

W. A. Morse,
Stair Rod,
Nº 64,440, Patented May 7, 1867.

Fig. 1.

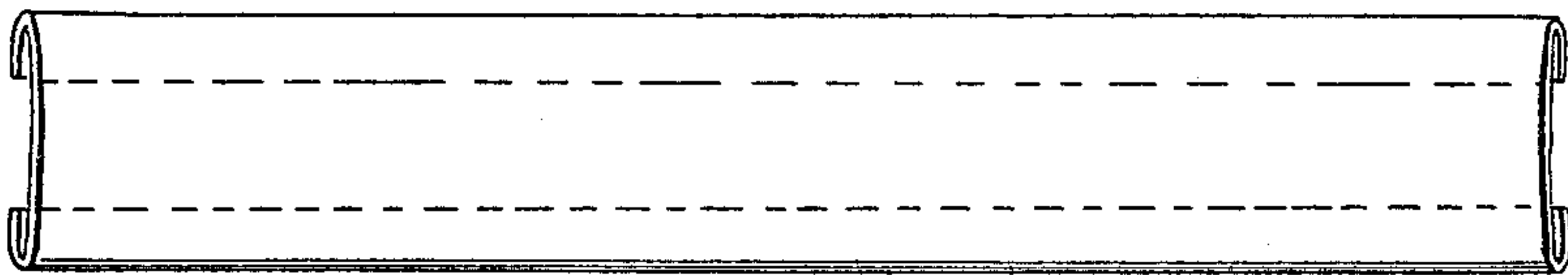


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

James G. Henry
Salmon B. Seates

Inventor.

William A. Morse

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM A. MORSE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 64,440, dated May 7, 1867.

IMPROVED STAIR-ROD

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, WILLIAM A. MORSE, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful improvement in Stair-Rods; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The nature of my invention consists in making a stair-rod of paper, paper pulp, or cloth, or other equivalent fibrous material, or the combination of two or more of such materials stiffened, and formed by pressure in dies, moulds, or otherwise, said paper or other material having been previously soaked or saturated with a solution of starch, gum, or glue, after which it is ornamented, by gilding or otherwise, to represent brass. By this means I am able to produce stair-rods that are very durable and require no cleaning, as they are not affected by atmospheric changes like highly-finished brass now commonly used. They look, when in use, in every respect as well as the most costly brass stair-rods now in use, and do not cost one-eighth part as much.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

I construct my stair-rod in any of the known forms, and use, for that purpose, paper, paper pulp, felt, cloth, leather, or a combination of two or more of said materials. I generally use pasteboard, and cut it into strips of any desired width, then immerse it in a solution of paste, glue, or gum until completely saturated. I then remove it, and before pressing or forming I allow it to become partially dry. I then subject it to a pressure in dies or moulds suitable to give it the desired form, as shown in Figure 1, which is a front view, and Figure 2 an end view. After taken from the die and allowed to dry it becomes very hard and stiff, and presents a smooth surface. I then gild the front or outside, usually with gold lacquer such as is used to ornament window curtains. Gold bronze applied in the usual way, or gold leaf, makes a very ornamental finish. If made of other fibrous material above named, or the same in combination, the process is substantially the same. I sometimes use light stock, and insert a thin piece of wood or metal in the back side, and firmly attached there, as a stiffening. My improved stair-rod made in any of the usual forms may be attached to its place by the usual appliances for that purpose.

Having thus fully described the construction and operation of my improvement, what I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. I claim a stair-rod made of paper, paper pulp, felt, cloth, leather, or other equivalent fibrous material, lacquered, gilded, or otherwise ornamented to resemble highly-finished brass, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.
2. I claim the use of paper, paper pulp, felt, cloth, or leather, either separate or in combination, in the manufacture of stair-rods, substantially as specified and for the purpose set forth.
3. I claim the use of either of the above-named materials in combination with wood or metal, substantially as specified and for the purpose set forth.

WILLIAM A. MORSE.

Witnesses:

JAMES G. HENRY,
SALMON B. SCATES.