

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY JANE McCOLL, OF ALLENDALE, ASSIGNOR TO SOPHIA MEYENBERG,
OF PATERSON, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE PROCESSES OF MAKING ARTIFICIAL MOSS FOR ORNAMENTING PICTURE-
FRAMES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **195,146**, dated September 11, 1877; application filed
May 24, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY JANE McCOLL, of Allendale, Bergen county, State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in the Manufacture of Artificial Moss from Wax; and I hereby declare that the following is an exact and true description of my invention, which will enable others to make and use the same.

The object of my invention is to produce an imitation of natural moss from wax.

This artificial moss is intended to be used in the ornamentation of frames and pictures, especially where wax flowers or dried natural flowers are used for ornamentation; but I do not confine myself to such use alone of the artificial moss, as it may be used with good effect in many other ways.

My invention consists in the mode of manufacturing said artificial moss from wax.

For this purpose I melt wax (which may be white, or impregnated with any desired color) in a pot or pan, by placing the pan containing the wax in another and larger vessel containing water. Under this outer vessel I build a fire in order to heat the water therein, and by this means I melt the wax without liability of setting fire to the same.

When the wax becomes fluid I dip into the same a piece of muslin or like textile fabric, having first gathered the fabric together with

the fingers into a pouch or bag. The fabric is then withdrawn from the melted wax, when it will be found that the wax has formed a kind of crust on both sides of the fabric.

The fabric is now gently drawn out or stretched, and the wax is allowed to partially cool, when the fabric is again stretched—this time bias or crosswise as well as lengthwise and sidewise—which operation cracks and breaks the stiffened wax on the surface, thereby producing an imitation of natural moss.

When the wax is nearly hardened, a thin-bladed knife is introduced between the wax and the textile fabric, by which pieces are loosened from the same in form of moss cakes or moss clusters.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The process of making imitation moss by first inserting textile fabric into melted wax, then stretching the coated fabric, as described, and, after allowing the wax to cool, partially removing the same from the fabric, substantially as and for the purpose described.

This specification signed this 18th day of May, 1877.

MARY JANE McCOLL.

Witnesses:

CHR. REIGELMAN,
SOL. M. MEYENBERG.