

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST SCHINDLER, OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN COATINGS FOR WRITING-TABLETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 134,566, dated January 7, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST SCHINDLER, of the city of Lancaster, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain Coating for Writing-Tablets, to be used for pen-and-ink writing instead of the ordinary slate-surface, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists in producing a varnished surface on ordinary writing-paper that will take the ink as freely from the pen as if not varnished, and so that, by moistening with a rag or sponge, every trace of the writing can be removed, however dry, and thus be used again and again for an indefinite period of time.

To prepare my tablets for the varnish I take ordinary pasteboard cut to the desired size. I also prepare or cut to size good writing-paper of two sizes, the one to form the back the exact size of the pasteboard, the other so much larger as to leave a margin all around to turn over and cover the edge and margin of the back. These are smoothly pasted on the pasteboard with common flour-paste, as used by book-binders. When dry these tablets are ready to receive the varnish.

After numerous trials and experiments I have found a varnish made by pulverizing six ounces of resin and six ounces of shellac and digesting the same in one gallon of good alcohol, frequently shaking the mixture to make the varnish, which, after straining, is ready for use by applying, with a soft varnish-brush, evenly to both surfaces and edges of

the tablets. When this first coat is dry another and even a fourth coat should be given to give the tablets a good body and durability in use.

It is believed that these tablets, introduced in our schools, would supply a want greatly felt—to allow the practice and use of the pen and ink, while learning to form the letters, instead of a slate and pencil or chalk and black-board, since the proper use of the pen would be acquired at the same time with the knowledge of the forms of letters and mode of combining into words.

These tablets are pliable, will not crack, and are very durable; light, and preferable to the slate-surface tablets for lessons in writing, as by mine penmanship is more truly taught. Besides, these tablets are equally useful to men of business for a daily record to be transcribed, or used as tablets or memorandums in various ways.

I am not aware that tablets for pen-and-ink writing and erasure were ever before introduced substantially made in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

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

The specified composition, applied substantially in the manner and for the purpose specified.

A. SCHINDLER.

Witnesses:

SOLOMON SPRECHER,
JACOB STAUFFER.