

E. F. FRENCH.
Artist's Board.

No. 229,244.

Patented June 29, 1880.

Fig. I.

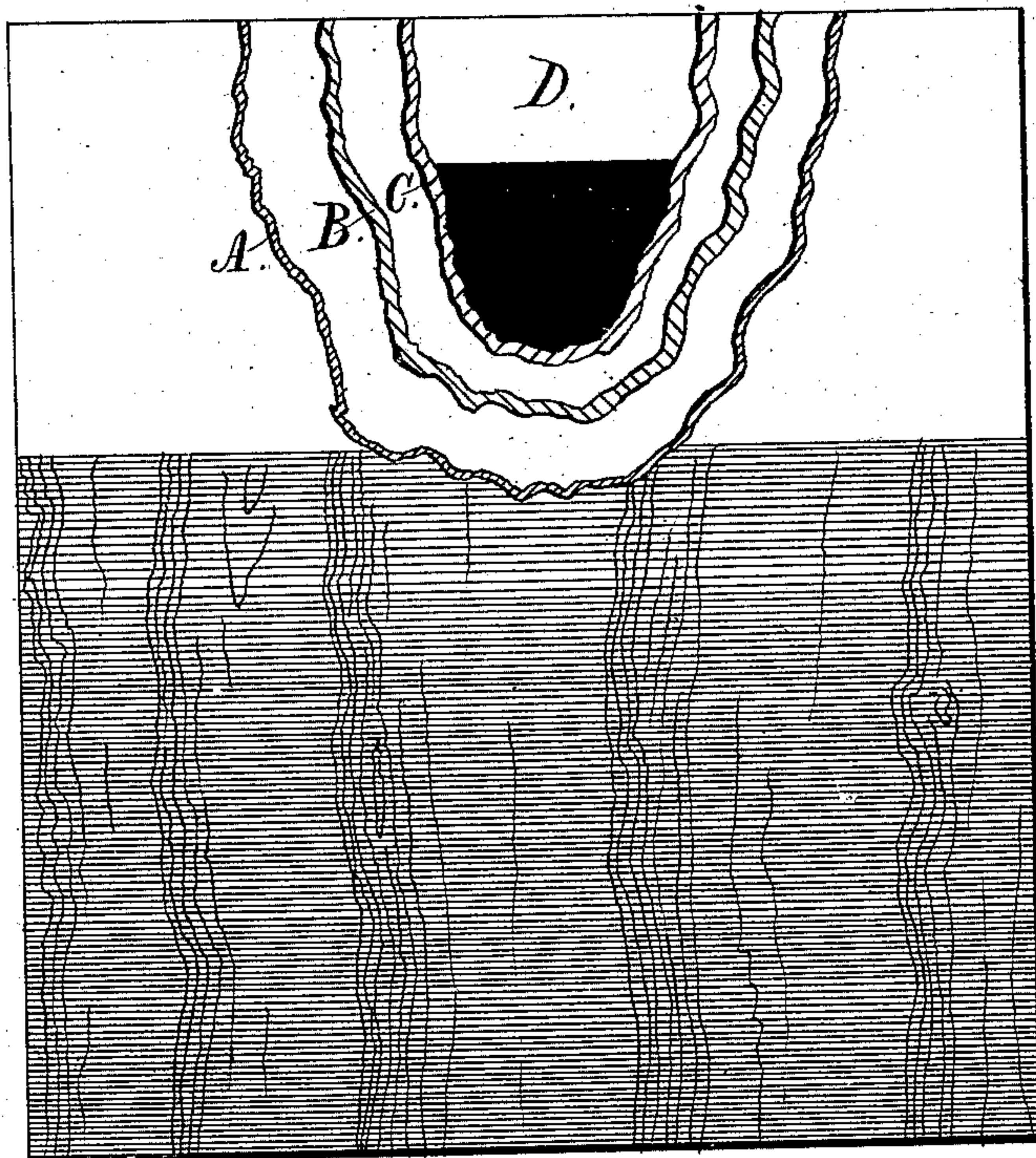
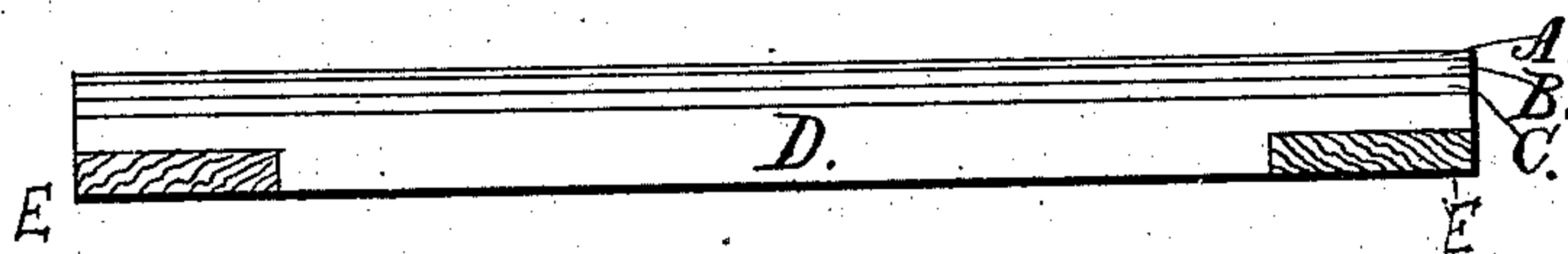


