# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID ISAACSON, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

## METHOD OF MAKING PICTURES.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DAVID ISAACSON, of Providence, in the county of Providence, State of Rhode Island, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in the Method of Making Pictures, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or sience to which said invention appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to that class of pictures which are produced by photography; and it consists, principally, in a novel method of transferring and finishing the picture, as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed, the object being to furnish a more pleasing and artistic article of this character than has heretofore been produced by the ordinary process.

The nature of the improvement will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters from the following explanation.

In carrying out my invention I first prepare the following compound, which I term the "albumen compound:" To the white of one egg add half a dram of powdered sugar and stir until thoroughly mixed. I then take any ordinary positive unvarnished albumen print on paper, and mount it on glass by means of said compound, in the following manner: The glass on which the print is to be mounted is taken in the hand, or held in any suitable implement for that purpose, and the compound poured onto it after the manner of coating a glass with collodion, and permitted to dry for about five minutes. The face of the unvarnished front is next coated with the compound in substantially the same manner, and the coated surfaces of the glass and print placed together, the print being rubbed down and smoothed with an artist's rubber until it is firmly united to the glass, after which it is permitted to dry thoroughly. I then wet a soft sponge in hot water and saturate the paper of the print completely, and when it is softened, so as to be removed without injuring the albumen, I carefully rub off the paper, leaving the albumen fully exposed. After the paper of the print has been softened by the hot water and removed, as described, the albumen is permitted to dry thoroughly, after which it is varnished with what I term "carbon varnish," which is prepared as follows: To eight ounces of ninety-five per cent. alcohol add one ounce of best pulverized white lac, and stir until dissolved. When the lac is thoroughly dissolved in the alcohol, I add to the mixture about one table-spoonful of finely-pulverized animal charcoal, and let it stand for twenty-four hours, and then carefully filter. I then take the glass and carefully apply to its coated side a thin coat of the carbon varnish and let it dry thoroughly, after which I paint each feature of the picture in natural or proper colors with any suitable oil-paints, preferably Windsor and Newton's, the paints being mixed in the ordinary manner and applied to the rear or coated side of the glass. After the picture is painted, as described, it may be cased or framed to protect the painted film from injury. The carbon varnish renders the albumen film on the glass transparent, and enables the paints to be properly applied. It also protects the film from injury.

My original object in adding the charcoal to the mixture of lac and alcohol was to purify it; but I have found that its action is phenominal, the varnish of which it forms a component part, as described, giving to the picture a tone, brilliancy, and clearness which I have been unable to produce by any other means.

I do not confine myself to the precise quantity of either ingredient given in preparing the albumen compound or carbon varnish, as the quantities may be varied considerably without departing from the spirit of my invention. Some of the ingredients may also be substituted by others of like nature, if desired.

Having thus explained my invention, what I claim is—

The improved method of making a picture herein described, the same consisting, essentially, in coating a positive unvarnished albumen print with the albumen compound and partially drying the same, coating one side of a glass with the albumen compound and partially drying the same, uniting the coated surfaces of the glass and print, and rubbing down the print smoothly, saturating and removing the paper of the print, varnishing the film on the glass with the carbon varnish, and then painting the film in colors, substantially as specified.

DAVID ISAACSON.

Witnesses:
C. A. SHAW,
L. J. WHITE.