

(No Model.)

J. F. McCLAIN.  
WOOD ORNAMENTATION.

No. 307,483.

Patented Nov. 4, 1884.

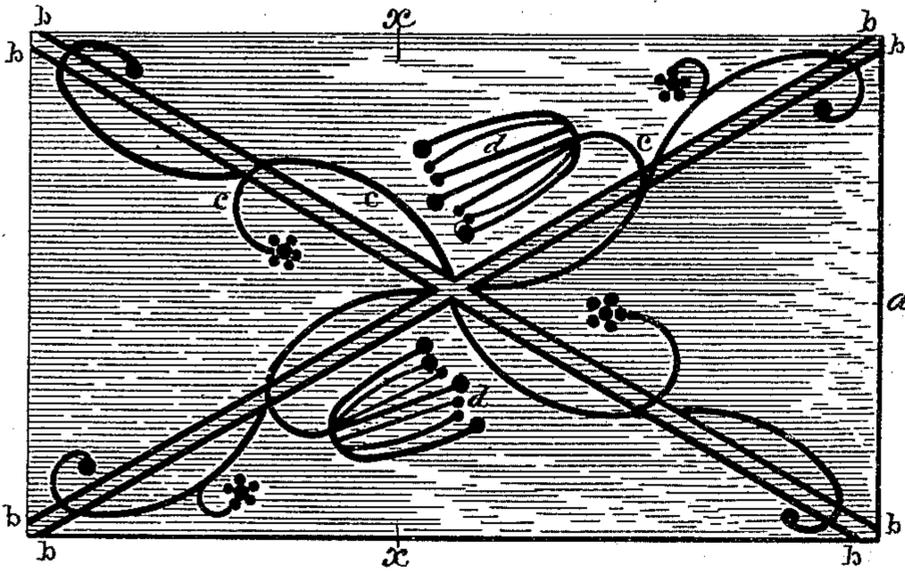


Fig. 1.

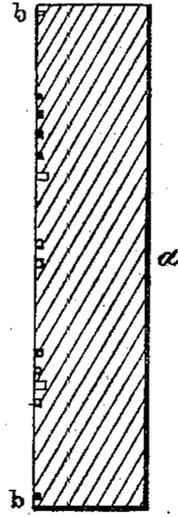


Fig. 2.

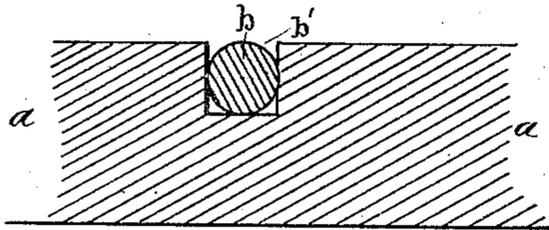


Fig. 3.

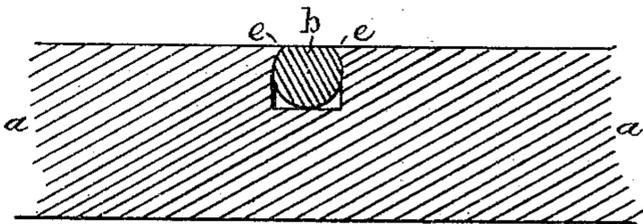


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. McCLAIN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## WOOD-ORNAMENTATION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 307,483, dated November 4, 1884.

Application filed April 5, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN F. McCLAIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ornamental Inlaid Work of Metallic Wires, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to an improved method of ornamenting wood-work of any kind, particularly the hard woods which are made into furniture; and it consists in the particular manner of inserting in the wood metallic round wires, all of which will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

15 In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a face view of a piece of wood ornamented according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents, on a very enlarged scale, a section of one of the grooves with a wire inserted. Fig. 4 represents a section of a groove with wire fastened in and the surface of the wood rubbed down.

20 A represents a piece of wood ornamented in any desired pattern by the insertion of wires *a a*, which in Fig. 1 run diagonally from opposite corners. *b b* are curved wires, and *c c* represent flower-stems. *d d* are flowers, and *e e* represent compound flowers. Any form of ornamentation may be chosen, and by the method I adopt the wires used can be made to conform easily to the pattern. To accomplish this I use a tool having the cross-section and exact dimensions of the groove to be made in the wood to be ornamented. This groove is represented in Fig. 3 at *b'* just after it is cut, with a wire, *b*, inserted, very much enlarged to exhibit the method. The tool I use is of peculiar construction, which enables me to cut the grooves over the lines laid out on the wood. Any other device may be used to cut these grooves, as the tool is not a part of this invention, but may form the subject-matter of a future application. The depth of

the groove is just the same as the diameter of the round wire to be inserted in it. The diameter of the wire is a little larger than the width of the groove, so that it will require some power to force the wire down to its bearing in the bottom of the groove. Brass and all other rigid hard wires must be annealed, so that they will become very flexible. All white metals and copper wires are flexible enough. The wires are all properly stretched to take out of them short bends, kinks, &c., just before being used. It is essential that the wires when inserted should require considerable force to put them in the grooves, so that after the completion of the work they will require considerable force to remove them. After having been well bedded in the grooves I then use a thin glue over the wires in the grooves, and while the wood is warm and moist I rub down the upper corners of the sides of the groove, as at *e e*, Fig. 4, upon the round top of the wire very hard. The use of the glue is to retain the fibers of the wood rubbed down, and when the glue becomes hard the wood fibers are closed over the top of the wire and will prevent the wire from rising, as the orifice is smaller than the diameter of the wire. I then dress off the face of the wood as shown in Fig. 4, and use a fine file to reduce the top of the wire to the level of the wood, as seen at *b*, and thus present a plane surface, and the whole is properly finished and varnished as may be required.

I claim—

The method of ornamenting the surface of wood by inserting round wires in grooves cut into the wood, then forcing the fiber of the wood over the wire and securing it by thin glue, and finishing the same, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN F. McCLAIN.

Witnesses:

JOHN LOCKIE,  
WM. R. SINGLETON.