

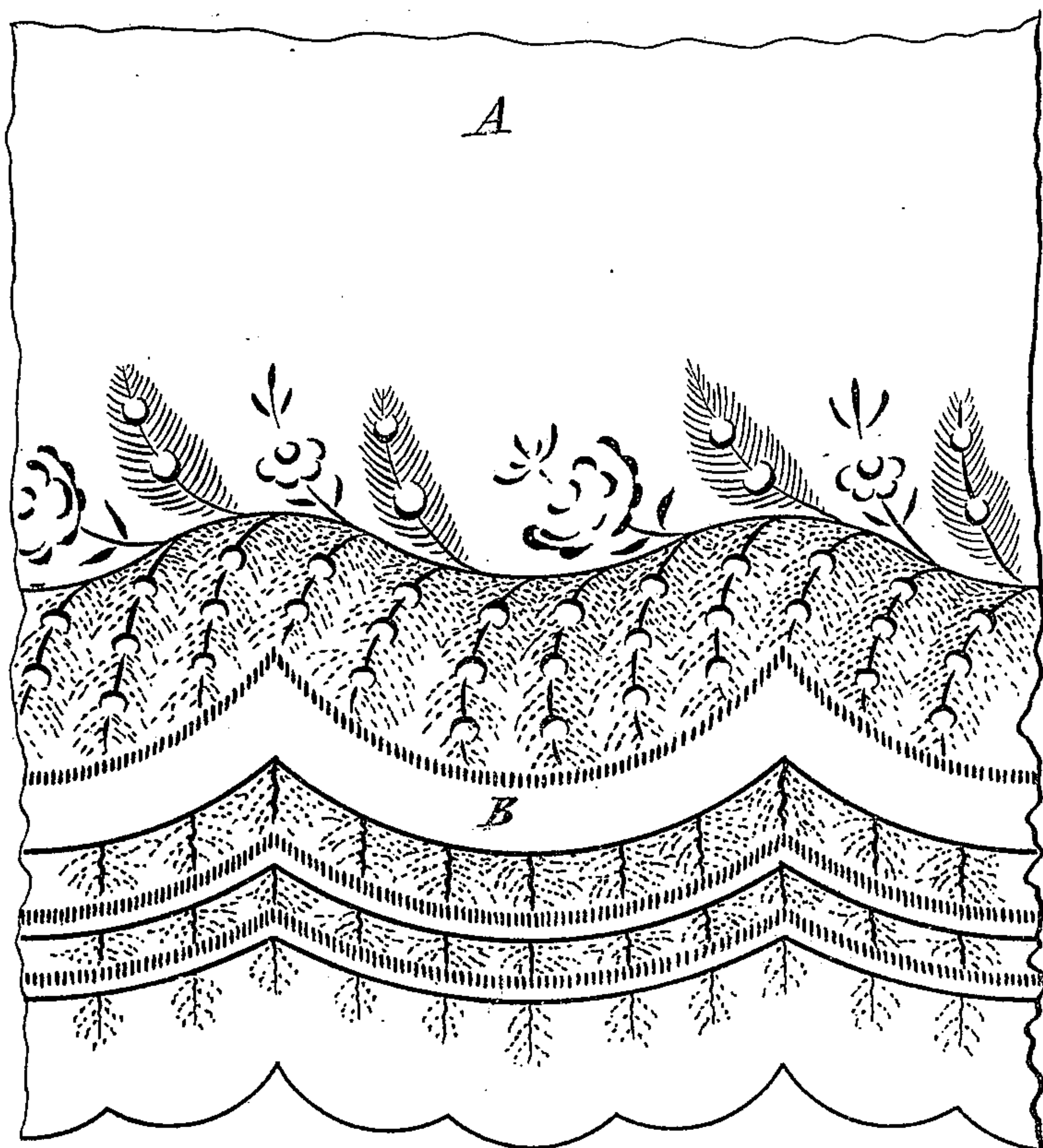
Specimens.)

E. R. RIESENFELD.

SHELF OIL CLOTH.

No. 291,939.

Patented Jan. 15, 1884.



