

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AARON O. DAYTON, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN COLORING PHOTOGRAPHIC PICTURES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 7,160, dated March 12, 1850.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AARON O. DAYTON, of the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Coloring Photographic Pictures Taken upon Paper or upon any Transparent or Translucent Substance; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

To enable others to use my invention, I describe the process as follows, viz:

If the picture be upon paper, I soak it in water for some hours, the time being dependent upon the character of the paper; but if the water be hot when it is poured on, twenty-four hours will generally be found sufficient. I then pour off the water and place the paper between sheets of blotting-paper until nearly all the water is absorbed from it, but leaving it moist. I then attach it to a plate of glass (the face of the picture being next to the glass) with some adhesive substance which is transparent, such as Canada balsam. If Canada balsam be used, the glass should be heated, and the balsam likewise, until it will flow freely; or the latter may be rendered more liquid by mixing with it a little ether or spirits of turpentine and applied without being heated. When the balsam has become sufficiently hard to produce a firm adherence of the paper to the glass the paper is slightly moistened with water, and is rubbed off with the fingers until

nothing remains upon the glass but a thin film having the photographic picture upon it. After the film has become perfectly dry a coat of hard white varnish is spread upon it, which renders it transparent. When the varnish has dried the colors, finely ground in oil, are spread upon it, and are seen through the glass. The shades of the photographic picture form the shades of the painting, or, if not sufficiently strong, they may be strengthened by suitable colors laid behind them upon the varnish in the manner I have mentioned. If the paper be very thin, the soaking and rubbing may be dispensed with.

The principal point of my invention is the coloring of these pictures from behind, and to effect this upon paper I commonly use the above preparatory process; but it is obvious that the invention is applicable to all photographic pictures upon translucent substances; and therefore

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

The application to photographic pictures taken upon paper or upon any transparent or translucent medium of the mode of coloring I have described, or any other substantially the same and which will produce a similar effect.

A. O. DAYTON.

Witnesses:

T. H. LANE,

JOHN E. HOLLAND.