D. W. Niles.

Writing Slate.

No. 86,177. Patented Jan. 26, 1869.

Fig. 2.

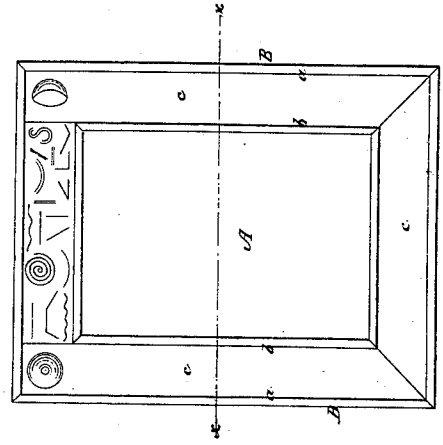


Fig. 1

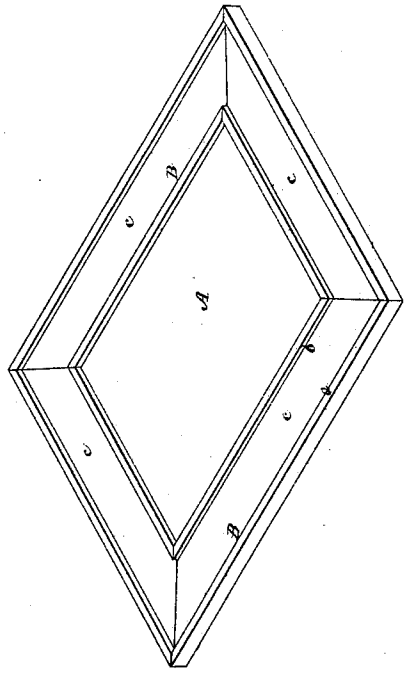
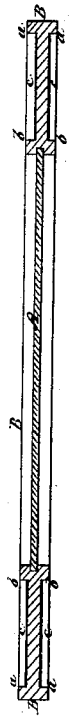


Fig. 3.



Witnesses,

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DANIEL W. NILES, OF CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 86,177, *dated January* 26, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN WRITING-SLATES.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL W. NILES, of Cambridgeport, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Slate-Frames, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a slate enclosed within my improved frame.

Figure 2 is a plan of the same, provided with designs for copying thereon.

Figure 3 is an enlarged section on the line *x x* of fig. 2.

My invention relates to that class of slates whose frames are provided with designs of various descriptions, which serve as lessons or examples for the pupil or learner to copy upon the slate, enclosed within the said frame.

These frames, as heretofore constructed, are provided with a smooth or uniformly unbroken surface, upon which the design to be copied is pasted or otherwise secured, but this construction is objectionable for the following reasons, viz, the edges of the paper bearing the design are liable to be turned up, and the design itself is soon injured and destroyed by coming in contact with the desk or table upon which the slate is placed, or by any article that may be laid thereon.

To obviate the above-mentioned objections is the purpose of my invention, which consists in a frame provided with a channel or groove for the reception of a strip of wood, paper, or other material bearing the design, by which construction I am enabled not only to protect the edge, but also to prevent the design from coming in contact with the desk or other object, and thus effectually preserve the design from injury.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings—

A represents a slate enclosed within a frame, B, both sides of which are recessed out from the points *a* to the points *b*, forming channels or grooves *c* for the reception of thin sheets, or laminæ of wood, or strips of other material, upon which are executed designs of various descriptions, such as lessons in writing, geometrical figures, drawings, &c., for pupils in primary schools, or others to copy therefrom.

When the slate is laid upon a desk, the surface of the frame at the points *a* and *b* only comes in contact therewith, thus serving to protect and prevent the turning up of the edges of the strips of wood, or other material bearing the designs, and also protecting the whole surface of the design from being soiled or otherwise injured.

It will also be seen from my improved form of construction, that the designs are not liable to be touched by the hand of the pupil or learner, and any object, such as another slate or book, may be laid upon the frame without coming in contact with and injuring the designs.

Claim.

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

A slate-frame, B, provided with a channel or groove, *c*, for the purpose set forth.

DANIEL W. NILES.

Witnesses:

P. E. TESCHEMACHER,
W. J. CAMBRIDGE.