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DETACHABLE FRETWORK FOR CHINA CLOSETS AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 17, 1915.

1,199,893. Patented Oct. 3, 1916.

Fig. 1.

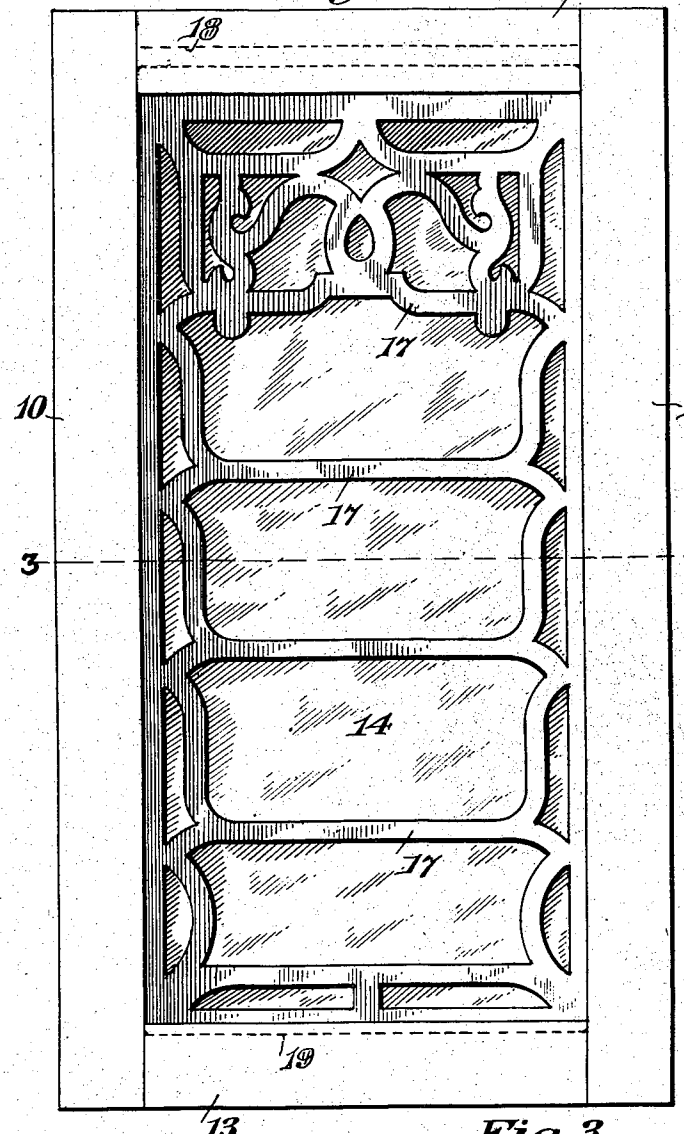


Fig. 2.

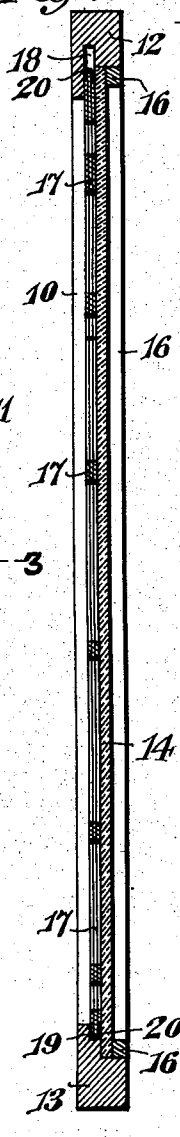


Fig. 4.

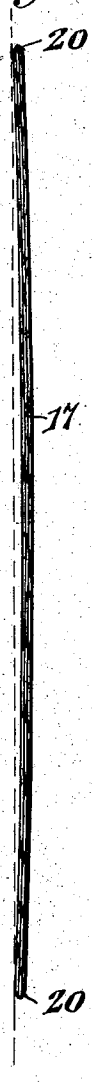
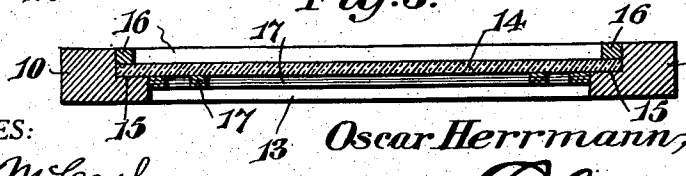


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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DETACHABLE FRETWORK FOR CHINA-CLOSETS AND THE LIKE.

1,199,893. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 3, 1916.

