

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. FOSTER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

METHOD OF TREATING CANVAS FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES.

996,325.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 27, 1911.

No Drawing.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. FOSTER, a citizen of the United States, and residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improved Method of Treating Canvas for Special Purposes, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an improved method of treating canvas, to adapt it for use for special purposes, as for instance the construction of awnings, tents and the like; and the invention consists of a particular treatment applied to one side of the canvas whereby the canvas is rendered water-proof without materially interfering with its softness and flexibility and also without interfering with its translucent quality, and whereby one side of the canvas is given a predetermined color while the other side is, or may be left white or of its natural color.

In the practice of my invention I provide a solution of starch and water, only a sufficient amount of water being employed to dissolve the starch, the proportionate amounts being approximately one pound of starch to two gallons of water. When this product is dissolved it is heated to the boiling point and a predetermined amount of borax is mingled therewith, the amount of borax employed being approximately fifteen per cent. in weight of the product produced by combining the starch and water. The solution thus produced from starch, water and borax is applied while hot by a brush or in any other way to one side of the canvas so as to form a thin coating thereon, and this coating while warm or hot is covered by means of a brush or otherwise with a paint consisting of a solution composed of:—

Raw linseed oil.....	3 pints;
Castor oil.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint;
Turpentine.....	3 quarts;
Intense green paint.....	1 pound.

These ingredients are thoroughly mingled to form a paint solution and when one side of the canvas has been treated with the solution of starch, water and borax as above described and then painted it is allowed to dry, and when thoroughly dried the canvas

retains its flexible and translucent qualities, the flexible quality thereof being approximately the same as before treatment, while one side thereof retains its natural color and the treated side is given a color which depends upon the quality of the last element in the above described paint solution. With this solution the treated side of the canvas would be green but by substituting some other paint ingredient for the "intense green paint" mentioned in said solution a different color may be produced or given to the treated side of the canvas.

The paint given as an ingredient of the second solution is paint in the condition in which it is ordinarily used and applied. When a pound of this is diluted by more than a gallon of the liquids forming the other parts of the mixture the paint loses its character as a paint and serves simply to give color to the solution.

In making awnings, tents and other articles or devices from canvas treated in this manner the treated or colored side is turned inwardly and the translucent quality of the canvas is retained and a very practical and very desirable result is produced while the softness, flexibility and durability of the canvas is not interfered with.

My invention is not limited to the exact ingredients of the different solutions herein described nor to the exact amounts of the ingredients named as said amounts may be varied within certain limits without materially affecting the result produced.

The canvas is not permeated or penetrated by either of the solutions applied in the manner described and one side thereof is left white or of its original color.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is;—

1. The herein described process of treating canvas to produce a flexible and translucent water proof fabric which consists in first applying to one side of such canvas a hot solution of starch and borax, then before said coating becomes cool, applying thereupon an oil solution, then drying said canvas.

2. The herein described process of treating canvas to produce a flexible and translucent fabric, which consists in first applying to one side of said canvas a hot solution of

starch and borax, then while said coating is
still heated, applying thereon a further coat-
ing composed of linseed oil, castor oil, tur-
pentine and a coloring matter, then drying
5 the canvas.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing
as my invention I have signed my name in

presence of the subscribing witnesses this
sixteenth day of May, 1910.

CHARLES W. FOSTER.

Witnesses:

JOHN C. FOSTER,

WALTER CHEETHAM.