

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GIUSEPPE MORA, OF MILAN, ITALY.

PROCESS OF PRODUCING COPIES OF OIL-PAINTINGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 603,533, dated May 3, 1898.

Application filed February 21, 1896. Serial No. 580,271. (No specimens.) Patented in Italy August 8, 1895, No. 39,330, and in Germany December 13, 1897, No. 96,154.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GIUSEPPE MORA, manufacturer, a subject of the King of Italy, residing at Via Stella No. 34, Milan, in the Kingdom of Italy, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Processes of Producing Copies of Oil-Paintings, (for which I have obtained Letters Patent in Italy, No. 39,330, dated August 8, 1895, and in Germany, No. 96,154, dated December 13, 1897,) of which the following is a specification.

The efforts made heretofore for reproducing by a mechanical process oil-paintings with a view to have them in every respect to correspond with the original even as regards the ruggedness imparted to the original by the diverse layers of paint and by the strokes or touches of the brush have not yet given satisfactory results, owing to the fact that by printing the transparent paints on top of the layers of the main or basal paints both the texture of the canvas becomes invisible and the ruggedness of the original, imitated in the copy by handwork or by stencils, is destroyed in consequence of the heavy pressure of the lithographic stones. I overcome this inconvenience by using instead of the stones a machine with a pair of printing-cylinders, one of which is, by means of a rubber cover, provided with an elastic yielding surface. This cylinder carries the transparent paint and, owing to its yielding capacity, does not, like the lithographic stone, level the rugged surface of the main paints to penetrate into the cavities of the main paints without pressing down their protuberances, so that all the peculiarities of the original will be shown in the reproduction.

The present invention relates to a process for mechanically reproducing oil-paintings or pictures of different kind, and more especially to the printing of the transparent paints after the main or basal paints have been laid on by means of stencils.

The special object of the invention is the reproduction of the original picture in a most perfect manner and with all its peculiarities, such as the different heaps and blurs of paint and the strokes arising from the touches of the brush.

The new process consists, after the canvas on which the copy is to be made has been given a waterproof ground-coat, in the main or basal paints being laid on by means of so many stencils as correspond to the number of single paints shown in the original, so that a rugged surface is obtained, arising from the uneven conglomeration of the paints in conformity with the original oil-painting. After the basal paints have been laid on they are covered with varnish, and subsequently all the colors of the original that have not been copied yet are printed on top of the varnished basis by means of a lithographic machine with two cylinders, one of which is covered with rubber and is destined to carry the paint and transport it to the rough basis. In the present case the elasticity of the rubber cylinder allows of the transparent paints being coherently printed, notwithstanding the ruggedness of the surface to be printed upon. The picture having been finished thus far and thoroughly dried, a "calque" of the original oil-painting is printed on top of the transparent colors by means of a color in dust form which must be soluble in water, alcohol, or kerosene, &c., in order to enable the printer to finish or retouch the copy by means of a brush and in accordance with the contour printed with the powdered color. After having finished the copy in this way the print of the calque is washed off.

What I claim is—

The herein-described process of producing copies of oil-paintings, consisting in laying on the main or basal paints by means of stencils corresponding in number to the number of single paints in the original, whereby a rugged surface is obtained, then printing the surface paints on top of the said rugged base formed by the main or basal paints by means of a yielding printing-surface, and finishing the picture in the manner specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, in presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 7th day of February, 1896.

GIUSEPPE MORA.

Witnesses:

GOFFREDO ORINNI,
SYLVESTER M. D. SPAGNOLI.