

No. 858,601.

PATENTED JULY 2, 1907.

E. HOLMES.
PLASTER BOARD.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 2, 1906.

Fig. 1.

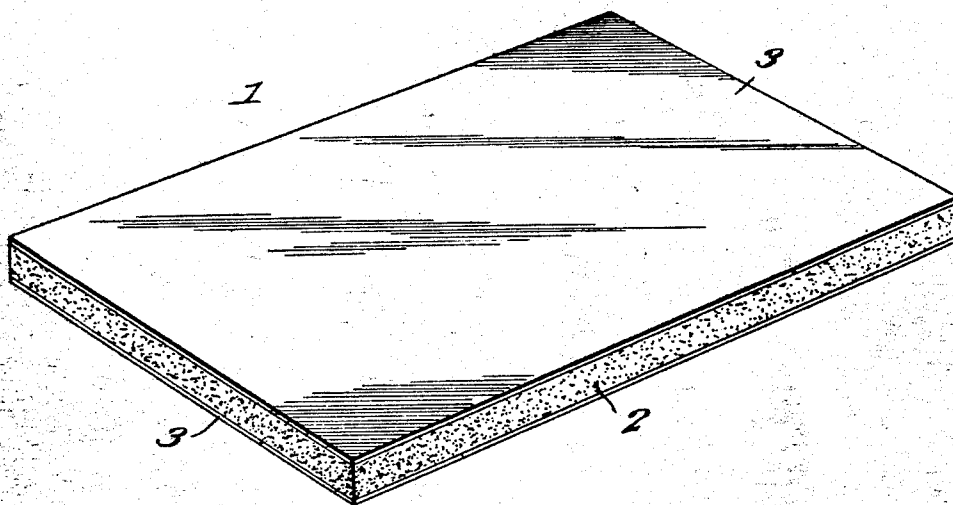
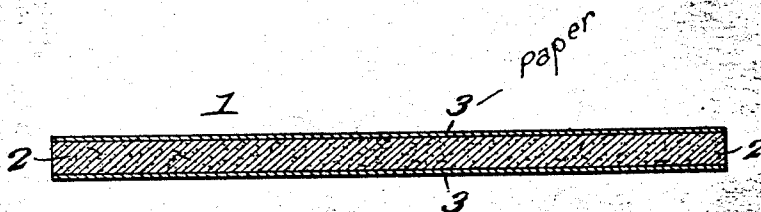


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD HOLMES, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO JOHN EHRHARDT, JR., ONE-FOURTH TO WILLIAM EHRHARDT, AND ONE-FOURTH TO STUART D. MAXWELL, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

PLASTER-BOARD.

No. 858,601.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD HOLMES, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the city of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Plaster-Boards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved plaster board designed to be used in lieu of the ordinary wall plaster in the art of finishing interior wall surfaces.

10 The object of the invention is to provide a plaster board which is light in weight, inexpensive of production, durable and efficient in use, which possesses a sufficient amount of resiliency to prevent it from breaking or cracking under ordinary shocks or blows, which
15 may be nailed to the wall without liability of splitting the same or of previously boring the nail holes therein, and which may also be conveniently cut or sawed to fit the particular part of the surface to which it is to be applied without liability of fracture or injury to the tools.
20 In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a plaster board embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a section of the same.

Referring to the drawing, the numeral 1 designates the board, which is formed of a body 2 of plastic material and is provided with face coverings 3 of building paper or other suitable material.

The body of the board is molded from a plastic composition consisting of the following ingredients combined in the proportions set forth, to wit: cement or
30 plaster of paris 1 part sawdust 1 part excelsior 1 part moss hair 1 part water, *quantum sufficit*.

The "moss hair" is a species of moss which grows in the swamps of Louisiana and Mississippi, which after being gathered is cured, picked and baled. It is quite
35 often dyed and called "Spanish moss."

These ingredients are thoroughly commingled and mixed with the water as in the ordinary process of making mortar, after which a desired quantity of the material to make a board of a determined thickness is placed
40 in a suitable mold and compressed to form the board.

After drying and before use, the layers or face coverings 3 may be applied. These face coverings may or may not be used, as desired.

The production of the plastic material of the aforesaid ingredients in the proportions set forth results in the 45 formation of a plaster board which is light in weight and may be conveniently handled, the elements adhering tenaciously, thus giving the board increased strength.

It is found that by the use of the excelsior, which is preferably cut into short lengths, the board is rendered 50 less brittle and is given the quality of greater resiliency, so that comparatively hard knocks may be sustained by the board without the latter cracking or breaking. The use of the moss hair is highly desirable, inasmuch as it serves to effectually bind the particles together in 55 the cement, in which respect it is far superior to fiber and other substances commonly employed, because it is longer, rougher and more grasping, *i. e.*, has a greater binding capacity. The excelsior is in sufficient proportions to lighten the board and coat with the moss 60 hair to secure toughness and resiliency.

A plaster board embodying my invention also possesses the characteristics of being sufficiently tough to enable nails to be driven therethrough without cracking or fracturing the material or rendering it necessary to 65 previously bore holes therein for the passage of the nails to secure the board to the wall, and also of being sufficiently soft and strong to permit it to be cut or sawed without cracking or breaking the material or causing injury to the tools. 70

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

A molded board formed of a plastic material resulting from the combination of a cement, sawdust, excelsior in short lengths, moss hair and water.

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

EDWARD HOLMES.

Witnesses:

JOHN EHRHARDT, Jr.,
STUART D. MAXWELL.