

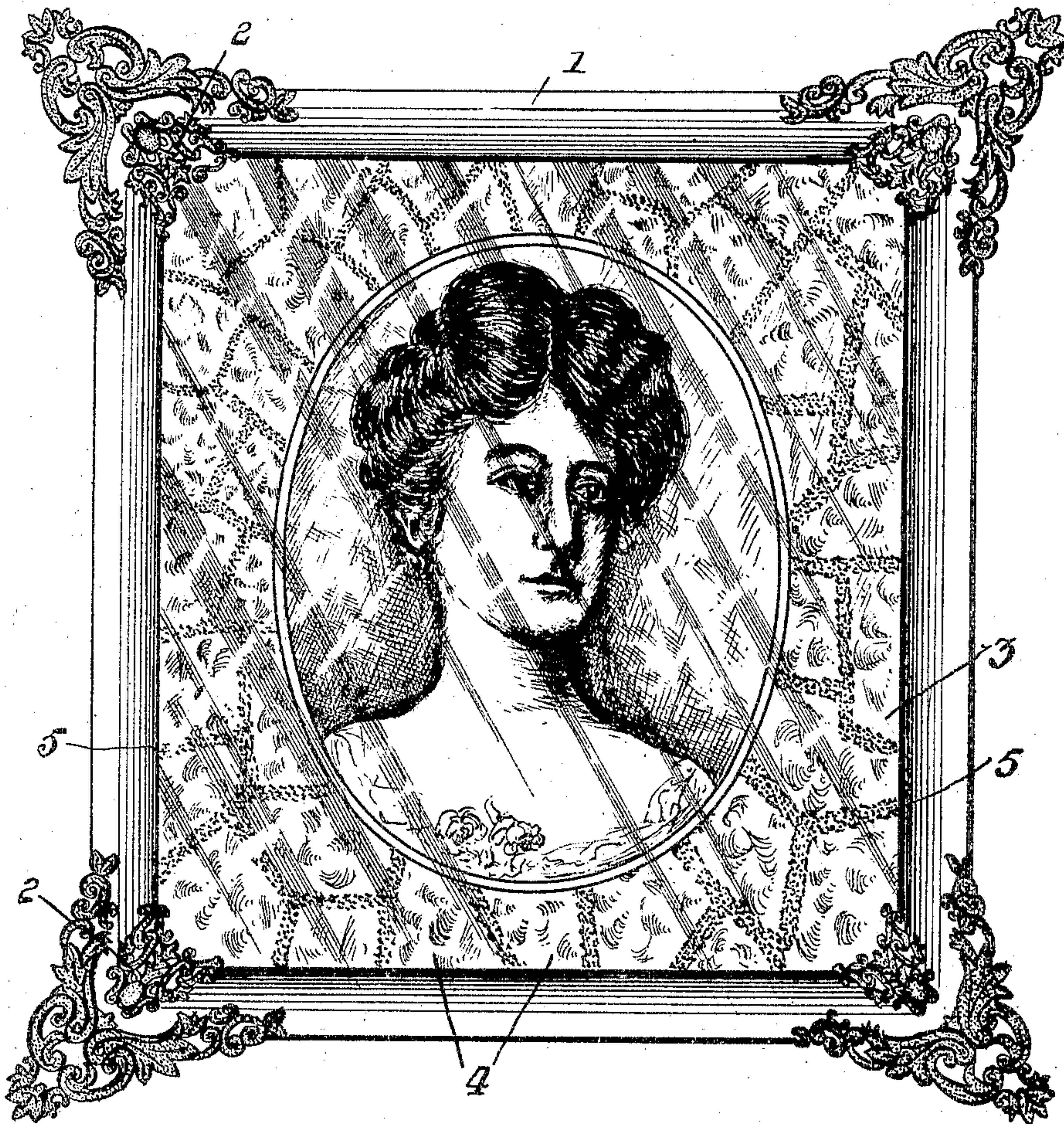
No. 776,316.