Application filed November 17, 1915. Serial No. 61,981.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR HERRMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Detachable Fretwork for China-Closets and the like, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to an improvement in the structure of fretwork, or ornamental work in relief, for application to panes of glass, panels, and the like, for ornamental purposes; such as in china closet design.

At the present time, fretwork is permanently secured to the base or panel, or to the frame which supports the base or panel, and such a structure is a permanent one, and forms many pockets, or inaccessible corners or crevices, into which dirt and dust lodges, and from which the dirt and dust cannot be completely removed. In china closet construction, wherein the base or panel is in the form of a pane of glass, these pockets or corners prevent the proper cleaning and polishing of the glass.

It is an object of the present invention to overcome all of the above difficulties, and at the same time to permit the use of fretwork without the unsanitary and inconvenient results usually attending the use of the fretwork, and to provide a special mounting and assemblage of the panel, the frame for supporting the panel, and the fretwork itself, wherein the latter may be easily and quickly removed from the panel and frame, and the surface of the panel be left clear and uninterrupted.

A further object of the invention is to peculiarly form the frame, which supports the pane of glass, or panel, so that the frame will detachably hold a fretwork structure close against the pane of glass to give the effect of ornamental work in relief, with respect to the glass.

In carrying out this object the invention contemplates not only the peculiar formation of the frame in which the glass is mounted, but also the peculiar formation of the fretwork frame, which insures the pressing, or yielding engagement, of the fretwork against the outer surface of the glass.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be brought out in the following description of the present preferred embodiment of the invention, the same being illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a frame, in which fretwork is mounted in relief to a pane of glass, such as in china closet construction, and embodying the features of this invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section, taken through the frame and the parts mounted therein. Fig. 3 is a transverse horizontal section, taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail lateral edge view of the fretwork frame removed from the panel.

Referring to this drawing, wherein like parts are designated by similar numerals of reference throughout the several views, 10 and 11 designate the side pieces of a frame, while 12 and 13 designate the respective upper and lower cross pieces closing the ends of the frame. This frame may be one of the front sections of a china closet, or other structure, wherein a panel 14 is mounted. In the present instance, the panel 14 is shown in the form of a pane of glass. The inner side of the main frame is rabbeted as at 15 to provide a seat against which the pane 14 is placed, the pane being held against the seat 15 by beads 16 secured in the inner side of the frame against the pane 14 to hold the latter firmly in the frame.

Fretwork 17 is placed against the outer side of the panel or pane of glass 14, for the purpose of ornamentation, to provide ornamental work in relief against the glass pane. Ordinarily, this fretwork 17 forms a permanent part of the main frame, or is glued, or otherwise permanently secured to the panel 14. Such an arrangement, or permanent securing of the fretwork 17, prevents the removal thereof, without breaking the fretwork, and unless the same is removed, the glass cannot be properly cleaned and polished, as the scroll or fretwork provides many crevices and pockets, which are inaccessible, and from which dirt and dust cannot be dislodged. The present invention, therefore, overcomes these difficulties by the provision of a fretwork frame, adapted to fit closely in the outer side of the main frame, and against the panel 14, said frame being made of a single piece of veneer of sufficient longitudinal strength and resilience to permit springing thereof to or from a longitudinally bowed condition. In order to hold the

fretwork frame 17 in the main frame, the latter is provided, in its upper cross piece 12, with an undercut relatively deep slot 18, adapted to receive the upper edge of the fretwork frame 17, the slot 18 being of sufficient depth to admit of the clearance of the lower end of the fretwork frame 17 from the lower cross bar 13. The lower cross bar 13 is provided, in its upper edge, with a slot 19, in which is seated the lower edge of the fretwork frame 17. It will be noted, from Fig. 2 that the inner walls of the slots 18 and 19 coincide with the front surface of the panel 14, and that when the fretwork frame 17 is seated in the slots 18 and 19, the fretwork frame is held close against the panel 14, so as to practically become a part thereof, and give the desired appearance of bas-relief work. The sides of the fretwork frame fit against the inner sides of the side pieces when it is in position. To insure this tight fitting of the fretwork 17, against the surface of the glass 14, and also to serve as a means for holding the opposite upper and lower ends of the fretwork 17 from rattling or vibrating in the upper and lower cross bars 12 and 13, the fretwork frame 17 is bowed, as shown in the longitudinal edge view in Fig. 4, the curvature of the frame 17 being longitudinal, or from top to bottom. In positioning the fretwork frame 17 in the main frame, the convex side of the fretwork frame 17 is pressed against the glass pane 14, and as the ends of the fretwork frame 17 are engaged in the slots 18 and 19, the fretwork frame is straightened out or flattened against the glass 14, so that the fretwork lies snugly against the glass, and produces the desired result, as well as retaining the fretwork frame from vibrating or rattling when in position. As will be noted particularly from Fig. 4, the upper and lower edges of the fretwork frame 17 are rounded or beveled as at 20, so as to admit of the easy positioning and removal of the fretwork frame 17, in the upper and lower slots 18 and 19

