

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OLIVER EDWARDS VAIL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## WALL-DECORATING MATERIAL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 316,083, dated April 21, 1885.

Application filed September 13, 1884. (Specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, OLIVER EDWARDS VAIL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful improvement to be known as "Paper Repoussé," and for purposes of wall decoration and other ornamentation; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same.

The object of my invention is to provide an irregular or wrinkled surface which, when finished, may resemble leathers, hammered or cast metals, wood barks, and majolica ware.

To carry my invention into effect I dip into water a sheet of paper, (say of the quality known as "red express" paper,) which, when soaked, I mass into a ball and squeeze the water therefrom, then spread out the paper and if the wrinkles are not as desired I again draw together and squeeze the mass until the wrinkles in size and mass are satisfactory. Then I spread the sheet to dry.

Heretofore moistened paper has been pressed into molds or blocks to obtain configuration or surface ornament. By my methods no molds, blocks, or machinery of any kind is needed. Besides, I produce an ununiform design throughout each sheet and every sheet, which cannot be accomplished by blocks or molds. When the sheet is dry, I use a thick paste and apply upon the wall or surface designed to be ornamented, or paste the sheets, joining them together, upon a heavy paper of any desired

size or shape, which, when again dried, I shellac or glue-size to harden the surface and prevent absorption of the finishing material. I then paint or bronze for finish and use the same as linerusta Walton or wall papers.

The novelty of this invention is, producing an ununiform and differently-wrinkled surface with each sheet without blocks, molds, or machinery, and at an inexpensive cost, which is suitable for wall decoration and other ornamentation, and which has not to my knowledge been before used upon walls for decoration or other ornamentation, nor described in books for such use.

Having fully described my invention, what I desire to claim and secure by Letters Patent is—

1. The wrinkling of paper by soaking, squeezing, and drying for the purpose of wall decoration and other ornamentation, all substantially as described.

2. A corrugated decorative paper made substantially in the manner and for the purpose declared, all substantially as described.

3. An article to be used for wall-paper, wall decoration, and other ornamentation presenting an ununiform and wrinkled surface, produced by soaking or wetting paper and squeezing or otherwise wrinkling and drying the same with wrinkled or ununiform surface left remaining, all substantially as described.

OLIVER EDWARDS VAIL.

Witnesses:

AUSTIN BIERBOWER,  
THOMAS J. WALSH.