PATENTED NOV. 29, 1904.

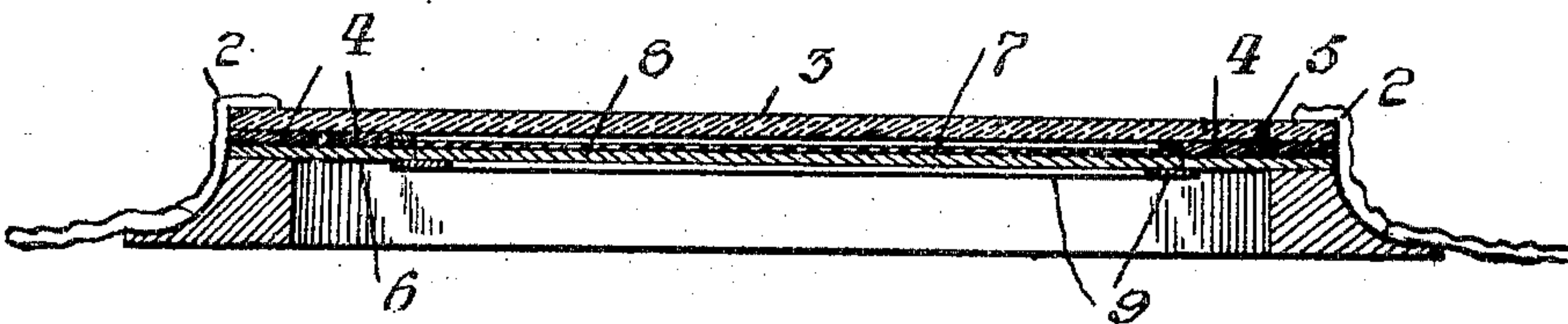
S. S. GARDNER.  
PICTURE FRAME.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 6, 1904.

NO MODEL.



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*

Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL S. GARDNER, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

## PICTURE-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 776,316, dated November 29, 1904.

Application filed July 6, 1904. Serial No. 215,511. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SAMUEL S. GARDNER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Picture-Frames, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention has relation to pictures, and more particularly to mats that are employed in framing pictures.

The invention has for its object to provide a mat for pictures that will be highly attractive in design and artistic in character.

Another object of my invention is to construct a mat for picture-frames that will be extremely simple in construction and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture.

20 In carrying my invention into effect I have provided a mat for pictures which will be attractive to the eye, and I have so constructed the same that it will enhance the artistic quality of the picture. It is a well-known fact 25 that some pictures which are very good subjects are lacking in vigor and are weak and flat, and in providing my improved mat I have constructed the same upon such lines 30 that a contrast will be established between the picture and a mat whereby the beauty and highly-attractive design of the same will enhance the lacking features of the picture.

Briefly described, my improvement in pictures resides in providing a mat which will 35 be formed upon the glass of the frame, which is employed to protect a picture mounted in the frame. The mat is formed of a pearly material, such as mother-of-pearl, and it is cemented or otherwise secured to the glass 40 in a frame, a filling having an iridescent effect being interposed between such pieces of pearl, whereby the same will be exposed through the glass and present a neat and attractive appearance. A suitable opening is 45 allowed in the mat to accommodate a picture.

The above construction will be hereinafter more fully described.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a picture-frame, mat, and 50 picture mounted therein, said parts being con-

structed in accordance with my invention; and Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same.

