

P. H. POWER.
Securing Plaster to Walls.

No. 153,781.

Patented Aug. 4, 1874.

Fig. 1

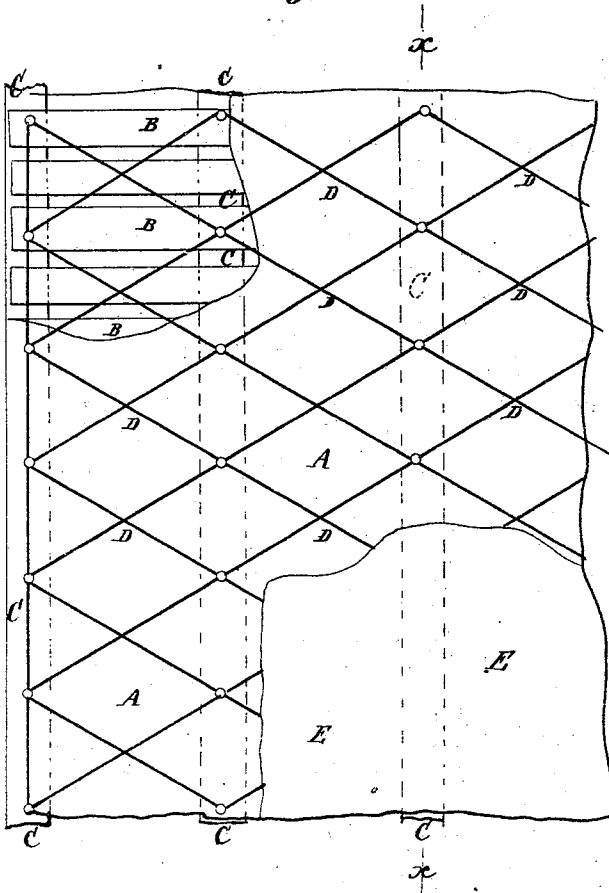
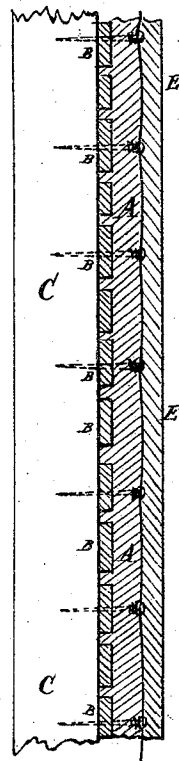


Fig. 2



WITNESSES:

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PATRICK H. POWER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SECURING PLASTER TO WALLS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **153,781**, dated August 4, 1874; application filed May 1, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PATRICK H. POWER, of New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Securing Plastered Ceilings, Walls, and Plaster-Moldings, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to the ceilings and walls of buildings, and consists of a support for preventing the plastering from becoming detached from the laths.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a face view of a plastered ceiling, which illustrates my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section on the line *x x* of Fig. 1, showing the joists.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the plastered ceiling or wall, attached to the ordinary laths B. C, Fig. 2, represents the joists. D is a net-work, of wire-cloth or other suitable material, which is laid over the plastering and secured to the joists (through the mortar) by nails or screws, as seen in the drawing. Ordinarily, and preferably, I place this wire or other support over the last coat of mortar, as seen in the drawing, and then put the coat of hard-finish E over it; but the wire or other support may be applied before the last coat of mortar is put on.

In plastered walls or ceilings, it is well known that the different coats of mortar are not likely to separate, so that if the "scratch-coat" is supported as I propose, the coats of mortar subsequently applied will adhere to the scratch-coat, and consequently be supported and prevented from falling. This support may be strong twine, tightly drawn or netted and attached to the joists, or wire-cloth, braided or woven. It may be of any suitable material placed over one or more coatings of mortar, secured to the joists or "furrings" by nails, screws, or in any secure manner. I prefer the mode shown in the drawing,

where there is to be a hard-finish coat applied—that is, simple wires of any suitable size passing over the mortar in any manner, either parallel with the walls or wood finish, diagonally, or circular, woven or linked together, or in separate pieces, and securely attached to the joists, as described.

The importance of this invention will be obvious if we consider the many narrow escapes and not infrequent fatal casualties, the result of falling mortar from the ceiling. The plastering becomes loosened from the laths, sometimes by constant jarring and sometimes by the action of water leaking through the floor, and drops in heavy masses, crushing everything on which it falls. People have been instantly killed in their beds, and many crippled for life, to say nothing of the fright and hairbreadth escapes which almost all have experienced from this cause. The damage to frescoed ceilings and to furniture in dwellings, and to goods in stores and warehouses, from this cause, can hardly be estimated.

I am aware that wire-cloth has been heretofore used instead of wooden or iron lathing, but have found the clench of the plaster in the meshes to be impaired by frost or moisture, so as frequently to fall and cause great destruction of property, expense, and annoyance. Hence I first form the walls in plaster, then draw the wire-gauze over them, and drive home the nails.

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

The net-work D, laid over the plastering and secured to the joists, as and for the purpose described.

PATRICK HEARN POWER.

Witnesses:

T. B. MOSHER,
ALEX. F. ROBERTS.