(No Model.)

T. B. TERRY.

ORNAMENTING SHEARS AND SCISSORS.

No. 316,311. Patented Apr. 21, 1885.

Fig. 1.

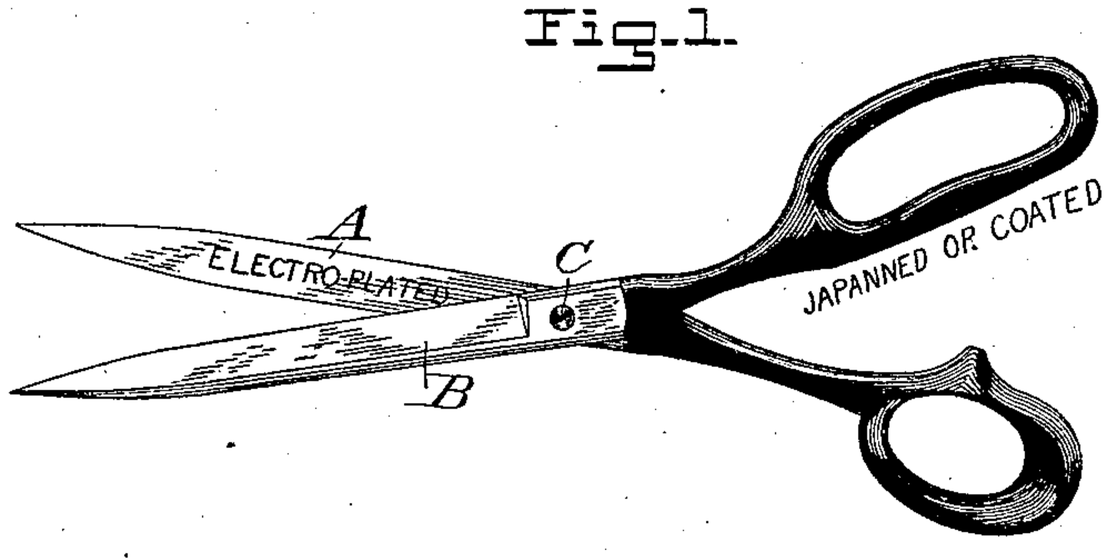
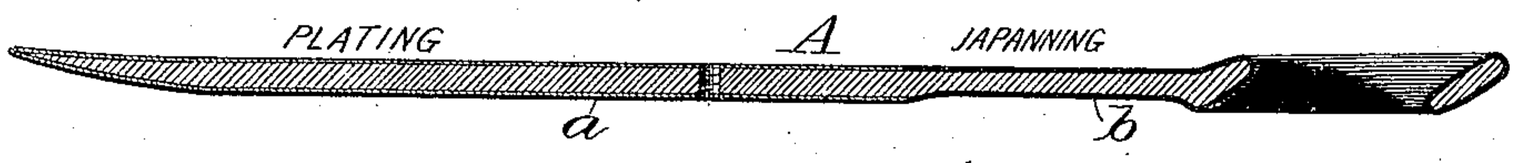


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TITUS B. TERRY, OF TOLEDO, OHIO.

ORNAMENTING SHEARS AND SCISSORS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 316,311, dated April 21, 1885.

Application filed March 7, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TITUS B. TERRY, of Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented certain Improvements in Ornamenting Shears and Scissors, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to ornamenting and finishing shears and scissors; and it consists in japanning the handles or coating them with rubber, composition, or other substance capable of producing an ornamental and durable finish and preventing the handles from rusting, and plating the blades or cutting portion with nickel or other suitable metal.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a face view of a pair of shears embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a longitudinal sectional view of one of the blade and handle sections or parts thereof.

In order that my invention may be the more perfectly understood and distinguished from what has hitherto been done, I may state here that shears and scissors have hitherto been plated throughout—that is to say, the plating has been applied both to the handles and to the blades, but never, so far as I am aware, to either alone—and in other cases the blades have been simply polished without plating or coating of any kind, while the handles were japanned or coated with paint, varnish, or composition of one kind or another.