Throughout both views of the drawings like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts, and the reference-numeral 1 indicates a frame, which may be made of wood or sheet metal, the frame being artistically ornamental as may be desired. Upon the corners of the frame I provide ornamentations 2 2, which are employed to secure a plate of glass 3 upon the frame, these ornamentations overlapping the corners of the glass and retaining the same thereon. Upon the inner side or rear face of the glass I construct my improved mat, this mat consisting of a plurality of pieces of mother-of-pearl or the like, as indicated by the reference-numerals 4 4, and to secure said pieces of mother-of-pearl upon the glass I employ a suitable cement. As the pieces of mother-of-pearl are irregular in shape, it is impossible at all times to place the pieces of pearl together so as to make a tight-fitting joint, and to overcome the bad effect that would be produced by said joints I employ a filler in connection with the cement to secure the pieces of pearl to the glass. Any suitable liquid or transparent cement may be used, and in connection with the cement a filler composed of gravel or sand and finely-powdered mica is used, this composition being highly colored with various transparent colors, which will give an iridescent effect to the filler. By employing a filler composed of the above ingredients I have as near as possible imitated the general appearance of pearl, the filler displaying a brilliancy of changeable colors similar to the natural pearl, and when this filler has been placed between the pieces of mother-of-pearl as designated by the reference-numeral 5 the entire mat will present an optical illusion of being formed of one solid piece of pearl.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated the picture of a woman as being mounted in a frame, and this picture may be cemented to the glass or may be placed in the frame in the ordinary manner, and where it is desired to have the picture appear in an oval such an opening in the mat is maintained when 100



the mat is constructed, and in Fig. 2 of the drawings I have illustrated the mat as being backed or supported by a suitable material, such as cardboard. The cardboard, as designated by the reference-numeral 6, is cut away to permit the insertion of the picture 7 within the frame, the cut-away portion 8 being retained and bound with tape 9 or other suitable material, the one side of the cut-away portion 8 being hinged by securing the tape to one side of the backing or support 6.

It will be observed that in the style of frame and picture illustrated in the accompanying drawings the glass plate is secured upon the frame; yet I do not wish it to be understood that this is the preferable form of construction, as a frame of the ordinary character may be employed wherein the glass is mounted within the frame. It will also be noted that any desired shape of mat may be constructed upon the same principle as that set forth and an opening of any contour provided for the picture when constructing the mat. I do not care to limit myself to the use of glass alone, but may employ celluloid or any suitable transparent substance which will support the mother-of-pearl, and while I have herein described sand or gravel and mica as being employed to form a filling, colored gravel or sand with or without mica may be used and applied to the glass by coating the same with gelatin to which a desirable pigment has been added and upon the gelatin before it solidifies, these ingredients producing an iridescent metallic-like appearance or crystallization.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a mat for pictures and the like consisting of pieces of mother-of-pearl placed adjacent to each other, a filling having an iridescent effect interposed between said pieces of pearl.

2. In combination with a picture-frame, a plate of glass carried by said frame, a plurality of pieces of mother-of-pearl secured to said

glass, a filling having an iridescent effect interposed between the adjoining edges of said pearl, substantially as described.

3. In combination with a picture-frame, and a plate of glass carried by said frame, of pieces of pearl mounted upon said glass, a filling having an iridescent effect interposed between the adjoining edges of said pearl, and means for sustaining said pearl upon the glass.

4. In combination with a picture-frame having a glass mounted thereon, a plurality of pieces of mother-of-pearl mounted upon said glass, a filling composed of an iridescent material interposed between said pieces of pearl, and means for sustaining said pearl and filling upon the glass, substantially as described.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a mat for pictures consisting of a plurality of pieces of pearl, a filling composed of iridescent material interposed between said pieces of pearl, and means for sustaining said pearl within a picture-frame.

6. As a new article of manufacture, a mat for picture-frames and the like consisting of pieces of mother-of-pearl, a filling composed of sand, mica and a pigment, said filling adapted to be interposed between the edges of said pearl, and means for sustaining said mat within a picture-frame, substantially as described.

7. As a new article of manufacture, a mat for picture-frames and pictures, said mat consisting of a plurality of pieces of pearl mounted upon a glass plate, a filling composed of sand, mica and a pigment, said filling being interposed between adjoining edges of said pearl, means for securing said pearl and filling to a plate of glass, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL S. GARDNER.

Witnesses:

H. C. EVERT,

K. H. BUTLER.