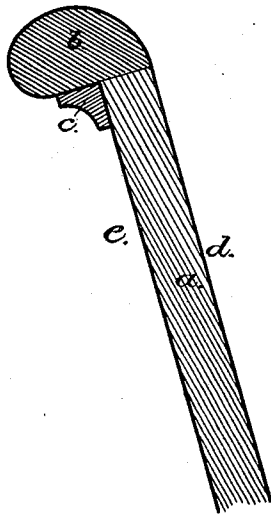


I. LANCASTER.
Church-Pew.

No. 167,910.

Patented Sept. 21, 1875.



Witnesses:

Morris P. Wright
John P. Lancaster

Inventor:

Israel Lancaster

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISRAEL LANCASTER, OF RICHMOND, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHURCH-PEWS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **167,910**, dated September 21, 1875; application filed January 20, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISRAEL LANCASTER, of Richmond, State of Indiana, have invented a new Method of Making the Backs of Long Seats, such as church-pews, court-house and public-hall seats, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to make a veneer-covered back for a church-pew or public-hall seat, which shall be durable and make a good appearance.

The accompanying drawing represents a cross-section of a seat-back.

The body of the back is shown at *a*. It is made of a board of any kind of common wood. The cap shown at *b* is also made of any cheap wood. The molding *C* is placed on the back side of the back under the cap. The entire front of the pew is covered with a single piece of veneer, which extends from the lower front edge of the back to the under side of the cap *b*. This veneer is shown at *d*. Another piece of veneer, *E*, is laid on the back surface, when required. No attention need be paid to making a good joint where the two veneers *d* and *e* meet under the cap, as the molding *c* covers such joint, and also effectually secures the edges of the veneers from starting off. The pew ends secure the veneers at the ends of the back, while the seat, being fastened to the lower edge of the front surface, leaves only the

lower edge of the back veneer *e* unprotected, except by the glue with which the whole of the veneer is fastened. This edge is not exposed to any wear and tear resulting from the occupancy of the seat, so that the glue will always hold it in position. This securing of the outer edges of the veneer, coupled with the fact that in the whole surface of the back there is no splicing nor joining of veneer edges nor ends, makes the danger of any fraying or splitting off of the veneer very small, as there is no place where such fraying can begin; also, covering the entire front surface of the back, together with the cap, by a single piece of veneer gives a very fine appearance when finished, there being no confusion in the grain of the veneer, as there is when different pieces of veneer are used.

I claim as my invention—

A seat-back for churches, in which the front side of the back is covered with a single piece of veneer, which extends over and around the cap to the under side thereof, the edge or joint of the veneer being fastened and concealed by the longitudinal strip *C*, substantially as described.

ISRAEL LANCASTER.

Witnesses:

MORRIS P. WRIGHT,
JOHN P. LANCASTER.