Plating the entire shears, including the handles, produces a pleasing effect, and greatly lessens the chance of rusting, particularly of the blades; but, besides being expensive, the plating of the handles is less satisfactory than japanning or coating them with rubber or other composition, because, as is well known, minute crevices or interstices exist in plating, and especially nickel-plating, even when the utmost care is taken in performing the plating operation, and the natural moisture of the hands, which necessarily come into contact with the handles in using the shears or scissors, soon finds its way through the interstices to the underlying metal, causing the handles to rust, and thus greatly disfiguring the shears or scissors. This difficulty is not experienced when the handles are japanned or coated with rubber or other composition, and hence this mode of protecting the handles is preferable to plating. This coating is found by actual use to be far more lasting and durable than even the most perfect plating as a covering for the handles of shears and scissors. For the blade portions, however, plating is the only feasible mode of protection, because the blades must be free from any coating which would interfere with the formation or maintenance of a perfectly sharp edge, or which would scale off in use or prevent the free operation of the blades one with the other. The plating prevents the rusting of the blades, which, if it occurs, greatly impairs the usefulness of the shears or scissors. I therefore plate the blades and japan the handles or coat them with rubber, composition, or other finish susceptible of application in a fluid or plastic state. The point at which the plating and the japanning or like finish meet may vary somewhat; but the point where the handles begin to spread outward is commonly adopted.

Referring to the drawings, A and B indicate the two blades of a pair of shears, connected by a pivot or fulcrum screw, C, as usual. As more plainly represented in Fig. 2, the blades are protected and ornamented by a thin film or layer, *a*, of nickel or other suitable metal, and the handles are likewise protected and ornamented by a coating, *b*, of japanning, rubber, composition, or any equivalent material capable of producing a pleasing contrast with the plating of the blades and of preventing oxidation or corrosion of the handles.

The shears thus finished are not only better adapted for long-continued use and less liable to rust than shears finished in any manner hitherto proposed, but they are quite ornamental, and sell in preference even to the more expensive all-plated shears.

The particular mode of carrying out or practically applying the invention is comparatively immaterial—that is to say, the blades may be plated first, and the handles coated subsequently, or the handles may be coated first and the blades then plated; but the first plan is preferred.

The plating is done in the usual manner by suspending the blade in a plating solution and causing the necessary electric current to pass, after which the surface is polished as usual.

The japanning is likewise performed in the ordinary way, the varnish or solution being applied either by immersing the handles therein or with the aid of a brush, after which the usual baking and finishing operations are performed. In like manner, if other coating substances or compositions be employed, they will be applied in the usual way of applying them to other articles.

Care must be taken to insure a perfect unison of the plating and japanning or other coating, as the presence of even a minute opening between them would render them liable to rust at that point. Such perfect joint was for some time considered and found impracticable; but by dipping the plated portion into the japanning or other coating solution, or applying said solution slightly beyond the line of the previously-applied plating, or by thoroughly cleaning the surface of the exposed material after the japanning or other coating is applied and dipping the parts into the solution slightly above the line of said coating, the plating and japanning or coating can be perfectly joined. This I have ascertained by experiment and continued in practice after being advised by various manufacturers that the operation was impracticable, and after various attempts had failed.

In view of the state of the art as above set forth I make no claim, broadly, to the plating of scissors or shears throughout, nor broadly to japanning or similarly finishing the handles of shears which are not plated.

I am aware that it has been proposed to produce ornamental designs by first forming the object of metal with a raised design and sunken background, coating the entire surface raised and depressed with a suitable fluid or semi-fluid coating, hardening such coating, removing said coating from the raised portions by an emery-wheel or equivalent means, and, finally, electroplating such exposed portions. I make no claim to such process, which is not only inapplicable to the finishing of scissors and shears in the manner described by me, but also requires the part to be plated to be raised above the surface to be coated with the fluid or semi-fluid substance, entails a considerable waste of such substance, and involves operations and expense wholly avoided by my process.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

As a new article of manufacture, a pair of shears or scissors having the blades plated with a metal different from that of which they are made, and having their handles japanned or coated with equivalent finish.

TITUS B. TERRY.

Witnesses:
FREDERICK L. GEDDES,
CLARENCE BROWN.