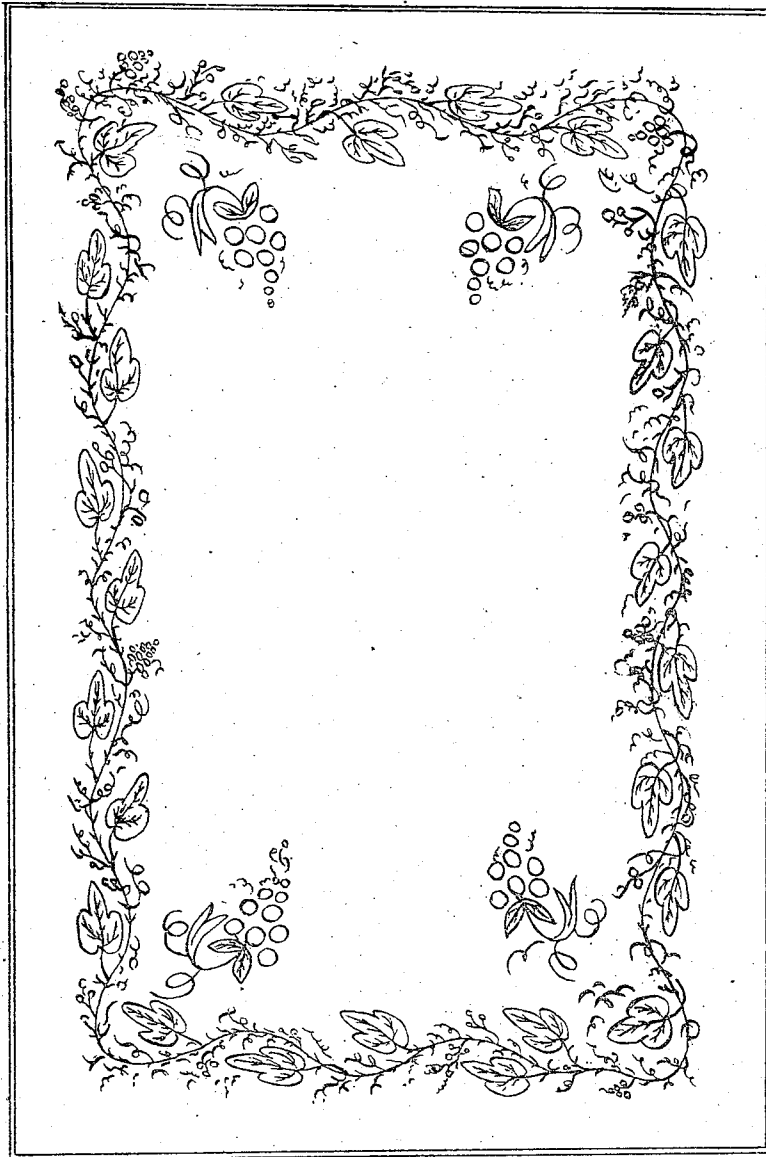


No. 111,535.

PATENTED FEB. 7, 1871.

H. F. HERKNER & J. W. POST.
WATERPROOF PIANO COVER.



Witnesses.
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NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 111,535, dated February 7, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN WATER-PROOF PIANO-COVERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

We, HENRY F. HERKNER, of the city, county, and State of New York, and JARED W. POST, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a certain Improvement in the Manufacture of Water-Proof Piano-Covers, of which the following is a specification

In order that others skilled in the art may make and use our invention, we will describe its construction and operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawing which makes a part of the specification.

The nature of our invention consists in the manufacture of an article of seamless water-proof piano-covers as an improvement on the ordinary water-proof piano-covers now in use.

In making water-proof piano-covers by the process hitherto in use, two breadths of Canton flannel, which is a fabric of about one yard, or thereabout, in width, are cut to a suitable length for a cover and trimmed straight, and the two edges sewed together lengthwise, forming a joint in the middle of the cover. Great care is necessary in sewing to prevent the stitches from showing on the face-side of the cover, and also to prevent the puckering of the seam, which, if it occurs, renders the cover imperfect.

The flannel on each side of the seam serves as a lap, and is thoroughly coated with water-proof cement, then turned over so as to fasten the edges of the lap down.

Upon the application of the last coat of cement to the laps, a narrow strip of flannel having been previously prepared with several coats of water-proof cement, is placed upon and over the prepared seam lengthwise of the cover, which strip must be laid straight and smooth.

The whole is then pressed down with iron rollers, and placed within the heater to cure and dry.

By this method a ridge is formed in the center of the cover, which is objectionable in appearance and apt to deface the piano, while the process is tedious, difficult, and expensive.

These objections are obviated and a superior article produced by our improved process, which consists as follows:

We form a fabric of the nature of Canton flannel, but of a width of eighty-five to ninety inches—any width suitable for the length or width of a piano-cover—the fabric being woven in the usual manner, of suitable dimensions, and in pieces of any desired length to form a considerable number of covers.

The flannel is then stretched over a series of rollers, by which it is kept perfectly straight and tight, and the India-rubber or other water-proof compound is then applied to the plain or unnaped side by a brush or other suitable means, the cloth being passed along over a series of steam-pipes, by which it is dried, to prevent the surfaces adhering when rolled.

A second coat is applied in the same manner, which may be dusted with flocks or fine wool, if desired, to give such a finish. It is dried and passed between pressure-rollers. It is then placed in the heater to "cure" or vulcanize the rubber compound in the ordinary way.

When the process is completed it is only necessary to cut the piece into the required length to form marketable water-proof piano-covers, seamless, and of uniform texture and substance throughout.

This method produces an article of superior beauty and durability, and at considerable less cost than the seamed covers hitherto made.

Claim.

A new article of manufacture, a seamless water-proof piano-cover, produced in the manner and by the means substantially as set forth.

HENRY F. HERKNER. [L. S.]
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Witnesses:

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