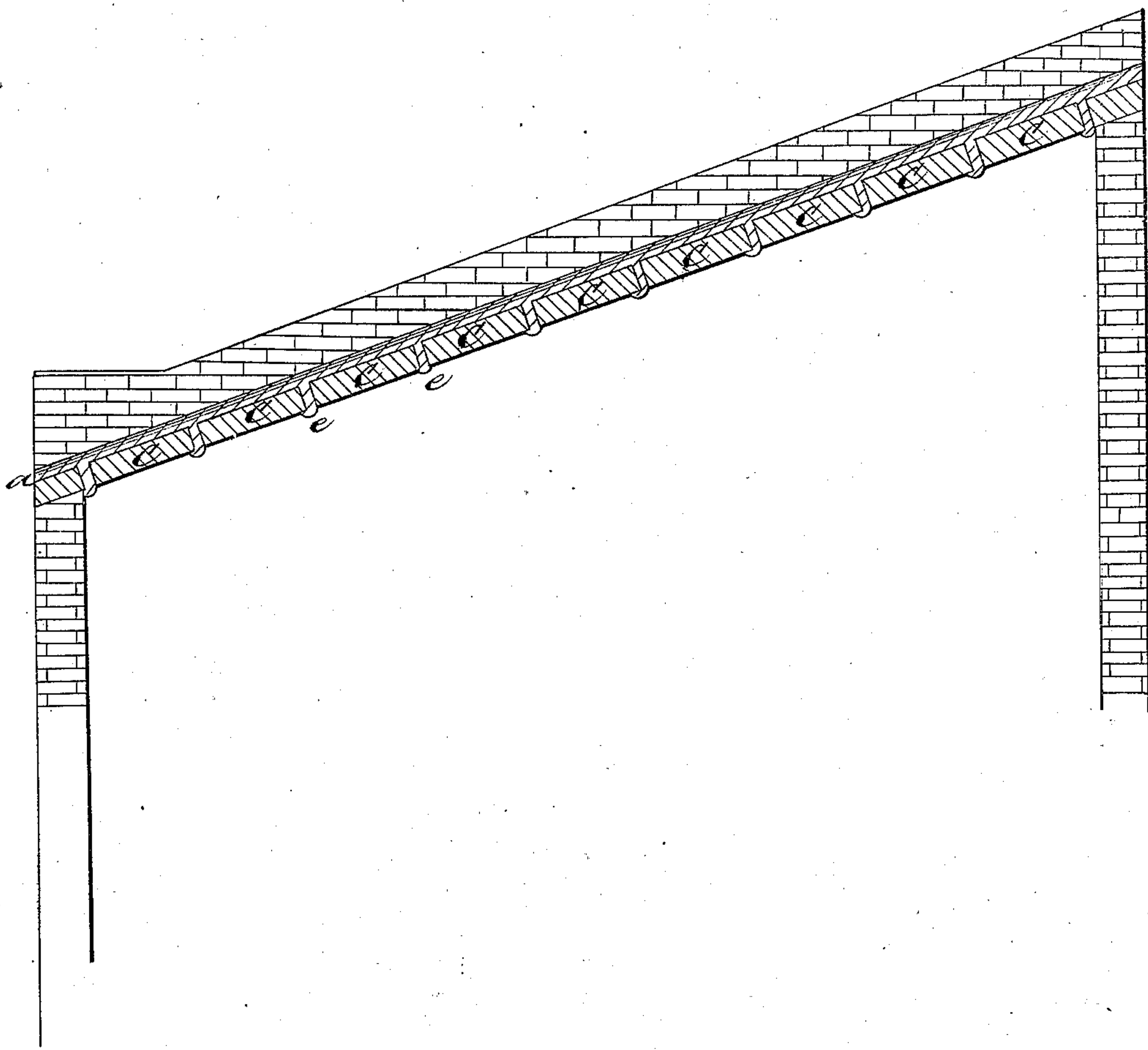


*R. O. Lowrey,  
Composite Roofing,*

*N<sup>o</sup> 63,803.*

*Patented Apr. 16, 1867.*



*Witnesses.*

*P. J. Dodge  
E. R. Ferris*

*Inventor.*

*R. O. Lowrey  
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# United States Patent Office.

ROBERT O. LOWREY, OF SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK.

*Letters Patent No. 63,803, dated April 16, 1867.*

## IMPROVED CEMENT ROOFING.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ROBERT O. LOWREY, of Saratoga Springs, in the county of Saratoga, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Cement Roofing, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, like letters indicating like parts wherever they occur.

To enable others skilled in the art to construct and use my invention I will proceed to describe it.

My invention consists in providing a plastic foundation for cement roofing, to be used as a substitute for the prepared felt or paper now generally used for spreading the cement upon.

The drawing represents a section of a roof to show the manner of constructing it with my improvement.

Hitherto a fibrous material, known as roofing felt, has been used as a foundation on which to spread the cement in making composition for roofs. To the use of this "felt" there are several objections: it is expensive, not to be had conveniently in the country places, and, when applied, does not absorb the surplus tar, which, when melted by the heat of the sun, runs off. To obviate these difficulties I construct the foundation for my roofing by spreading upon the roof-boards C a coating of sand and lime, or sand and clay, or marl mixed with water and formed into a pasty mass of suitable consistence for convenient use. If desired, hair may be added to the plastic mass, the same as with mortar. In preparing the roof for this foundation the boards C are placed so as to leave small cracks between them, as shown in the drawing; or, instead of boards, narrow strips may be used. When the plastic mass is spread on the boards portions of it pass down into the cracks, and thus securely fasten the coating *a* to the roof without the use of nails or any other fastenings, and avoiding the necessity of making any holes in it. When dried, this constitutes a foundation for receiving the cement, that answers the purpose better than felt, inasmuch as, being porous, it absorbs the surplus coal tar of the roofing cement which is spread upon it, thereby accomplishing the twofold objects of preventing the tar from running off when heated or checking, and at the same time, by the absorption of the tar, itself becomes water-proof. With a porous foundation of this kind any of the known kinds of roofing cement may be used, though I prefer that described in my patent of February 5, 1867.

A roof of this kind can be prepared quickly and cheaply, as the materials which compose the foundation can be readily obtained wherever a house is built, and requires no skilled laborers or special machinery for its preparation.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is—

A plastic foundation for roofs to receive, hold, and absorb more or less of the roofing cement, constructed and applied substantially as set forth.

ROB'T O. LOWREY.

Witnesses:

W. C. DODGE,  
E. R. FERRIS.