(No Model.)

E. C. MEEKER.

ORNAMENTAL TABLET.

No. 369,407. Patented Sept. 6, 1887.

Fig. 1.

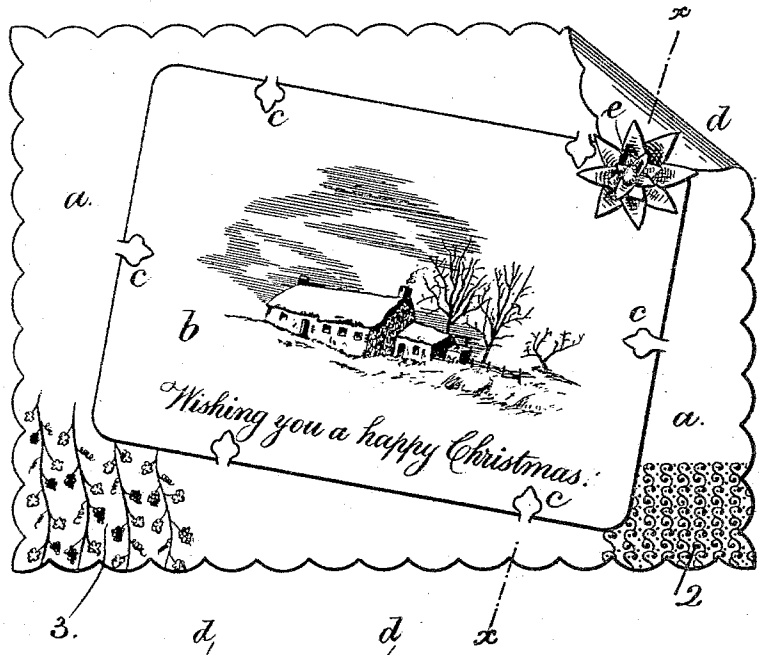


Fig. 3.

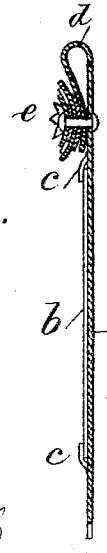
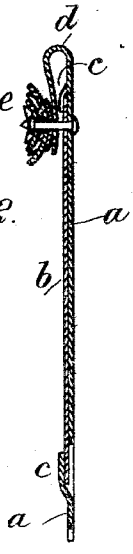


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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Inventor

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per Lemuel W. Serrell
atty

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN C. MEEKER, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO THE NOVELTY MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT.

ORNAMENTAL TABLET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 369,407, dated September 6, 1887.

Application filed April 18, 1887. Serial No. 235,169. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN C. MEEKER, of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Ornamental Tablets, of which the following is a correct specification.

Before my invention frames had been made use of for receiving tablets upon which ornamental pictures, letters, or designs were placed, and in some instances plaques of metal had received directly on their surfaces painted pictures, letters, or designs.

My invention is for producing a mount or backing for a tablet, which mount is of a different character and appearance from a frame or holder, and is capable of receiving numerous artistic designs or characteristics that cannot be associated with a frame or holder.

My improved tablet-holder is a new article of manufacture; and it consists of a plate or sheet of thin metal having an ornamental surface or edge and means for holding thereupon the tablet or sheet upon which the design, pictures, or ornamental lettering is placed, and thereby the sheet of metal becomes a backing of an ornamental character, and the tablet can be of a variety of shapes, so as to have an ornamental outline in addition to the ornamental surface, and the fastening devices of the tablet to the background can also be varied and highly ornamental.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a representation of my improved ornamental tablet, and Fig. 2 is a section of the same at line *x x*. Fig. 3 is a section of the tablet-holder, showing the rivet for securing the turned-over corner of the tablet as passing through the two parts of the metal of the holder only and not through the tablet.

The sheet of metal, *a*, is comparatively thin, so as to be sufficiently light, and the size and shape of this is to be such as to form a backing with a border that is visible around the tablet *b*. This plate of metal is to be ornamental—that is to say, the entire surface of such metal plate is ornamented by vines, tracery, leaves, or other designs in low relief, and the edges of the metal backing are usually notched or scalloped, as represented. I have illustrated some of the different ornamental designs for the surface at the portions marked 2 3.

The tablet *b* may be rectangular, elliptical, bell-shaped, or of any desired outline, and it is held upon the backing *a* by pins or by claws cut in the sheet metal and lapping over the edges of the tablet, as seen at *c c*. The surface of the tablet *b* is to receive pictures, letters, or designs. It is also advantageous to bend over one corner of the sheet-metal backing, as at *d*, and secure the same by an ornamental rivet or pin, as at *e*. This ornamental tablet may be hung up, or it may have a leg at the back to hold it in an inclined position.

The rivet *e* may pass through the two parts of the metal of the holder and through the tablet, as shown in Fig. 2; or it may pass through the two parts of the metal of the holder only, depending wholly upon the size and shape of the tablet.

I claim as my invention—

1. An ornamental tablet adapted to the reception of pictures or ornaments, consisting of a flat or nearly flat tablet to receive the picture or design, and an ornamental metallic sheet behind the same, and extending beyond the edges of the tablet and forming a border to the same, substantially as specified.

2. An ornamental tablet, in combination with a backing of sheet metal the surface of which is ornamented, and claws for holding the tablet upon the surface of the backing, substantially as specified.

3. The ornamental tablet composed of an ornamental piece of material upon a backing of ornamental sheet metal having one corner bent over, and an ornament to secure the same, substantially as specified.

Signed by me this 12th day of April, 1887.

EDWIN C. MEEKER.

Witnesses:

ANSON F. ABBOTT,

L. S. BRACKETT.