

B. T. HARRIS.

Improvement in Mounting for Show-Cards.

No. 126,885.

Patented May 21, 1872.



Witnesses.

John Smith

Geo. T. Prichard

Benjamin T. Harris,
by
Lemuel W. Serrell
att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN T. HARRIS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN MOUNTINGS FOR SHOW-CARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 126,885, dated May 21, 1872; antedated May 4, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN T. HARRIS, of Brooklyn in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented and made an Improvement in Mounting for Show-Cards, &c., and the following is declared to be a correct description of the same:

Show-cards are very frequently warped and twisted by the shrinkage of the paper pasted upon one side of the sheet of mill-board or straw-board, and to obviate this a second sheet of paper is frequently pasted upon the back. This mode of mounting is expensive, and the show-cards are liable to warp and twist by atmospheric changes. To remedy these difficulties, and to avoid the expense of frames for show-cards and other articles are the objects of my present invention.

I introduce between two sheets of Manila or other strong paper, a plastic composition, forming the body of the card, which composition will dry or harden. The sheets of paper on each side will prevent the composition cracking by use, and a flat, cheap body will thereby be formed for the reception of the show-card or other article; or the show-card, or the paper of the same, may form one of the sheets between which the composition is introduced.

In the drawing, a section is shown of the said mounting, the sheets of paper *a b* being on opposite sides of the plastic composition *c*.

I prefer and make use of plaster of Paris in the proportion of about one part of the former to thirty-two parts of the latter, as the material for the plastic mass; but if this alone were employed, the plaster would set and harden too rapidly, and would be very brittle. I have discovered that ground althea root mixed with plaster of Paris will prevent the same hardening rapidly, and will increase the strength thereof, and this compound may be used for other purposes when plaster of Paris is available.

I find that by applying this composition between sheets of paper as they are drawn through between rollers a uniformity of thickness will be produced, and two long webs of

paper may be employed, and the slabs cut up into the proper size, or else separate sheets may be used. These slabs or sheets should be piled upon each other, so as to be flat while drying or hardening, and additional pressure may be used to keep the parts flat. The show-card, picture, or other article is to be applied to the surface and finished in any desired manner.

In this construction the show-cards will remain flat. There is no tendency to warp and twist, even when one side only is exposed to the light. They will pack into as small a space as those mounted on mill-board, and they will not be liable to be broken, torn, or twisted like show-cards mounted on frames and stretchers. If desired, rings or hooks *d* may be applied at the back while the composition is soft, so as to embed themselves in the paper and form their own recess; thereby the show-cards will pack flat when put up for transportation. In this case the ring or hook will be held in place by a wire eye, the ends passing through the paper into the composition, as seen at *e*. It will be seen that, by placing these wires through the paper so as to attach the rings or hooks thereto before running the sheets and composition through between the rollers, the ring or hook will embed itself and form its own cavity.

I claim as my invention—

1. The mounting for show-cards and other articles made of two thicknesses of paper, with the intervening body of plastic material, substantially as set forth.

2. The rings or hooks pressed into the paper and plastic material, and forming their own recess in the mounting, as set forth.

3. The plastic composition made by mixing ground althea root with plaster of Paris, for the purposes set forth.

Signed by me this 8th day of September, A. D. 1871.

BENJ. T. HARRIS.

Witnesses:

HAROLD SERRELL,
GEO. T. PINCKNEY.