Fig. 2.



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EVELYN F. FRENCH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ARTIST'S BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 229,244, dated June 29, 1880.

Application filed August 6, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EVELYN F. FRENCH, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Artists' Boards; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings furnished, is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same.

The object of my invention is to produce a drawing-board for artists which will enable them to dispense with canvas, and which will retain its shape in spite of atmospheric changes and variations of temperature.

The nature of said invention consists in the combination, with a strengthening-frame, of several layers of veneer cemented together, with the grain thereof crossing each other, and secured to said strengthening-frame, the whole forming an improved drawing-board for artists.

The board is formed of two or more layers of veneer or very thin wood so joined as to cause the fibers or grain of one layer to cross that of the other in order that each may strengthen the other, which are firmly glued together as a unit, which tends to prevent splitting or seaming, usually the result of atmospheric changes. These layers of wood, formed into the desired shapes and sizes, are secured to a frame or rim, which serves to prevent warping, as well as a means for handling and securing the same into frames and other receptacles adapted to receive them.

The layers are glued together under pressure by any of the known methods for gluing. A variety of woods may be adopted, although the common whitewood, for lightness and cheapness, will serve.

A body of white lead will serve to form the ground as an enamel, which surface may be rubbed down to a smooth glossy finish, which is desirable for many kinds of work, or it may be roughened to suit the fancy of the artist, which is usually governed by the nature of the picture to be executed.

I prefer to glue the body (formed of the layers) upon the frame, although it may be secured thereon by other means.

I make the frame usually of strips of pine or other light woods—say two inches wide by three-fourths or seven-eighths of an inch in

thickness—jointed or framed together at the corners thereof. The exterior measurement of the frame should be the same size as the surface of the board. These sizes may be varied in accordance with the dimensions of the board, the sizes above given being suitable for pictures of, say, from eight by twelve inches to twenty inches, although these may be subjected to a great variation.

Without departing from the spirit of my invention, I would remark, also, that the frame to which the board is secured may be removed, if desired, when the painting is ready to be inserted into the frame in which it is to be exhibited, as the latter will then serve to prevent warping, although in any event the former frame is desirable to be left secure to the board as an additional security against damage.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of the board, partly broken away to show the grain of the different layers of veneer and the frame, and Fig. 2 represents a cross-section through the same.

A, B, and C designate successive layers of veneer, arranged as hereinbefore described, with the grain of alternate layers crossing one another.

D designates the top, and E the sides, of a frame, which runs around the board, strengthening and bracing the top, bottom, and sides thereof, forming a frame for the board.

I am aware that sounding-boards for pianos, and also chair-bottoms, have been constructed of layers of veneers arranged so that the grain of the successive layers will lie crosswise with relation to one another, and I do not claim such construction broadly; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described drawing-board for artists, composed of two or more sheets or layers of veneer cemented together, with the grain thereof crossing each other, and the whole firmly secured to a strengthening-frame, substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.

EVELYN F. FRENCH.

Witnesses:

JOHN DANE, Jr.,
ELI J. BLAKE.