When it is desired to apply the fretwork frame 17 to the pane of glass 14, the upper end of the fretwork frame is moved upwardly against the pane of glass 14 into the slot 18, the convex side of the fretwork frame being pressed against the glass, and the upper end of the frame being forced into the top of the slot 18. The fretwork frame 17 is of such a length that when its upper end is raised completely into the top of the slot 18, the lower end of the fretwork frame clears the lower part of the main frame, and may be pressed inwardly, flat against the glass 14. When in this position, the fretwork frame is now slid downwardly to engage the lower edge of the fretwork frame in the slot 19. It is preferable to make these fretwork frames, as may be seen from Fig. 2, of laminations, or veneer, so that the fretwork frame 17 will not only be given the required strength to prevent breakage in handling the same, but so that the frame will be given the required elasticity to bind the fretwork frame against the pane of glass 14, and within the slots 18 and 19. Thus, the fretwork frame is held against the glass, and at the same time is yieldingly held within the slots of the main frame. In order to remove the fretwork frame, it is only necessary to press the lower end of the frame 17 in against the glass and slide the fretwork frame upwardly to clear the lower edge thereof from the slot 19. The resiliency of the fretwork frame then springs the lower end thereof outwardly, and when the fretwork frame is then drawn down, its upper end is removed from the slot 18. The pane of glass 13 may now be easily cleaned and polished, and the fretwork frame may be easily cleaned, when the parts may again be assembled. As the lower slot 19 is of less depth than the upper slot 18, when the lower end of the fretwork frame is seated in the lower slot 19, the upper edge of the fretwork frame may move downwardly in this slot 18 a distance equal to the depth of the slot 19 only. Thus, the upper end of the fretwork frame 17 cannot spring out of the slot 18 until the lower end of the fretwork frame is first removed from the lower slot 19.

It is, of course, understood that this improvement in fretwork, or ornamental work in relief structure, may be provided upon book-cases, and other articles of furniture, and in any other structure wherein it is desired to provide fretwork, and where it is necessary to clean or polish the base or panel back of the same. The present invention also contemplates various changes and modifications, which will adapt the invention to various circumstances and uses, to which the same may be applied.

What is claimed is:—

1. In combination with a frame having a panel therein and top and bottom grooves in said frame along and at one side of the upper and lower edges of the panel, the inner walls of the grooves coinciding with the adjacent face of the panel, a fretwork frame formed of a single piece of veneer of sufficient longitudinal strength and resilience to permit springing thereof to or from a longitudinally bowed condition and extending from the top to the bottom of the frame and having its upper and lower edges fitting in said grooves, the sides of the fretwork frame abutting the sides of the panel frame, the upper groove being deeper than the lower groove to allow the fretwork frame to be shoved up along the panel sufficiently to clear the bottom groove and permit the withdrawal of said fretwork frame as a unit.

2. In combination with a frame composed

of side and cross pieces, a pane of glass seated in said frame between the side and cross pieces, the upper cross piece having in its outer side a deep slot extending from its inner edge upwardly beyond the edge of the pane of glass, said slot having its inner wall flush with the outer surface of the pane of glass, the lower cross piece having in its outer side a slot commencing at its inner edge and extending downwardly a distance short of the outer edge of the pane of glass, the slot in the bottom cross piece having its inner wall flush with the outer surface of the pane of glass, a resilient fretwork frame formed of veneer of a single piece having sufficient longitudinal strength and resilience to permit springing thereof to or from a longitudinally bowed condition, and having its side edges fitting between the side pieces of the frame in abutting relation and having its upper and lower edges fitted in the upper and lower slots of the cross pieces, the said fretwork frame being adapted to be shifted upwardly along the pane of glass into the top of the upper slot which is of such length as to admit of the springing outwardly of the lower end of said frame from the lower slot, so as to allow the removal of the frame from its position against the glass.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

OSCAR HERRMANN.

Witnesses:

OTTO GREENBERGER,

GEORGE C. VON STAMWITZ.