J. & R. LAMB.

METHOD OF PREPARING FABRICS TO BE CUT INTO ORNAMENTAL SHAPES.

No. 179,575. Patented July 4, 1876.

Fig: 1

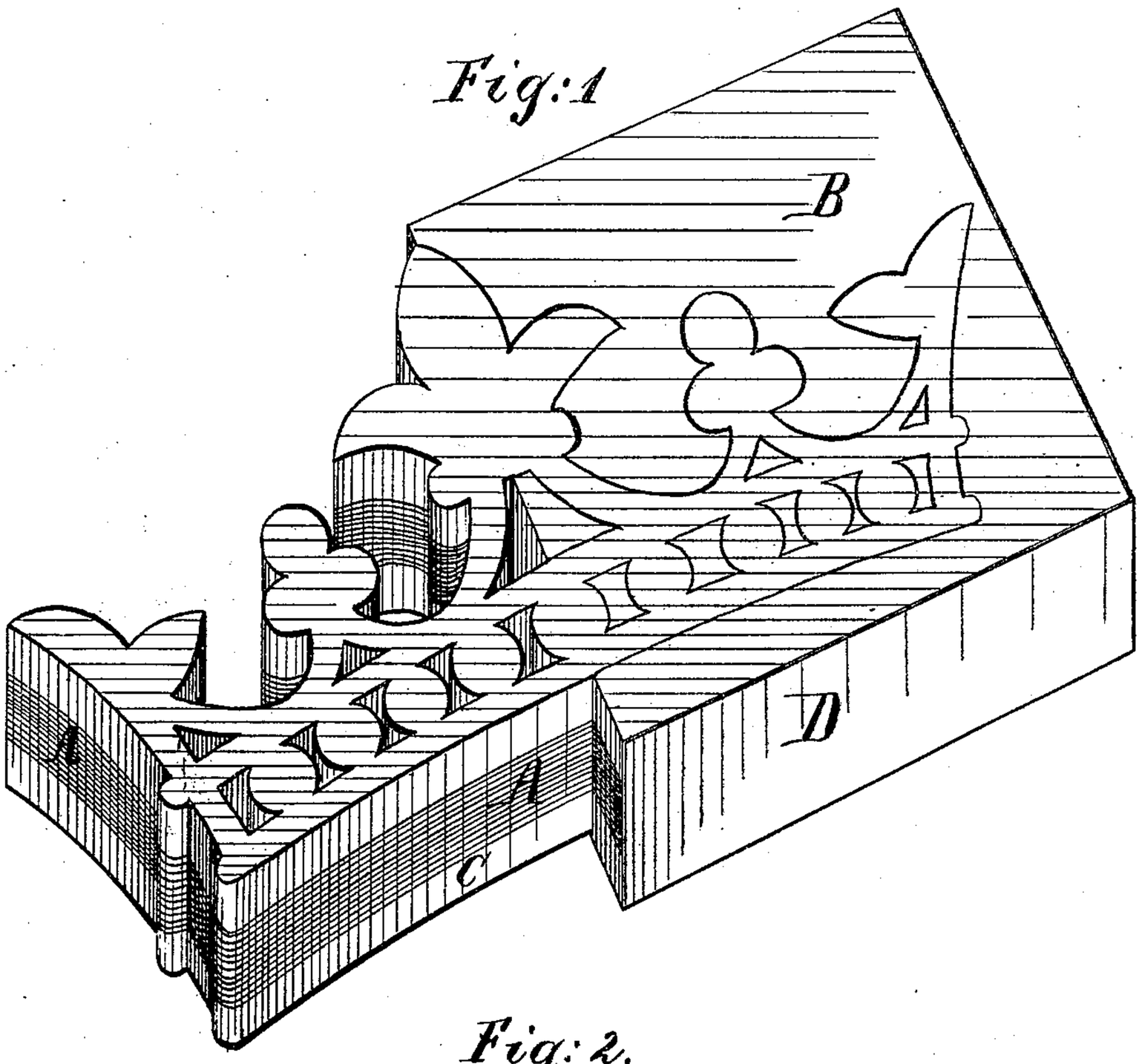
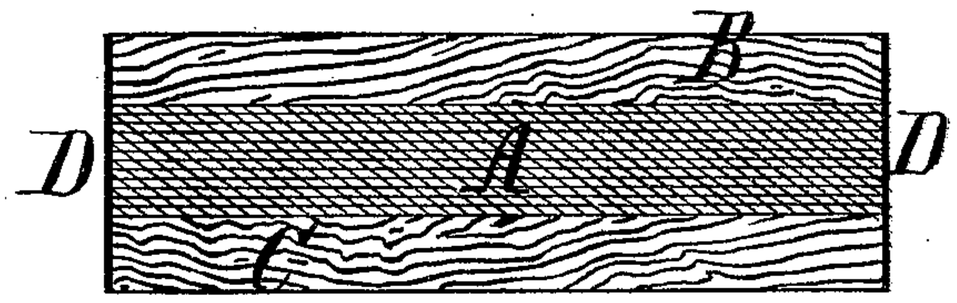


