store which is leased for but one year, though the occupant does not wish to incur the expense of having the sign or symbol painted in the said location, or it may be that he has a set of valuable letters which he does not desire to permanently attach to the freehold of which he is not the owner.

To meet the want thus expressed, I have devised a letter or symbol which may be easily applied without tools, will remain in position as long as desired, but may also be removed without tools, without marring the letter or symbol or the backing or support and which when removed, remains adapted for use in the former location or in a new location, at the pleasure of the owner.

Thus with a few alphabets or a few sets of symbols, one may be ready to place any sign involving a combination of units selected from those sets, and, having used them, to return them to the sets so that they may be used over in the same or in new combinations without the necessity of purchasing a new sign for each new use.

Figure 1, is a face view of a window bearing a sign composed of letters embodying my invention.

Fig. 2, is a reverse view of one of said letters.

Fig. 3, is a vertical sectional view of the letter of Fig. 2, taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2, showing its support also.

Fig. 4, is a sectional view of a material I find particularly useful in manufacturing my symbols, attached to a support.

In making the symbols, or letters, of my invention, I usually cut the form out of sheet celluloid or some other suitable substance, then, on some portion of the symbol, I place an adhesive of a particular character. It is one which adheres to the symbol and will adhere to most other substances with sufficient tenacity to hold the symbol in place, but at the same time does not harden so as to prevent the ready removal by pressure, and does not dry so quickly as to be useless for future applications, and for that purpose I prefer to use one composed of caoutchouc, lead oleate and petrolatum, but I do not limit myself to that combination, since any adhesive which has features of easy application, removal by pressure such as of the hand after some time, and permanence in its adhesive character without the addition of fresh material, and which is, in short, continuously sticky, will accomplish the desired result and be within the lines of my invention. I use the term "continuously sticky" to indicate the character of the adhesive which I use. It is different from one which would stick fast when freshly prepared, but would soon become inert or dry so as not to adhere to a newly presented object. My symbol is provided with an adhesive ready to attach itself to an object and, if removed from it by superior force, ready to reattach itself to the object or to attach

itself to another object without being remoistened or reprepared in any particular and remains thus ready for an indefinite period.

In course of construction, I prefer, in general, to apply the adhesive *a*, *a'*, to both sides of a strip of textile material *c*, then apply the fabric thus rendered doubly adhesive, to the symbol *s*. That face of the prepared strip *c*, which is to be applied to the symbol, need not be covered with the same quality of adhesive matter as the other face. I sometimes make the adhesive which is applied to that side of the fabric which is to be in contact with the symbol, more tenacious than on the other side, or so compounded that it would resist removal of the fabric from the symbol so strongly as to require more than a hand pull to remove it, provided that the adhesive on the opposite face (what I may term the outer face—the one to be applied to the support B) is of the desired character and possessed of the qualities of adhesiveness to a degree sufficient to support the symbol, yielding under pressure such as the hand may furnish, and permanence in retaining its adhesiveness to a degree which will cause it to adhere to a backing or support when applied with hand pressure. At the same time this outer face adhesive should not be so liquidly sticky as to be objectionable to handle.

As above noted, I find celluloid a very suitable substance from which to form many of the symbols which I use, but to render it particularly adapted to my use I have devised a new variety, that is a celluloid sheet with a fabric back, the fabric and the celluloid being so combined as to be practically one thing. This variety is formed by spreading the celluloid upon a textile fabric (or vice versa) during manufacture, then uniting them by pressure and heat, the result being an article—say a sheet of textile-faced celluloid, the fabric being so sunk into and held to the celluloid that it seems to become a part of the material itself. A section of such a structure secured to a backing is shown at Fig. 4, the celluloid being lettered C, the fabric *c'*, the adhesive on the outer face of the fabric *a*, and the backing or support B. When symbols are cut from such a sheet C *c'*, no additional strip *c* will be needed. The fabric *c'* already united with the celluloid will furnish a sufficient holding for the adhesive *a*, without the interposition of other material. My particular adhesive can be applied to the outer face of *c'* so as to hold it to the support B.

I do not limit myself to the placing of the fabric between the symbol and the support, though I prefer that location, but any location which will result in the holding of the letter to the support by means of the particular variety of adhesive described, whether by means of interposed fabric or some other arrangement, comes within the purview of my invention.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a symbol combined with a continuously sticky adhesive of a tenacity sufficient to support the weight of the symbol, but at the same time removable by hand pressure.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a symbol combined with a piece of textile fabric, some exposed portion of the face of which is provided with a continuously sticky adhesive of a tenacity sufficient to support the weight of the symbol, but at the same time removable by hand pressure.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a symbol combined with an adhesive carrying material having an adhesive upon the face adjacent to the symbol and a continuously sticky adhesive of a tenacity sufficient to support the weight of the symbol, but at the same time removable by hand pressure, upon the part adapted to be imposed upon a support.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a symbol combined with an adhesive carrying material, having a continuously sticky adhesive upon the part adapted to be imposed upon a support and an adhesive of greater tenacity upon the face adjacent to the symbol.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 13th day of November, 1914.

HENRY SEGALL.

Witnesses:
Jos. Wrickly,
A. G. N. Vermilya.