(No Model.)

J. LYNCH.

TERRA COTTA CONSTRUCTION.

No. 414,716. Patented Nov. 12, 1889.

FIG _ 1 _

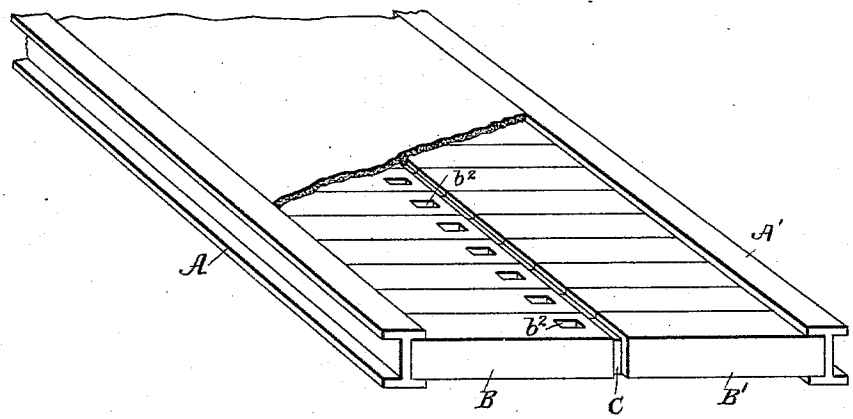


FIG _ 2 _

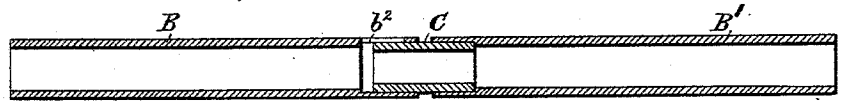
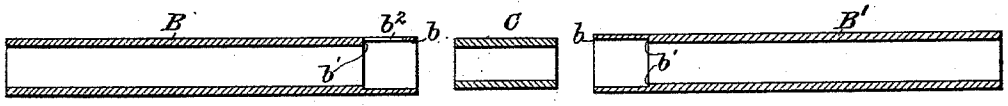


FIG _ 3 _



Attest:
Walter Scott.
J. Thomas Tottenc

Inventor:
John Lynch
By Paine & Lord.
Attys.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer. Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN LYNCH, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

TERRA-COTTA CONSTRUCTION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 414,716, dated November 12, 1889.

Application filed March 28, 1889. Serial No. 305,199. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN LYNCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Terra-Cotta Constructions; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention pertains to certain new and useful improvements in terra-cotta or fireproof floor-supports, having for its object the provision of simple and highly efficient means for readily and easily constructing the support between the floor and roof girders without the necessity of a temporary frame-work during the formation thereof, as is now in vogue. The invention is also equally applicable for wall-coping to protect and strengthen the joints.

The invention comprises the peculiar construction and arrangement substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a floor or roof support constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 3 is a similar view with the sections extended.

In floor and roof arches or supports as heretofore constructed it was necessary to build a temporary frame-work during the formation of the arch or support until the key-piece should be inserted to firmly bind the parts.

By means of my invention the floor or roof support is readily and quickly constructed without such temporary frame-work, the workman standing on a portable staging to put the pieces together.

Referring to the drawings, A A′ designate the ordinary girders, of approximately **I** shape in cross-section, and between these girders the floor or roof support is disposed.

B B′ are two end sections or blocks, of any material, preferably terra-cotta, the same being made hollow. The inner opposite ends of these sections or blocks B B′ are provided with grooves or recesses *b b*, terminating at their inner ends in shoulders *b′ b′*. The section or block B is provided in its upper portion with a narrow slot or opening b^2, extending nearly the distance of the groove or recess *b*.

C is an intermediate connecting section or block, designed to fit within the grooved or recessed ends of the sections or blocks B B′, the movement of said connecting-sections being limited by the shoulders *b′*. These shoulders, while of great service are not absolutely essential. The same result can be obtained by forming holes in which may be dropped a nail or small terra-cotta plug to hold the intermediate section C in place until the cement hardens.

In practice the end sections are connected together by the sections C, and the outer end of one of the end sections—say B—is placed between the upper and lower flanges of the girder A, and since the minimum conjoint length of the sections is less than the distance or space between the girders the outer end of the section B′ can be brought down beneath the upper flange of the girder A′, after which the sections are extended a short distance and said section B′ will bear against the web of the girder A′ and be held between the upper and lower flanges thereof. Thus it will be seen that the intermediate connecting section or block C permits the adjustment of the length of the end sections, whereby they can be readily and easily placed in position between the girders. After the sections or blocks are thus disposed they are firmly held in position by placing cement through the slot or opening b^2, which will securely unite the end section B and the intermediate or connecting section C.

It will be observed that the method of constructing long terra-cotta pieces herein described may be employed for other purposes than floor construction—for example, for door-steps, which may be made hollow and joined by sections C. It is impossible to burn terra-cotta in long lengths; but by this method

long pieces for whatever purpose desired can be built up that will be as strong at the joints as at any intermediate point.

I claim as my invention—

1. A floor or roof support composed of adjustable sections or blocks provided with inner grooved ends, one of which sections or blocks has an upper slot or opening, and the intermediate section or block, substantially as set forth.

2. A floor or roof support composed of adjustable sections or blocks of terra-cotta, one of which sections or blocks has an upper slot or opening, and the intermediate section or block, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN LYNCH.

Witnesses:
G. Y. ATLEE,
STORY B. LADD.