

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE PAICE CHILES, OF CAMDEN TOWN, ENGLAND.

## COVERING FOR FLOORS, WALLS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 226,440, dated April 13, 1880.

Application filed October 21, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE PAICE CHILES, of Camden Town, in the county of Middlesex, England, floor-cloth manufacturer, have invented a new and useful Improvement in or Applicable to Covering Floors, Walls, and other surfaces for decorative and useful purposes, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification—that is to say:

This invention relates to covering floors, walls, or other surfaces with floor-cloth, linoleum, and other like substances, the object being to provide a more lasting covering, and to prevent or avoid the “blistering,” unevenness, and consequent warping and rapid wearing out of such covering materials when laid in the usual way in large sheets upon a floor-surface.

In carrying out this invention, floor-cloth, preferably of the linoleum class and of a uniform speckled or marbled color throughout the body thereof, is cut into squares and other geometrical or required forms, so as when placed together they may be arranged in patterns of tessellated parquetry, paneled or other ornamental character, according to whether a floor or wall be the surface under treatment. The pieces or “tiles” so arranged are then securely cemented down by cement, glue, shellac solution, or other adhesive substance—that is, are veneered to the floor, wall, or other surface to be covered, whether such surface be of wood, stone, concrete, asphalt, or other material. In this way tessellated floors can be produced from plain unprinted speckled or marbled floor-cloth of any kind or of a uniform body color; but those floor-cloths of the linoleum character are the best for the purpose, and will be cut into the required patterns by hand, dies, stamping, or other cutting machinery worked by manual, steam, or other power adapted for the purpose.

This tessellated floor-covering or cloth can also be made in breadths by being arranged

upon and cemented to a foundation or backing of linen, calico, sheeting, canvas, or other suitable material of any required widths or dimensions, in which case it may be sold by the yard, as is ordinary floor-cloth. By this system that looseness and blistering so much complained of in linoleum and other floor-cloth when laid down in the usual way is completely prevented, while the enduring property of the linoleum or other substance employed is enormously increased, as is the case with wall-paper and furniture veneer under a similar system of consolidation; and, further, the patterns and colors of these surface-coverings being integral and not superficial, as is the case with printed floor-cloths of oil-cloth, linoleum, and the like, the patterns consequently cannot wear off, and if any section of the covering becomes worn out that part can be reintroduced or relaid without the whole surface being renewed.

The further advantages of these floor-cloth tiles over the tiles of ceramic materials are that they are warm and soft, noiseless, and unslippery, and can be supplied at from or about one-third the cost of encaustic tiles.

I claim—

The use of so-called floor-cloth paving-tiles for producing tessellated floor-cloth, parquetry, paneling, and other similar decorative effects for covering floors, walls, and other surfaces, as and for the purpose herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I, the said GEORGE PAICE CHILES, have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of July, 1879.

GEORGE PAICE CHILES.

Witnesses:

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