(No Model.)

D. B. HILTON.

METAL LATH.

No. 588,576. Patented Aug. 24, 1897.

FIG. 1.

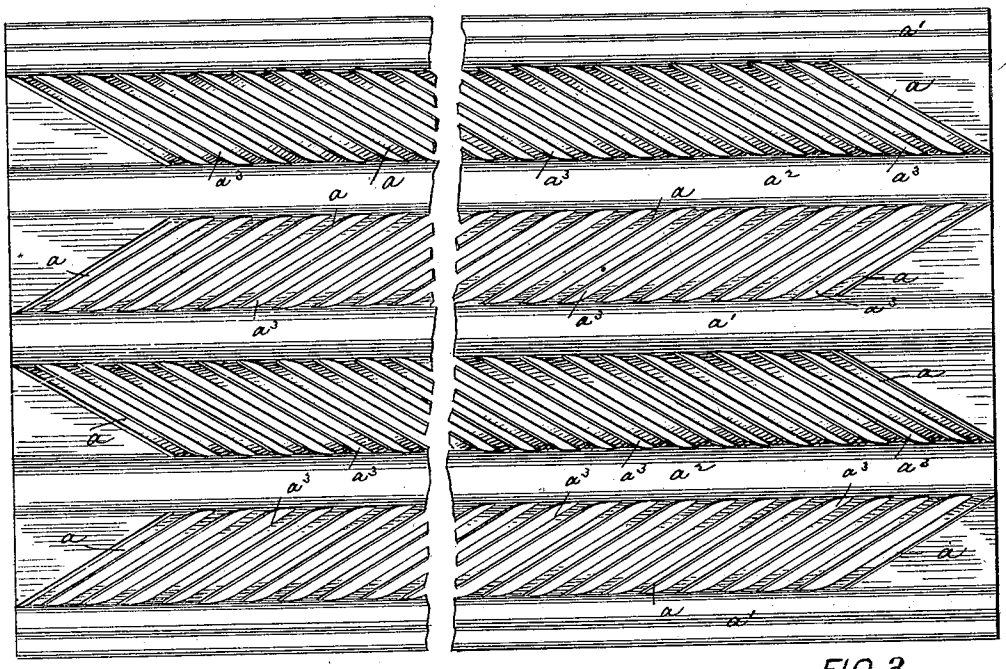


FIG. 2.

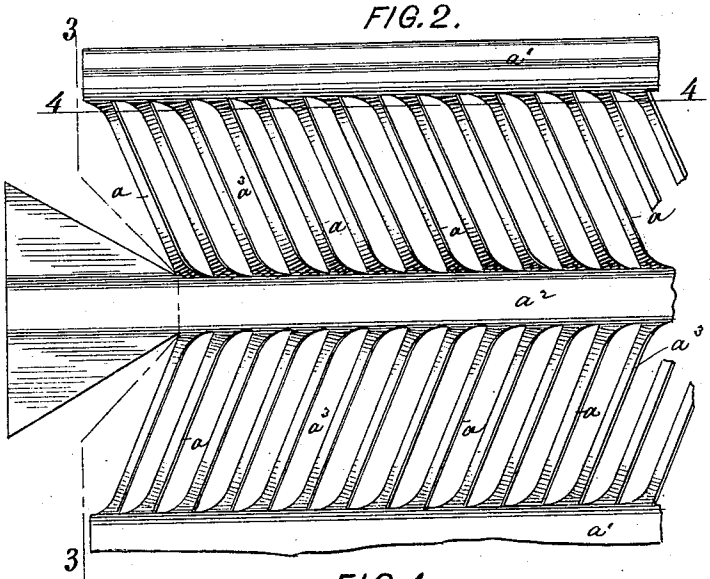


FIG. 3.

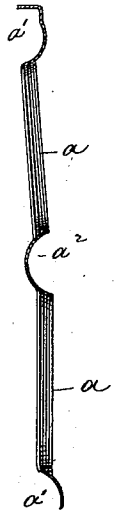
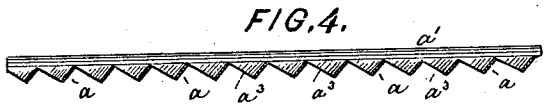


FIG. 4.



Witnesses:
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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAWSON B. HILTON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

METAL LATH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,576, dated August 24, 1897.

Application filed December 4, 1896. Serial No. 614,414. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAWSON B. HILTON, of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented an Improved Metal Lath, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a metal lath which is of simple construction, offers a firm retaining-surface for the plaster, and covers a large area with a given size of work-piece.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a face view of my improved lath, showing it in the course of manufacture and before being stretched. Fig. 2 is a face view of a portion of the lath complete; Fig. 3, a cross-section on line 3 3, Fig. 2; and Fig. 4, a longitudinal section on line 4 4, Fig. 2.

In manufacturing the lath I first cut out a blank to form a herring-bone pattern, in which rows of parallel ribs *a a*, sloping alternately in opposite directions, are separated by the longitudinal parallel strips $a' a^2$. The ribs *a* are cut by a shear and die in such a manner that while being cut they are simultaneously bent so as to assume an inclined position to the body of the work-piece and expose a sharp edge at the top and bottom. In this way spaces a^3 are opened out between the ribs, and at the same time the ribs are placed in the best possible position for retaining the plaster.

The alternate longitudinal strips $a' a^2$ are grooved longitudinally on opposite sides to form trough-shaped spaces that assist in holding the plaster and strengthen the lath. Moreover, by grooving alternate longitudinal strips on opposite sides the ribs *a*, that connect the serrated edges of said strips, Fig. 4, can be cut and bent at one operation and without twisting.

After the work-piece has assumed the form shown in Fig. 1 it is laterally distended by suitable mechanism to reduce the angle of inclination between the ribs *a* and strips $a' a^2$, open out the spaces a^3, and increase the width of the lath. In this way the surface covered by the complete lath is not only greater than the one covered by the work-piece, but the lath is lightened, and its shape is one excellently adapted for retaining the plaster.

What I claim is—

1. A blank for metal laths composed of longitudinal strips grooved alternately on opposite faces, and of rows of inclined ribs that connect said strips, the ribs of adjoining rows sloping in opposite directions, substantially as specified.

2. A metal lath composed of a laterally-distended body having serrated longitudinal strips grooved alternately on opposite faces, and bent ribs that connect the serrated edges of said strips, substantially as specified.

DAWSON B. HILTON.

Witnesses:
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