(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

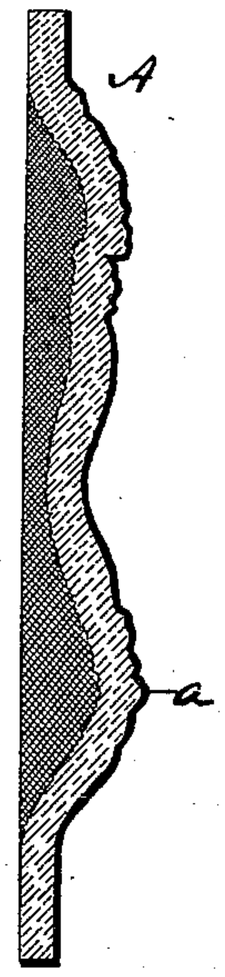
J. C. ANDERSON.

TILE FOR LINING WALLS, &c.

No. 351,614. Patented Oct. 26, 1886.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.

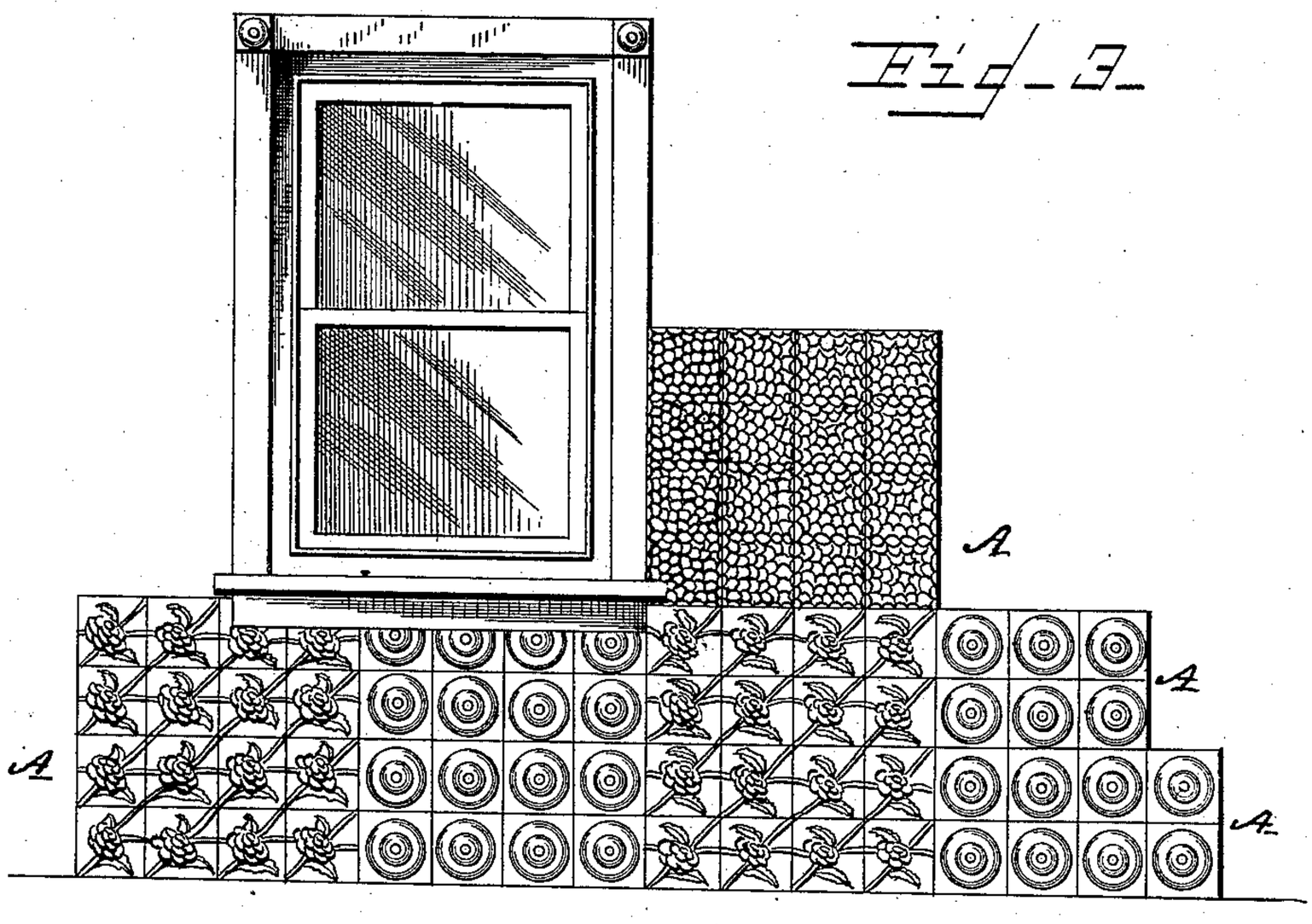
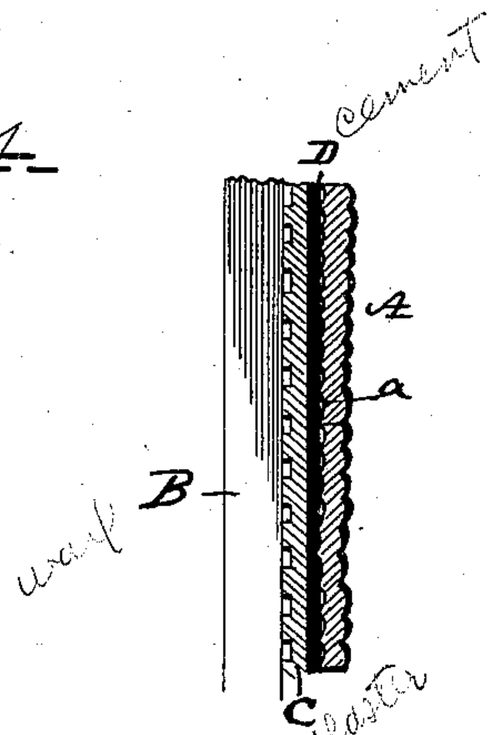


