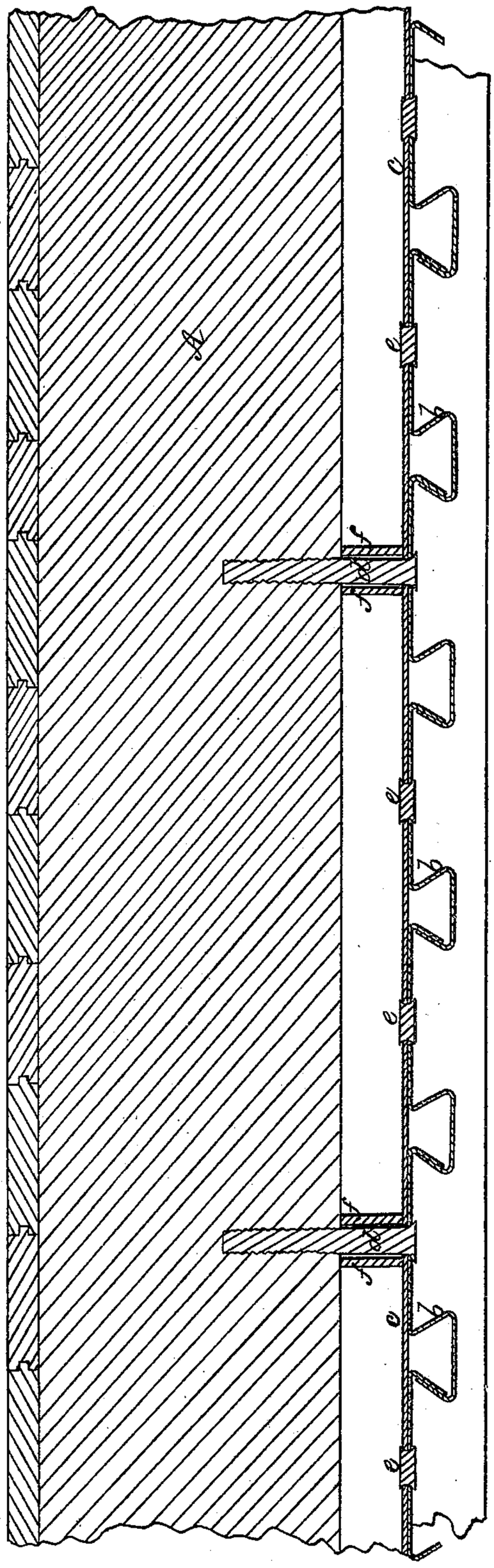
J. B. CORNELL.

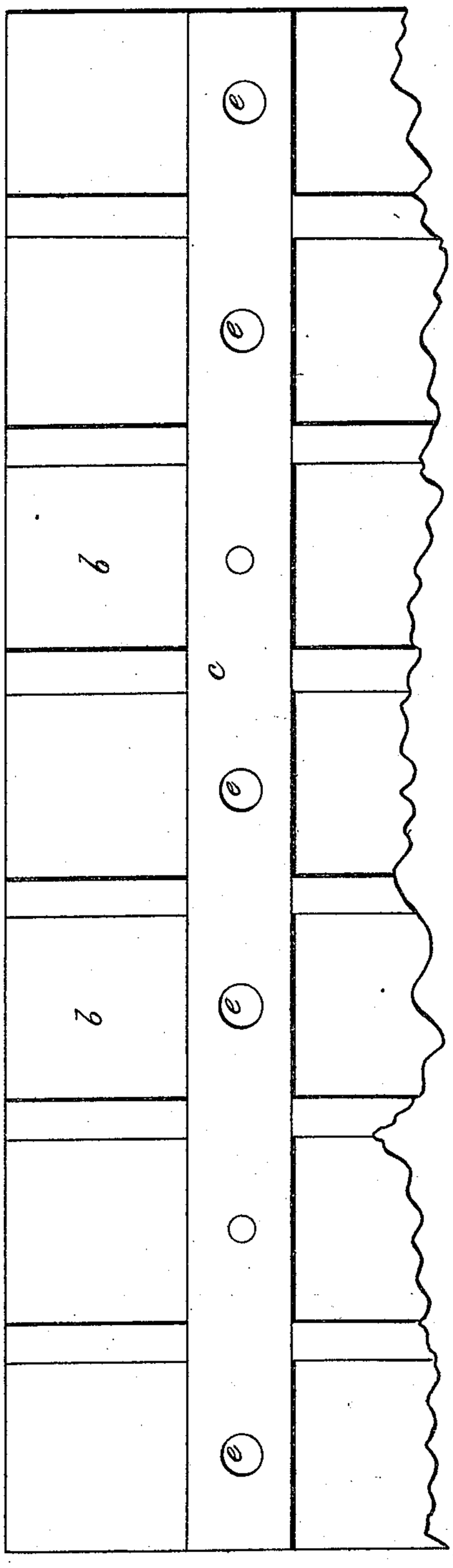
FIREPROOF CEILING.

No. 19,682. Patented Mar. 23, 1858.

Fig; 1.



Fig; 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. CORNELL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-PROOF CEILINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **19,682**, dated March 23, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. CORNELL, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improved Method of Forming Fire-Proof Ceilings Beneath Wooden Beams; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a sectional representation of said improved ceiling and of one of the beams to which it is suspended, and Fig. 2 is a top view of several combined metallic lath-sections prepared with a view to their being suspended to wooden beams to form the essential portion of my said improved fire-proof ceiling.

Similar letters indicate like parts in both drawings.

In constructing my improved fire-proof ceiling I first take sheet-metal lath-sections *b*, of any suitable shape for retaining coatings of plaster applied to their surfaces, and suspend the same to the beams overhead by means of screws *d d*, or any other suitable means, in such positions as to form a uniform lath-surface at a short distance below the lower edges of said beams. The space between the metallic lath-sections and the under edges of the beams A which sustain them must be of such a depth that a coating of gypsum or some other suitable non-conducting composition may be placed upon said sections and have a depth which will be amply sufficient to protect the wood-work above the same from being ignited by means of any degree of heat that may be exerted thereupon from below. The coating or coatings of ceiling-plaster may be combined with the under side of the said suspended lath-sections in any well-known and usual manner.

The accompanying drawings represent a continuous metallic-lath surface composed of corrugated sections *b b*, combined with each other by means of transverse metallic strips *c c* and a suitable number of rivets *e e*. To facilitate the giving of a uniformly-horizontal position to the said metallic-lath surface when suspended and ready for use, non-conducting thimbles *f f* may be inserted between the lath-sections *b b* and the lower edges of the sustaining-beams, which thimbles may embrace the screws or bolts that suspend the said sections.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

My improved method of constructing fire-proof ceilings beneath wooden beams—viz., by suspending combined metallic lath-sections beneath the aforesaid beams and then coating said sections on both sides, substantially as herein set forth.

The above specification of my improved method of forming fire-proof ceilings signed and witnessed this 4th day of February, 1858.

JOHN B. CORNELL.

Witnesses:

THOS. CROCKER,

A. A. JAYNE.