

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

R. A. ADAMS, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN STENCILS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 22,272, dated December 14, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT A. ADAMS, of the city and county of St. Louis, and State of Missouri, have invented a new and Improved Method of Graining in Oil; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of my said invention as prepared and applied by me.

My invention consists in the preparation of a "stencil" in a given way for a given purpose, and as the said preparation consists in the application of certain well-known chemical simples to the stencil the case cannot be illustrated by a drawing; but the following description will enable any one skilled in the arts to make and use my invention without further reference.

The body of the stencil is of paper, or it may be made of any known substitute, which is first soaked in shellac and oil, the proportions of which must be regulated by the amount of stiffening required in the stencil. After the stencil-blank has been thus soaked in shellac and oil the back of it is coated with glue, to which a coating of sand or emery is applied, after which it is allowed to dry, which completes the stencil-blank.

Now, let it be desired to imitate the grain of oak. The blank stencil after having been prepared as above described, is cut into figures to correspond with the grain of a piece of oak wood, after which it is oiled on both sides, which fits it for use. Now let the "ground" of the work be prepared and the coloring laid on in the ordinary way. The stencil is then laid against the work thus prepared, with the sanded side next the paint. Then with a cloth the color is rubbed out through the openings in the stencil which form the figures, which completes the operation.

Stencils have been used to grain with before, but never in oil, which is entirely different from graining in water-colors. An ordinary stencil laid against a piece of fresh oil painting would cause it to "run" and blur the work, so as to spoil it; but by preparing the stencil in the manner described, and by applying the sand or emery to the back of it, the surface of the stencil is prevented from coming into absolute contact with the face of the "work," and consequently prevents the work from being "blurred" or in any way soiled, but leaves the figures intended to represent the grain of the wood "sharp" and proper. It will thus be seen that without the application of the sand to the back of the stencil it could not be used to grain in oil; and it will also be seen that unless the stencil was prepared with the shellac, oil, and glue, or something similar, it could not be made of paper, nor, indeed, of any other manufacture, as it would not have the necessary stiffness and hardness.

The preparation of the stencil-blank, then, in the manner described, and the application of the sand or emery to the back of it, as set forth, are what constitute the essential features of my invention.

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

1. The preparation of the stencil-blank in the manner described—to wit., in oil, shellac, and glue, applied as set forth.
2. The application of the sand or emery to the back of the stencil, in the manner described, for the purpose specified.

R. A. ADAMS.

Witnesses:

AMOS BROADNAX,
CLARENCE DELAFIELD.