

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JUDSON L. THOMSON, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN STRAW OR MILL BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 135,452, dated February 4, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JUDSON L. THOMSON, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented certain improvements Constituting a new Article of Manufacture for Boxes, Book-Covers, and other articles not hitherto made of such materials, of which the following is a specification:

Heretofore boxes have been made of straw-board, mill-board, and the like, either by leaving the natural surface of said board exposed, or covering the same with paper, colored or plain, ornamented or otherwise. When said board was left without covering of any kind, the article made was coarse and unsightly, and when a covering of paper or other material has been used, it added materially to the labor and expense of making, as well as increasing the cost of the raw material in making it. To avoid this labor and expense, and make a handsome, perfect, and cheap box, has been the object of my new device, which answers not only for boxes, (in which it is especially valuable,) but it can also be used for other manufactures where it is applicable.

The manufacture is as follows: Take straw or mill board as usually prepared for the market, and apply to one of its surfaces a coating of glue size or analogous material charged with any desired coloring matter suited to the pur-

pose intended, coating the whole surface evenly or otherwise over with the colored size, after which the surface of the board so colored can be embossed or stamped in any desired pattern so as to imitate wood or other material; and it can also be printed upon with any words or design.

The straw or mill board so treated can be applied to various purposes of manufacture, as above named, and will be found to be cheaper and more durable than the covering of paper. The durability will be further increased by coating the surface with a solution of shellac or other suitable water-proof varnish or coating, the cost of production being very small above that of plain straw or mill board, while a saving of the expense of valuable colored papers and the labor of putting them on are effected.

Having thus stated my improved manufacture, I claim—

As an article of manufacture, straw or mill board coated with a colored size, either with or without a water-proof coating, as and for the purposes set forth.

JUDSON L. THOMSON.

Witnesses:

J. J. GREENOUGH,
L. W. MYERS.