

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY ST. JOHN, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SURFACE-COLORING PERFORATED BOARD.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,360**, dated December 12, 1876; application filed December 6, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY ST. JOHN, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Color-Surfacing Perforated Board; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

This invention relates to an improvement in the manufacture of colored perforated board.

Colored boards have heretofore been made by pasting upon one or both surfaces of the sheet a thin sheet of paper of the tint desired, or the surface has been color-washed. This necessitates the coloring or finishing of the surface before the board is perforated, and it is impossible to attain a fine, smooth, dark or black surface by this pasting process; and if the color be washed or spread upon the surface after perforation, the holes will be more or less filled by the coloring matter.

The object of this invention is to produce a colored board without pasting, and which will allow of the perforation of the board before the surface is color-finished; and it consists in color-surfacing perforated board by lithographic press or analogous means, as more fully hereinafter described, and after the board has been perforated.

The color principally desired for perforated board is a jet-black; but other tints may be applied in the same manner.

In carrying out this invention, finished board, such as is found in market under the general name of "bristol-board," or bristol-board surface, is used. This is perforated in

the usual manner, and then is passed through a printing apparatus which has been previously charged with the ink or proper coloring matter. (Preferably a lithographic press is employed.) The board receives the ink over its entire surface, and comes from the machine a colored board.

The board is perforated before it passes through the printing or coloring operation, because in perforating the board the surface around the holes is liable to be defaced, or a burr formed around the perforation, and this coloring after perforation hides any such defacing. It is desirable that the board itself should be of a dark tint, approaching at least the color to be applied.

This process obviates a serious difficulty in perforating the colored board made with a thin pasted surface-paper, because in that the punches are liable to chip or raise the surface-paper, and thus make a defective perforation.

While it is preferred to finish the surface by means of the printing process, it is not the intention of this specification to confine the invention to that particular process; but it may be done by analogous means, it only being necessary that the board be finished before this process is applied.

I claim—

The herein-described method of surface-coloring perforated board, consisting in applying the color to the surface of the board after perforation, substantially as described.

HENRY ST. JOHN.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. EARLE,  
CLARA BROUGHTON.