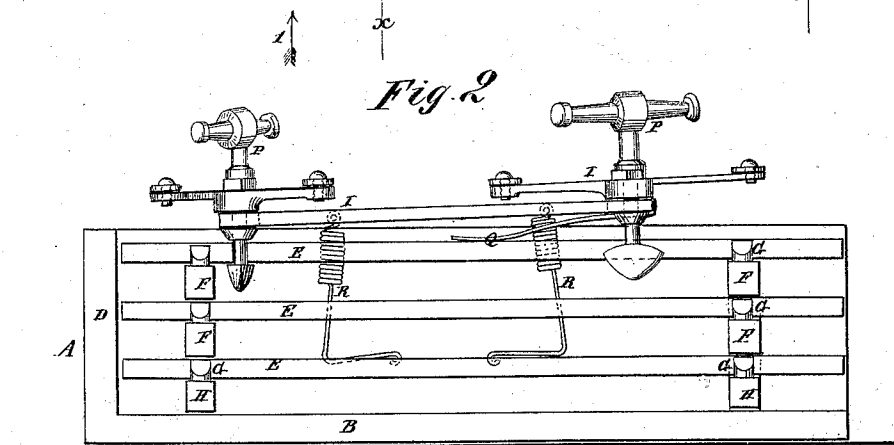
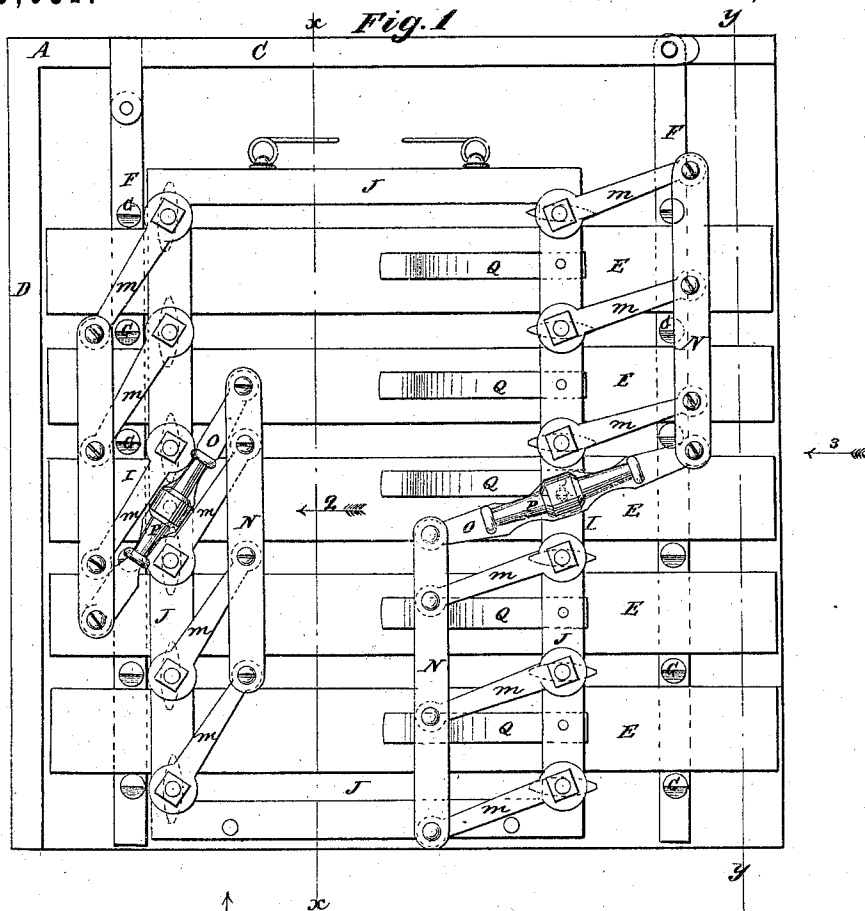


C. B. TRIMBLE.
LATHING-MACHINE.

No. 170,031.

Patented Nov. 16, 1875.



