

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL J. FRESHNEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BOARD OR TABLET FOR ARTISTS' USE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 253,030, dated January 31, 1882.

Application filed July 23, 1881. (Specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL J. FRESHNEY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Boards or Tablets for Artists' Use, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to the several kinds of prepared boards and tablets for artists' use, which are made of various materials, but generally of paper or wood, and known by different names, as "mill-boards," "panels," "academy-boards," &c.; and it also relates to the preparation of the surfaces of walls for fresco or other painting. The method of obtaining this kind of surface is to apply to the board, panel, or tablet, with a brush or by other equivalent or suitable means, a coating of oil-paint or other suitable composition, and while this coating is wet or soft to impress it with the surface of a woven fabric.

The material which I propose generally to use for the coating is ordinary white paint, consisting of a base of white lead or zinc and a vehicle of linseed-oil and turpentine. The woven fabric which I find best adapted for the purpose of producing the impression is the fabric known as "wire-cloth" or "wire-gauze," and the method of using it which I find most suitable is to construct a roller or cylinder with a periphery of such fabric, or to cover the periphery of a roller or cylinder of wood, metal, or any suitable material with such fabrics. The roller or cylinder thus constructed or covered is rolled over the moist or soft painted or other equivalent prepared surface, and will leave the impression of the fabric thereon, thereby giving the surface a character resembling artists' canvas. Woven fabrics of other material than wire might possibly be substituted for the wire-cloth or wire-gauze, and the fabric might be impressed on the painted or coated surface in a flat state or in other form.

The fabric may be woven in any suitable manner, either plain or twilled, or fine or coarse, according to the nature of the surface desired to be produced.

The boards, panels, or tablets may have

been previously prepared in any manner commonly employed in preparing surfaces for painting, or in any other suitable manner for the reception of the coat of paint which is to be impressed.

I am aware that articles of paper wearing-apparel have been provided with an imprint or imitation of a woven fabric; but such does not constitute my invention, nor would such articles be adapted as boards or panels for artists' use, because of there being no prepared surface of oil-paint or similar composition. Again, where articles of wearing-apparel have been imprinted with the imitation of a woven fabric, such paper is of a comparatively thin texture, and could not be used without the employment of what are termed "canvas-stretchers."

I am also aware that tablets for artists' use have been prepared by gluing to one or both faces of a piece of straw-board a strip of cotton or linen fabric, then pressing the same to firmly secure them together, then applying to the covering of fabric a pigment such as is usually employed in preparing canvas for artists' use, and finally, before the prepared surface is dry, treating it with a stippling-brush, partly with a view of removing the brush-marks left in applying the pigment and partly with a view to develop the grain-surface of the fabric to which the pigment is applied. Such invention is not claimed by me, nor does it possess the characteristics of my improved tablet. In my invention the board or panel is of a substantially rigid or stiff construction, which is first coated with a composition of oil-paint or similar material applied directly to the surface of the board or panel itself, and which prepared surface is impressed while in a plastic or soft state to produce an imitation surface possessing the characteristics of a coated woven fabric, yet without the employment of any textile fabric whatever. These boards or panels can be used by artists without the necessity of using stretchers for holding them, and they furnish very desirable substitutes for the usual canvas used by artists. They are simple in construction, less

expensive to produce than similar tablets heretofore known, and will therefore be more desirable in the market.

What I claim as my invention is—

- 5 As an improved article of manufacture, a stiff or rigid tablet or board for artists' use, provided with a prepared surface of oil-paint applied directly to the face of the tablet or

board, and impressed with a woven fabric to produce an imitation grain resembling canvas 10 or similar textile fabric, substantially as described.

SAMUEL J. FRESHNEY.

Witnesses:

ANDREW J. PHILLIPS,
JOHN F. VEITCH.