Fig: 2.



Witnesses:

A. Henry Gentner

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Inventors:

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by their attorney

T. D. Stetson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH LAMB AND RICHARD LAMB, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN METHODS OF PREPARING FABRICS TO BE CUT INTO ORNAMENTAL SHAPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **179,575**, dated July 4, 1876; application filed February 26, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH LAMB and RICHARD LAMB, of New York city, in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful improvements relating to the manufacture of shapes from paper, cloth, and analogous thin layers of material, of which the following is a specification:

The production of intricate shapes by dies requires expensive preparations. It is often desired to produce considerable numbers of elaborate shapes for decorative and other purposes at short notice, or in too small quantities to justify the execution of dies. Our invention applies to such cases, and allows the production of great numbers with a high degree of perfection, and at a very moderate cost.

We provide thin boards of wood, (one penciled or otherwise marked with the desired pattern, suitable to guide the operator in cutting with a jig-saw,) and we strongly compress a number of layers of paper or cloth between the two boards, and secure the edges firmly together in the compressed position by strips of muslin glued thereon, and uniting the whole into a single compact slab. Thus prepared, we find that the layers may be sawed through by a jig-saw in good condition, and that, after treating the whole exactly as if it were a single thickness of wood, the parts may be separated, and twenty shapes, more or less, of paper will be found to have been thereby produced, exact fac-similes of each other, and accurate reproductions of the pattern which was penciled on the upper piece of wood.

We prefer to compress about three-quarters of an inch thickness of paper between two boards, each of a half-inch in thickness. In treating woven goods the best work will be performed by making the pile of fabric still thinner—say, about half an inch of cloth between two half-inch boards. Care should be taken to execute the minute figures near the center of the pattern before the edges are much cut, so as to release, or partially release, the material from pressure.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 represents a quantity of material partly shaped according to our invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section through the mass before being shaped.

Similar letters denote like parts in both figures.

A is the pile of paper or cloth. B is the upper board. C is the lower board, and D is the binding of muslin, which is glued upon the edges, while in a compressed condition, to firmly secure the whole together.

We have found no particular difficulty attending the compressing operation, and do not esteem it necessary to describe it by drawings. Any simple screw or lever press may be used having flat surfaces of a proper size, with a clear space around, to allow the application of the muslin D.

We claim as our invention—

The within-described process of preparing cloth or paper for sawing into ornamental shapes, consisting of compressing a number of laminæ, A, between boards B C, and gluing or cementing the edges of the whole with a strong fabric, D, substantially as herein specified

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 24th day of February, 1876, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOS. LAMB.
RICHARD LAMB.

Witnesses:
CHAS. A. BENEDICT,
C. C. STETSON.