

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK BECK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

MATERIAL FOR THE DECORATION OF THE INTERIOR WALLS AND CEILINGS OF HOUSES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 259,462, dated June 13, 1882.

Application filed January 13, 1882. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK BECK, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in
5 Materials for the Decoration of the Interior Walls and Ceilings of Houses, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in coating paper with a compound composed of ground asbestos and
10 an adhesive substance or substances and embossing the same, and the mode of manufacturing my improved article is as follows: I take a quantity of flour-paste, into which I put ground asbestos and a little glue to in-
15 crease the adhesiveness of the compound and a little glycerine to give it pliability, also a little copal varnish, or, instead of varnish, a little resin or linseed-oil. To about one pound of flour used in making the paste I prefer to
20 add about ten pounds of ground asbestos, about one pound of glue of good quality, about one-quarter of a pound of glycerine, and about one-eighth of a pound of varnish, resin, or oil. These proportions may of course be
25 varied, and the glue, glycerine, and varnish, or one or more of them omitted altogether, and some adhesive substance other than flour-paste may be used as a vehicle for the asbes-
30 tus; but I prefer flour-paste, as it works easily with the asbestos, and the admixture of glue, glycerine, and varnish produce the best results.

The mixing may be done over a slow fire, and the compound should be well stirred
35 while warm, so that the ingredients will be thoroughly and uniformly incorporated with each other, and the whole mass should be made of about the consistency of thick binders' paste. I then take a heavy quality of pa-
40 per-hangers' papers, or several thicknesses may be united together, and spread the compound thinly upon its surface, making the coating uniform and of even thickness throughout by
45 means of a doctor-blade or straight-edge. The coating is then allowed to dry; but before it is completely dried the paper thus coated is passed between embossing-dies, consisting of a male and female die, in order to give the best results, and the coated paper is pressed
50 between them gently, but firmly.

The dies may be cut in high relief, as the paper and coating, being moist, are very flexible and not liable to break or crack. After

receiving the impression of the dies the material is taken out and allowed to thoroughly
55 dry.

If desired, after the coating of the asbestos compound is put on a thickness of paper may be laid on the compound, and the fabric thus constituted may be partly dried, embossed, 60 and thoroughly dried in the same manner as above described.

The fabric, when dry, may be decorated by painting, gilding, or in any manner in which
65 surfaces of paper or plaster-of-paris may be treated, and it may have metallic surfaces deposited upon it. As the fabric, when thus prepared, is flexible and capable of being easily cut with shears, it may be applied to walls or ceilings as paper-hangings usually are. As 70 it is capable of being embossed in very high relief, it may be used in the decoration of interiors for a great many purposes for which plaster or flock moldings are used, and it is greatly superior to them in durability and 75 convenience of manipulation. It may also be used advantageously in the manufacture of moldings for picture-frames.

Heretofore a molded surface has been applied to panels, slabs, or sheets for ornamental 80 purposes by making a composition of oxidized or solidified oils composed of kauri gum, resin, wood fiber, white lead, and Venetian red, which composition is applied to the panels, slabs, or sheets in a plastic state and then 85 pressed, the surface being ornamented by dies or rolls, if desired. A fabric—such as paper, cloth, or the like—has also been coated with suitably-prepared mica scales combined with transparent or translucent adhesive subs- 90 tances. These methods, however, do not constitute my invention, and are not herein claimed.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by 95 Letters Patent, is—

A new article of manufacture, consisting of paper, or an equivalent material, coated with a compound of ground asbestos and adhesive substances, and either with or without a fac- 100 ing of paper and embossed, substantially as and for the purposes described.

FR. BECK.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. BECK,
JOHN H. IVES.