No. 649,133. Patented May 8, 1900.

H. I. MARLATT.

PICTURE FRAME.

(Application filed Sept. 29, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

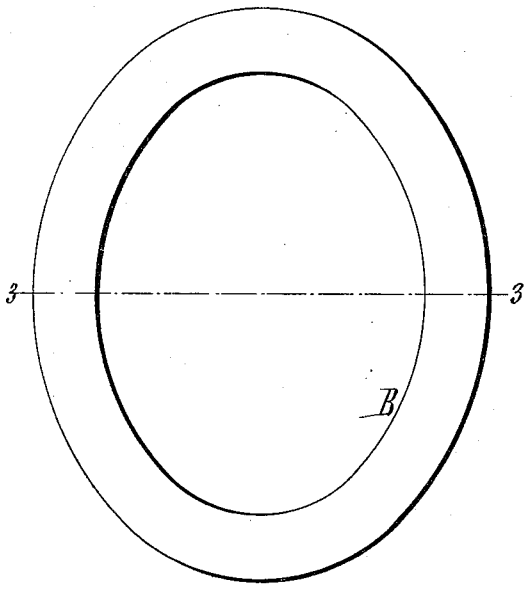


Fig. 2.

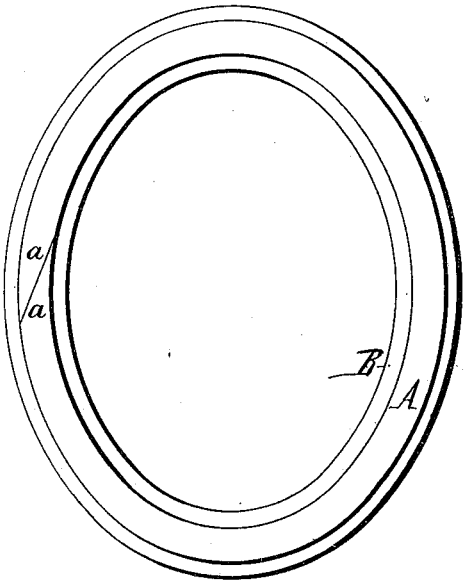
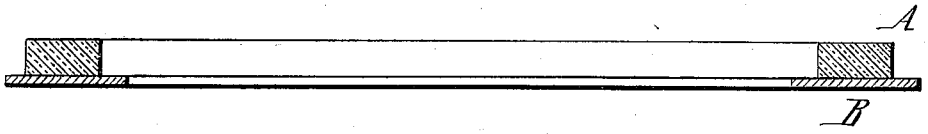


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HAMILTON IRVING MARLATT, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

PICTURE-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 649,133, dated May 8, 1900.

Application filed September 29, 1899. Serial No. 732,012. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HAMILTON IRVING MARLATT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Buffalo, in the county of Erie, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Picture-Frames, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the construction of the small oval and circular picture-frames which are adapted to receive pictures and photographs of cabinet size and which are usually gilded.

The object of my invention is the production of a strong frame of this kind which can be manufactured at less cost than the ordinary wooden frames and which is not liable to warp, shrink, or crack.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a frame embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section in line 3 3, Fig. 1.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

My improved frame consists of a body or main portion A and a facing B, which may be either plain or ornamented, as desired. The body is composed of a strip or band of asbestos board, which is bent in the desired oval or other form around a suitable form or mandrel, as may be most convenient. The board which I prefer for this purpose is that known in the trade as "asbestos millboard" and is sufficiently pliable to permit of the required bending. The strip is cut from a flat sheet of such material, with the grain or fiber running lengthwise of the strip in order to utilize the strength of the material to the best advantage. This strip is bent to the desired oval or circular form, and its ends are secured together either by suitable cement or by a mechanical fastening. Asbestos retort-cement or silicate of soda is satisfactory for this purpose. The ends *a* of the strip are preferably chamfered or beveled and are overlapped, as shown in Fig. 2, to form a strong flush joint. If the asbestos millboard is not sufficiently pliable to permit of bending, it is softened by moistening the same with diluted silicate of soda.

The facing B may consist of any suitable plastic material which is shaped to the desired form in a suitable mold. I prefer to employ for the facing a composition composed of a fibrous mineral cement, a mineral filler which gives body to the composition, and an oily or fatty ingredient. An asbestos cement composed of about seven parts, by weight, of sodium silicate, one part of asbestos, six parts of calcium carbonate, and five parts of water is very desirable for this purpose. Various substances may be used as the filler—for instance, kieselguhr or infusorial earth and geyserite, which are silicious substances, talc, whiting, magnesia, yellow ocher, tripoli, and the like. In preparing this composition for molding an oily ingredient is added, preferably linseed-oil or fish-oil, to counteract the tendency of the material to stick to the mold. I prefer to mix the ingredients in the proportion of about four pounds of asbestos cement, four pounds of filler, and one pint of oil. After molding the facing B the back thereof is cut or scraped off flush with the top of the mold, and the frame-body A, which has been previously constructed, is cemented at one edge to the flat back of the molded facing, this being done by applying a coating of cement to one edge of the frame-body and pressing the same against the back of the facing while the same is still in the mold. Silicate of soda or asbestos retort-cement may be used for so securing the frame-body to the facing. The molded facing is now withdrawn from the mold by means of the projecting body, to which it is cemented, and the frame is dried by exposing it to the atmosphere for a period of from twenty-four to forty-eight hours, after which it is subjected to a comparatively-high degree of heat in a suitable oven or kiln for a sufficient period to harden or bake the molded facing. After hardening the facing in this manner it may be gilded or otherwise decorated. The facing B may, however, be formed of asbestos board, if desired.

By this construction a strong and durable frame is obtained which can be produced at much less expense than a wooden frame of the same size. Moreover, the asbestos board of which the body of the frame is constructed and the ornamentation applied thereto are not affected by moisture, dampness, heat, or cold, and the frame therefore will not warp, shrink, or crack, nor will the ornamentation crack or check.

I claim as my invention—

1. A picture-frame having a body composed of a strip of asbestos board bent to the desired form and having its ends secured together, and a facing composed of a plastic material cemented to the front edge of said body-strip, substantially as set forth.

2. A picture-frame having a body composed of a strip of asbestos board bent to the desired form and having its ends secured together, and a facing formed of a composition of matter consisting of asbestos cement, a suitable filler and oil, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 22d day of September, 1899.

HAMILTON IRVING MARLATT.

Witnesses:
JNO. J. BONNER,
THEO. L. POPP.