G. W. BANKER.

PANEL.

No. 187,502. Patented Feb. 20, 1877.

Fig. 1.

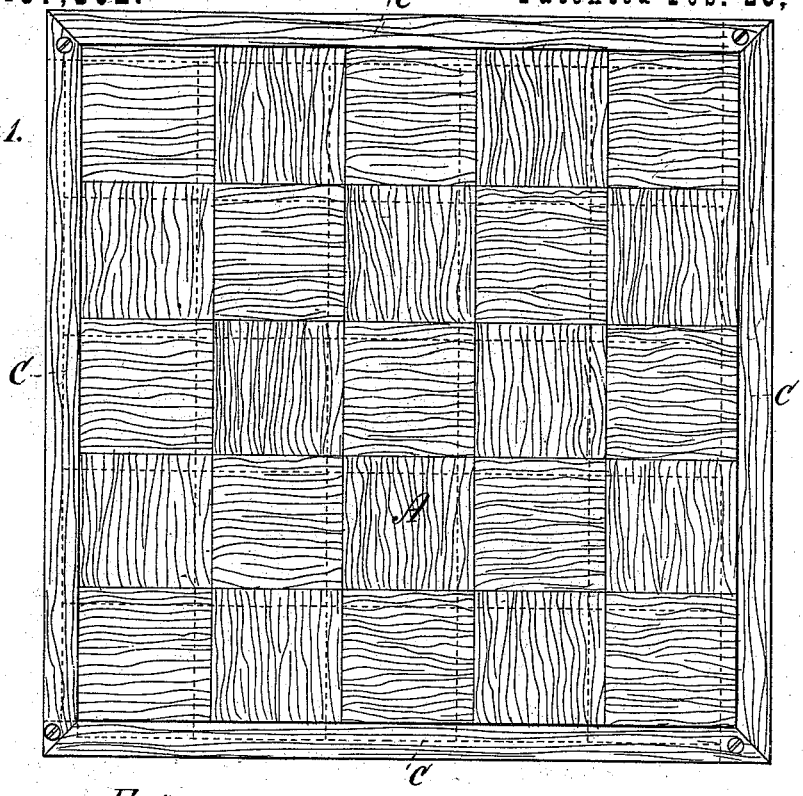


Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.

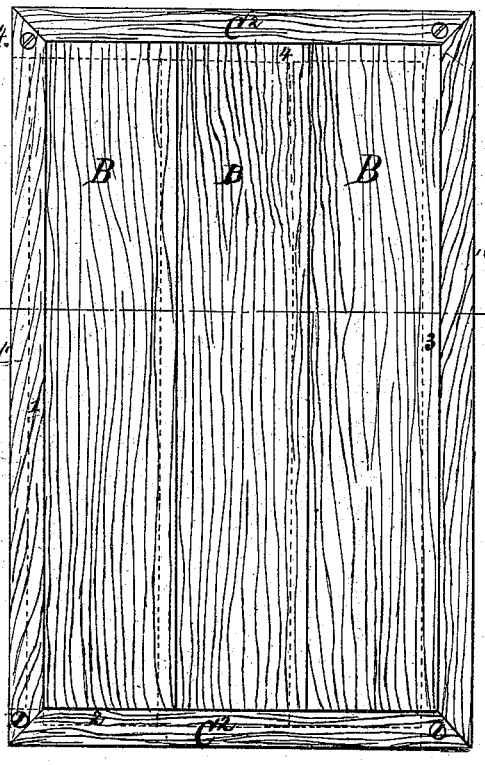


Fig. 2.

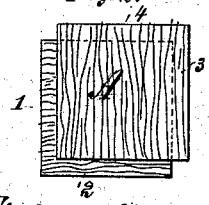
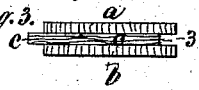


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

Theodore B. Foster.

B. S. Clark

Inventor:

Geo. W. Banker

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. BANKER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN PANELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **187,502**, dated February 20, 1877; application filed December 6, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. BANKER, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings, State of New York, have invented a new and useful Combination of Sheets or Plates of Wood for Panels, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of the same.

Figure 1 is a face view of a tessellated panel composed of square blocks, formed of my new combination of plates of sheets of wood. Fig. 2 is a face view of one of said blocks separated from the others of the panel. Fig. 3 is an edge view of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a face view of a panel composed of my combined plates, parallelogram in form, each one extending lengthwise across the panel; and Fig. 5 is a cross-section of Fig. 3 in line *x x*.

In practicing my invention, I first cut wood into thin plates or sheets, say one-eighth to one-fourth of an inch thick. While this may be done by sawing, in the usual way, cutting the sheets around a log by revolving a log, as in a lathe, and against the edge of a cutter, and thereby separating continuous sheets, with the grain of the wood running across the sheet, is the preferable method. Sheets thus cut by any of the machines in use are more or less bent out of a plane in the act of cutting, and are liable to be checked on one face, similar to a shaving cut in the ordinary way by a common plane, but when these sheets are cut round a log, combined in several layers or thicknesses, as in the practice of my invention I combine them, they form blocks and strips whose external surfaces are as sound and free from checks, and the whole is as stiff, strong, and straight, as if the stuff had been sawed or rived.

The sheets produced as above described I cut up into pieces of suitable lengths and breadths to form a desired panel, and put three thicknesses of the same together, as shown in Figs. 3 and 5.

The said plates for each block A or strip B, in order to make the most perfect joints, should all be cut of the same length and breadth; then they are laid together so that the external plates *a b* coincide with each other, while the middle plate *c* projects on two sides, 1 and 2, Fig. 2, thus forming tongues on said two sides, and grooves on the opposite sides, 3 and 4, Fig. 2. Thus placed, these plates are to be glued or otherwise suitably secured together to form a block or strip for a panel. To form a panel these blocks are put together, the tongues of each fitting into the grooves of those adjoining it, as represented by the dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 4, and the whole is surrounded by a suitable frame, C C^1 C^2, which is also made of strips formed of three thicknesses of plates or sheets, with tongues and grooves similar to the above-described blocks.

It is obvious that in a panel thus formed there may be such an arrangement of the blocks with reference to the grain of the wood as to have said grain of each block in the tessellated panel run at an angle to that of the contiguous blocks, and so that the grain of the interior plate *c* shall cross that of the exterior plates *a b*, thus imparting both beauty and strength to the panel.

I have shown two forms of blocks, of which panels may be made on the plan here described; but I do not of course limit myself to these forms. They are susceptible of many modifications and variations without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

As a new manufacture, the panel-block A, formed of three sheets or layers of wood, *a b c*, secured together, the interior sheet *c* being so placed between the exterior sheets *a b* as to form the tongues 1 2 and the grooves 3 4, substantially as described.

Witness my hand this 4th day of December, 1876.

GEO. W. BANKER

Witnesses:

B. S. CLARK,

THEODORE G. HOSTER.