

United States Patent Office.

A. J. HOLMES, OF SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO WELLS
L. ROBBINS, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 63,893, dated April 16, 1867.

IMPROVED WINDOW CORNICE.

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, A. J. HOLMES, of Saratoga Springs, in the county of Saratoga, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cornices for Windows and Rooms; 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 a novel manner of constructing ornamental cornices for rooms and windows, as hereinafter more fully explained.

Figure 1 is front and sectional view of a cornice, as put up around the top of a room.

Figure 2, a front elevation of a part of a cornice for a window; and

Figure 3, rear and sectional view of the same.

In fig. 1, A may represent the line of the side wall of a room, and B the line of the ceiling overhead. In the angle or corner around the top of the room, at suitable distances, I first secure triangular blocks D, to which the cornice is to be attached by screws or nails, as shown in fig. 1. To these blocks I then fasten a continuous strip of wood, as shown by C—this figure showing both a front view and also an end view, after having been turned at the corner or angle of the room. This strip C may be either plain on its front face, or it may be recessed longitudinally, as shown in fig. 1. Upon its face, whether plain or recessed, I then secure any ornamental design, consisting of designs on paper, cloth, metal, or any desired substance, as represented by I. In front of this I place a strip of glass, as represented by G, this glass being of sufficient width to entirely cover and protect the ornamental material used. This glass is held in place by a strip of moulding, of any desired style, as represented by E at the upper side, and by a smaller strip, *a*, at the bottom. Underneath the strip C I also place another strip of moulding, as shown by H, to make a nice finish at the lower edge. In this manner a great variety of beautiful styles of cornice may be made and used, instead of the plaster cornices now so generally used in buildings.

To construct a cornice on my plan for a window, I proceed in the same general manner, only varying it in shape and size to fit it to the window where it is to be used. In this case it will be made into a frame, of which fig. 2 represents a portion in front elevation. This frame will consist of a front, as then shown, of proper length to reach across the window and project the proper distance at each side, and having ends constructed on the same plan, as shown in fig. 4, of such length as shall be required to give the cornice the proper projection forward. The corners will be formed by mitre or bevel joints, as represented in fig. 3, so as to make a neat finish. The space G, between the upper moulding E and the bottom strip H, will be covered with an ornamental design and then with glass, as above described, the glass being held in place by the overlapping of the edges of the mouldings E and H. At the corners, and at other points wherever joints occur in the glass, said joints are covered by vertical strips of narrow moulding, as represented by *c* of figs. 2 and 3. The window cornice thus constructed may be secured by hooks and staples, or in any other suitable manner, so as to be removed whenever desired. Suitable material, such as camphor, cedar, or tobacco, may be placed under the ornamental material, or behind the strip C, to protect the material from the ravages of insects. It is obvious that any number and variety of styles of cornice may be thus produced; and the ornamental designs, being thus protected, will remain for an indefinite period in a perfect state.

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

A cornice, for interior decoration, or for windows, doors, and similar objects, constructed substantially as herein described.

A. J. HOLMES.

Witnesses:

JOEL HULBUT,
JACOB MYERS.