

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH M. WADE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## ORNAMENTING SURFACES OF WOOD, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 322,219, dated July 14, 1885.

Application filed December 22, 1884. (Specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH MILWARD WADE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful  
5 Improvements in the Art of Decorating or Ornamenting the Surfaces of Wood, &c., with colors or mordants applied in the manner hereinafter described, of which the following is a specification.

10 The process consists of three steps, viz: first, so preparing the surface, as of a panel of wood, that it will be non-absorbent of the liquids afterward applied upon it; second, the application of the pattern, as a stencil-sheet,  
15 upon the surface; and, third, the peculiar method of applying the liquid, either of color or mordant, by a rolling action, as will hereinafter appear.

When the surface is of wood, a coat of var-  
20 nish is applied to it to prevent the liquids afterward applied from running into the grains or fibers of the surface. When this varnish is sufficiently dry, then a stencil-sheet is applied upon said surface, and this sheet is  
25 preferably made of tracing-cloth, or such material as draftsmen use for tracing drawings, for the reason that it is very thin and strong and will not allow the colors to be piled up against the edges of the perforations  
30 or openings of the outline of the design. This pattern or stencil-sheet being applied and fastened upon the surface, then a roller or the segment of a circle made of wood or other convenient substance and faced or covered  
35 with a plush or velvet or similar fabric, such as is used for covering furniture—that is, a short plush and stiff fiber of woven material provided with a handle—is employed to ap-  
40 ply the color by first applying the said fibrous surface upon the color or mordant on the palette or stone, and then rolling it, or by a rolling action applying it to the surface through the stencil-sheet, the result of which operation is that the liquid color or other  
45 substance is applied evenly and without lines or piles against the edges of the stencil-sheet, or without streaks, as by the bristles of a brush, or dots, as is the case in stippling; and this forms the essential and new feature

of my process, as I have found that colors 50 may be thus applied that will be so smooth and consistent as not to be distinguished from inlaid work of the real woods. For example, if I wish to imitate ebony as inlaid on maple, I first varnish the maple surface 5. and then coat the entire surface with a distemper of black, then apply the pattern or stencil sheet for determining the outline of the ebony, and then apply a mordant or setting for the distemper color by a rolling action, 6. which makes it extremely even, and then wash off the remaining portions of the distemper color. So, also, for the imitation of the inlaying of any woods, I use the same process, only imitating the color and grain of 6 the woods in the distemper, then “fixing” it by a mordant or “setting” by the use of the stencil and the rolling agent, as above set forth.

Another important advantage of this rolling 7 action is the gradual application of any color as a paint—as, for example, if a portion of a figure is to be formed by one color and then vanish into another color, one color may be applied from the opposite side and so 7 vanish off into another, which may be applied from the reverse direction, and so produce most beautiful effects in the blending of the colors where they meet or overlies or under-  
8 lie each other, as the case may be. The same thing is true of the application of mordants for fixing colors which may have been previously applied.

It must be evident that a single roller may be used, fastened in a handle, for applying 8 the color, or even a segment of a circle, as the section of a cylinder or the curved surface with a handle on the concave side, as either of these will answer the purpose; but it is preferred to use three rolls, as set forth in 9 another application for a patent about to be made by me.

This process may be used on paper, paste or straw board, or on woven fabrics, leather, &c., and then employed for decorating cars, dining-rooms, conservatories, &c., or for churches or other buildings.

I therefore claim—

The process or method of ornamenting surfaces, as of wood or other similar substances, by first applying a non-absorbing agent, as varnish; second, applying the pattern as a stencil-sheet, and then applying the color or mordant by a rolling action, as hereinbefore set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH M. WADE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

PHILIP J. O'REILLY,

J. G. McMURRAY.