

Jan. 20, 1925.

1,523,711

P. R. POWELL
BUILDER'S HARDWARE
Filed Oct. 1, 1923

FIG. 1.

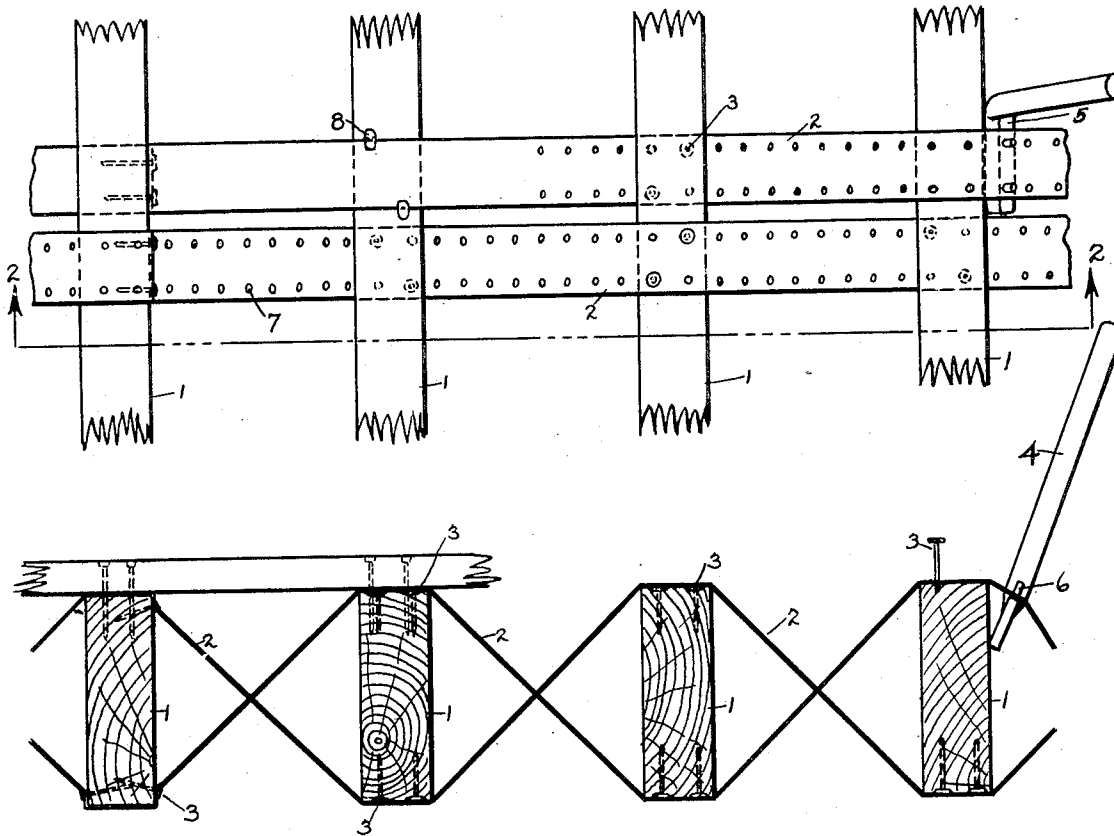


FIG. 2.

INVENTOR

Paul R. Powell
BY

William W. Varney
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL R. POWELL, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

BUILDER'S HARDWARE.

Application filed October 1, 1923. Serial No. 665,814.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL R. POWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore city, in the State of Maryland, have invented new and useful Builders' Hardware, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is the providing in builders' hardware of a flexible tension member to be used in building construction for diagonal bracing, tying and bridging as occasion may require.

A further object of my invention is the providing of a continuous bracing or bridging that will not interfere with adjacent construction such as lathing, flooring, sheathing or the like.

A further object of my invention is the providing of an improved floor bridging.

A further object of my invention is the providing of a flexible floor bridging which may be easily adjusted and secured in place.

A further object of my invention is an improved method of floor bridging.

A further object of my invention is an improved floor bridging, means of stretching the same to a desired tension, and means of securing the same after having been stretched.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as hereinafter specifically described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein is shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, but it is understood that changes, variations and modifications may be resorted to which come within the scope of the claim hereunto appended.

In the drawing of the herein described embodiment of my invention, Fig. 1 is a plan view of floor timbers as ordinarily laid out in wooden buildings. I do not wish to limit myself, however, to floor timbers of wood or of any particular material, as my invention may be applied to metal floor beams to advantage. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the floor timbers or joists shown in Fig. 1, said view being taken on line 2-2 of Fig. 1.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

1 are floor joists, timbers, or beams. 2 is my improved flexible bridging or metallic tape, which is drawn over and under the floor beams as shown in Fig. 2, or used in any other desirable way. 3 are securing means for securing bridging 2 in place with reference to flooring joists 1, and may consist of nails driven through holes 7, or spikes 8, driven on the edge indenting and locking bridging 2.

4 is the handle of a tightening, or stretching tool which is provided with shank 5 and prongs 6, which prongs 6 engage in holes 7 of bridging 2, and by means of handle 4 the bridging may be tightened into place.

7 are holes spaced along the edges of bridging 2.

I have found that for the ordinary 2 inch flooring joists a strip of metal, about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick and 2 inches wide, with holes along the edges spaced $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, gives a very satisfactory result, as the metal in that case is not so thick but that ordinary flooring nails may be driven through it without special perforations.

In practice it is found that this system of bridging by means of flexible bridging, 2, drawn tight by means of the tightening tool and then secured by nails, 3, or spikes 8, gives a very rigid construction, more easily put in than wooden bridging, less liable to fire, more easily cleaned than wood, more presentable and in every way more desirable than the ordinary construction. The bridging may be of galvanized, or ungalvanized, material.

In the case of iron floor beams, rivets, or bolts, may be used in place of the nails 3, or spikes, 8. I do not wish to limit myself to any specific means of securing said bridging to the flooring joists, or beams.

In this specification and claim when I use the term "flexible bridging," or "metallic tape," I mean a metal strip or band of substantially uniform thickness throughout its length, or of flexibility throughout its length; whereby I am enabled to get a tape

that will draw over members at any part of tape successively over opposite edges of the
its length. remaining timbers, and securing said tape to 10

Having thus described my invention, said remaining timbers in a taut condition.
what I claim and desire to secure by Letters

5 Patent is—

PAUL R. POWELL.

The process of bracing parallelly disposed
timbers, which consists in securing a metallic
tape to an outermost timber, passing said

Witnesses:

HELEN T. ROBINSON,

C. M. FUSTING.