WITNESSES:

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Fig. 3

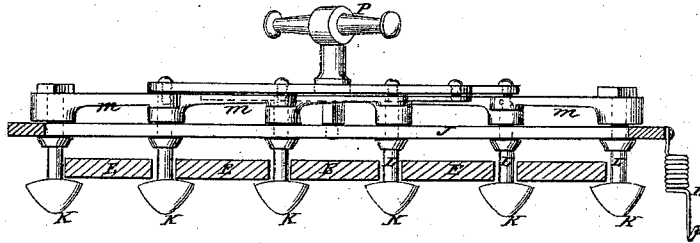
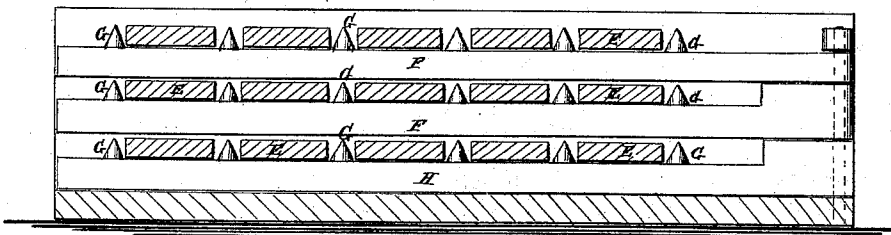


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLES B. TRIMBLE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN LATHING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **170,031**, dated November 16, 1875; application filed June 13, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES B. TRIMBLE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Apparatus for Laying Lath, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to facilitate the operation of lathing buildings for plastering; and it consists of an apparatus composed of a case holding the lath in position, and of a machine for clamping and taking up the lath and placing them on the wall or ceiling, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a top view of the clamp laid upon the first tier of lath in the case, the left-hand clamp being turned to clamp one end of the lath, and the other clamp ready to be turned. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the case and clamp, looking in the direction indicated by arrow 1. Fig. 3, Sheet 2, is a vertical section of Fig. 1, looking, as indicated by arrow 2, from the line *x x*. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of Fig. 1, looking from the line *y y*, as indicated by the arrow 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the case, composed of bottom B and two sides, C D, of square or rectangular form, and of sufficient height to contain one or more tiers of lath, arranged as seen in the drawing. E represents the lath. The ordinary lath of commerce is about four feet in length, about one and a half inch in width, and three-eighths of an inch in thickness. These pieces are arranged in the case in the position they are to occupy when nailed on the wall or ceiling. The tiers of lath rest on hinged bars F, and are separated by the pins G. These pins are wedge-shaped at their ends to facilitate the putting in of the lath; but their bases (next the bars) are of a width to separate the lath the proper distance to receive the mortar. The bars are hinged to the side of the case. When a tier of lath has been taken up the bars are swung around out of the way, so that the next tier can be taken up, and so on for each tier. Ordinarily (with the aid of a boy) the case will be kept supplied. On the bottom of the case are two stationary bars, H H, over which the other bars rest, as seen in Fig. 2. The lath, being

thus placed in the case, are taken up by the clamps, and laid upon the joist or studs in the same position they occupied when in the case. There are two sets of gripes, I I, which are arranged to support each of the ends of the lath. These clamps are attached to an oblong frame, J, and consist of a series of buttons, K, (see Fig. 3,) having shanks L, which pass up through the frame, and receive each an arm, *m*. These arms are connected together by means of the flat bars N. The bars are attached to the central bars O, to the middle of which are attached the handles P, by means of which the central bars O and the arms are turned. These bars O and the handles P are placed in the middle of the opposite sides of the frame J, so that the frame J (with the clamps) will balance when lifted. One-half of the arms *m* of each clamp extends outside and half inside of the frame J, so that when the handles are turned the arms are thrown in opposite directions, but so as to turn all the buttons *k* in one direction, to either take up or release the laths.

As seen in Fig. 3, a tier of lath is supported by the buttons. When the buttons are turned so that their sides are parallel with the lath, the latter are released, and this turning of the buttons explains the manner of clamping and taking up a tier of lath from the case, and laying them on the studs or joists in position to be nailed.

Q are springs attached to one or both sides of the frame J, the ends of which bear upon the separate pieces of lath to hold them in place while being carried in the clamps. R R are spring-hooks to be used in lathing overhead, which engage with the "firings" on the ceiling for supporting the frame, while the other end is held up by the bottom engaging with the lath already on.

By means of this apparatus labor and time are saved, as the lath can be laid very expeditiously, and the spaces between them are made of uniform width.

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

1. The combination, in a lath taking up and clamping apparatus, of the frame J, pivoted headed buttons K, arms *m*, connecting-bars

N, central pivoted bars O, and handles P, the buttons and their connecting-arms being located in double sets at both sides of the end bars of the frame, as and for the purpose described.

2. In combination with the lath taking up and clamping apparatus herein described, the lath-retaining springs Q, arranged as shown, for the object stated.

3. The case A, having hinged bars F and pins G, for separating and arranging the lath in one or more tiers, substantially as shown and described.

CHAS. B. TRIMBLE.

Witnesses:

T. B. MOSHER,

ALEX. F. ROBERTS.