Fitnesses:
James A. Skilton
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Inventor.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD R. RIESENFELD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO CHARLES H. WIGHT, OF SAME PLACE.

SHELF OIL-CLOTH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 291,939, dated January 15, 1884.

Application filed October 2, 1882. (Specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD RICHARD RIESENFELD, of No. 61 Walker street, a subject of the King of Prussia, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful article of manufacture which I call Shelf Oil-Cloth, and a new and useful improvement in the art whereby the same is made, for which I have obtained no foreign patent, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an article intended to take the place of the article known as "shelf-paper," which is an ornamentally perforated paper prepared in strips, with the ornamented part on one edge so disposed that the unperforated part of the paper can be so placed as to cover the shelf proper, while the ornamental part hangs over and below the edge of the shelf. Such paper is easily defaced and torn, requiring to be replaced at frequent intervals.

Plain enameled cloth has been tried as a substitute for the shelf-paper, being ornamentally pinked or perforated in the same manner, and provided with an indented, scalloped, or pinked edge; but the resulting product has failed to give satisfaction as shelf-covering material, for the reason that the edges of the holes could not be clear cut, owing to the difficulties presented by the fibers of the cloth, which, in part, resisting the knife, gave a ragged and unsightly appearance to the goods; and in use a further objection was developed—shelf-paper could not be washed. Shelf enameled cloth could be washed; but in washing it the water would reach the ragged fibers about the perforations, pass through the holes to the unprotected cloth back of the goods, which presently became soiled and objectionable. This state of facts has prevented the adoption and general use of this style of shelf-covering. Also, strips of leather cut or stamped out have been fastened to the edges of shelves. Further, enameled-cloth shelf-covering, when perforated ornamentally, does not show as well as shelf-paper or present as distinctly the design intended, partly owing to the absence of the contrast in cloth of some colors which the holes present in shelf-paper, and partly owing to the presence of the white fibers of the cloth material. These difficulties and objections

are overcome in my invention, wherein an ornamental border is printed upon one edge of that part of the enameled cloth intended for a shelf-cover, leaving that part intended to cover the top of the shelf substantially plain, while that part which is intended to hang over the edge of the shelf is provided with a printed design or ornamental border of any desirable pattern. This design may be printed on single strips of the shelf-covering of any desired width and cover. A great variety of designs and colors can be used in many combinations, thereby producing an extended list of tasteful goods in this particular class. I prepare light enameled cloth or other water-proof flexible fabric in various colors and in continuous sheets. I then prepare blocks for printing, having various lace and other like patterns thereon, and laying off the enameled cloth into strips to suit the different widths of shelf, I print the lace and other patterns in two or more parallel rows thereon. Subsequently, after drying and curing in any usual manner, I cut the full sheets into strips having the lace pattern on one edge, so as to hang over the edge of the shelf when the plain part rests upon the shelf-top. In cutting the strips the edge may be left straight, or cut in scallops or in any other desired form. The printed border takes the place and produces very much the effect of the perforated patterns in shelf-paper, which cannot be cut with clear and clean edges surrounding the holes made, as in paper, since the fiber in the cloth is found difficult to cut perfectly.

The figure of the drawing represents the preferred form of my invention.

A is the plain portion, which rests upon the top, and B is the decorative margin to overhang the edge of the shelf. Of course the top A may be figured without departing from the spirit of my invention, and the part B may be decorated by a series of distinct designs. The design or designs, however, must be distinct, independent, and complete.

My shelf oil-cloth can be washed and thereby be kept clean and sweet, while at all times it presents a superior appearance.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, the shelf-

covering described, consisting of a strip of enameled or water-proof cloth or other fabric, having a plain portion to cover the top of the shelf, and a printed decorative border on one side to overhang the edge of the shelf, as specified.

5 2. A shelf-cover consisting of a strip of enameled or water-proof fabric, having the

border or margin designed to overhang the edge of the shelf ornamented by a complete and independent decorative pattern or design, as specified.

EDWARD R. RIESENFELD.

Witnesses:

WM. H. BUTTERWORTH,
JAMES A. SKILTON.