

(No Model.)

C. E. WALDECK.

Inlaying Buttons and other Similar Articles.

No. 236,383.

Patented Jan. 4, 1881.

FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

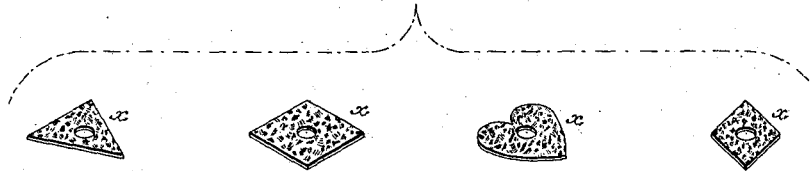
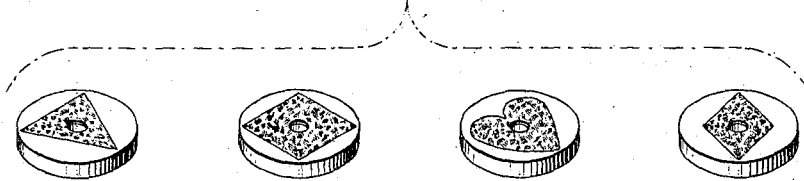


FIG. 3.



Witnesses:
James F. Jobin.
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Inventor:
Charles E. Waldeck
by his attorneys,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. WALDECK, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO
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INLAYING BUTTONS AND OTHER SIMILAR ARTICLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 236,383, dated January 4, 1881.

Application filed November 19, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. WALDECK, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Inlaying Buttons and other Similar Articles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of an economical mode, fully described hereinafter, of inlaying plastic material with flakes of pearl or other particles of ornamenting material in well-defined masses through the medium of paper or other fabric to which the said material is cemented, the main object of my invention being to make inlaid designs of the ornamenting particles in buttons and other objects.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a common form of ornamental button; Fig. 2, views of the tablets used in my invention; and Fig. 3, views of buttons made according to my invention.

In carrying out my invention I first sift or distribute the flakes or particles of crushed pearl or metal over the surface of a sheet of paper or fabric having an adhesive coating, so that the said flakes or particles will, when the coating becomes dry or hard, be firmly united to the backing. The latter is then cut into pieces of the desired shape, each of said pieces forming a tablet, *x*, having a face ornamented with the adhering flakes or particles. (See Fig. 2.) Prior to the pressing of the plastic material in the molds to form the desired objects, one of the tablets *x* is inserted in each of the recessed lower dies of the mold, the ornamented face of said tablet being downward. When the plastic material is pressed into the die the ornamented tablet will be embedded therein, and will be firmly retained when the material becomes set, the ornamented face of the tablet being exposed on the face of the molded object and forming thereon an inlaid design of definite form, as shown in Fig. 3.

Any desired means may be adopted for retaining the tablets *x* in their proper positions in the dies of the mold. In the present instance the invention is illustrated as applied

to the manufacture of buttons, and each of the tablets has a central opening adapted for the reception of the peg, whereby the central recess of the button is formed; but in manufacturing other articles means differing from this may have to be relied upon for retaining the tablet in position in the die.

In some cases the flakes or particles of crushed pearl or other material may be secured to the backing by means of a paste or cement capable of being dissolved, and the tablets may be placed in the mold face upward, so that after the objects have been molded the backing to which the flakes were secured may be removed, the flakes, however, adhering to the surface of the object and forming an inlaid design.

I am aware that slabs of pearl, ground or polished, and then shaped by tools or dies, have been embedded in molded objects of plastic material to form inlaid designs; but such a process is very expensive, and is not so generally available as mine, the slabs of pearl being usually flat, so that they cannot be applied to the ornamentation of objects having rounded surfaces; whereas the ornamented tablets made according to my invention are comparatively inexpensive, and can without injury be bent or curved to suit the shape of the die into which they are introduced.

I am aware, moreover, that molded ornaments have been embedded in plastic material, and that buttons have been ornamented by applying pulverized coloring material through stencil-plates while the substance of which the buttons are made is in a plastic condition; but the difference between my invention and these modes of ornamentation will be readily understood from the foregoing specification.

I claim as my invention—

1. The process described of embedding crushed or pulverized ornamenting material in plastic substances through the medium of paper or other fabric to which the said material has been cemented, substantially as described.

2. The mode described of producing buttons and other objects with well-defined in-laid designs, the said mode consisting in, first, cementing flakes of pearl or other particles of ornamenting material to paper or other fabric;
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second, cutting therefrom tablets of the desired configuration; and, third, embedding the tablets in the plastic material of which the buttons or other objects are made during the

operation of forming the same, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CH. E. WALDECK.

Witnesses:

JAMES F. TOBIN,
HARRY SMITH.