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES C. ANDERSON, OF HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS.

TILE FOR LINING WALLS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 351,614, dated October 26, 1886.

Application filed June 8, 1886. Serial No. 204,483. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES C. ANDERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Highland Park, in the county of Lake and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tiles for Lining Walls, &c., of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to a new wall-covering or inside lining for the walls of buildings, to take the place of the ordinary plastering and other frail coatings now commonly used for covering and ornamenting such walls; and it has for its object a wall-covering ornamental in design, having such an exceedingly firm body-texture with a beauty of surface, finish, and coloring as to resist entirely the ordinary abrasion which mar such walls, and which may be readily washed and cleaned as often as desired without dimming or spoiling the surface thereof; and my invention consists in covering the surface of the walls with a series of thin wafer-like tiles, made of dry-clay powder, with ornamental designs in relief on the one side and depressions on the other, as hereinafter described.

Heretofore ordinary flooring and ornamental tiles of about five-eighths of an inch in thickness have been used for decorative work for mantels, panels, and the like; but in molding such articles for practical use, as inside lining, they must be of even size and free from warpage, in order to member and fit properly to produce a suitable ornamental surface. This is not practicable in the manipulation of clay by the wet process, or even semi-wet process. To make a hard dense tile the clay must be pressed into form in a perfectly dry powdered condition, and the air extracted from it in the process of pressing the same, and in order to give the necessary firm texture the article so produced must be exceedingly thin, and the thinner the article the firmer the body and texture of the article.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of one form of my improved tile with the design or ornamental portion in relief. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the tile shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a front view of a portion of the wall of the room with my improved tiles of different designs secured thereto. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view of a portion of the wall with the tile thereon.

A indicates the lining or facing-tile, which is by preference made of clay, but may be made of glass or other suitable material which will not be dissolved by the action of the water used in washing the tiles. These tiles are made very thin, preferably not over the one-sixteenth of an inch in thickness, and from two to six inches square. The front portion of the tile may be ornamented with any suitable or desirable design in relief or in depression, or they may be made plain, having a finish of the natural color of the clay, or may be coated with any suitable vitreous enamel of any desired color or combination of colors.

When the tiles are formed with the design in relief on the front or face of the same, a corresponding cavity or cavities are formed on the rear portion or back, as shown at *a*, Figs. 2 and 4. These depressions or cavities or roughened portions are formed on the rear side of all of the tiles, whether they have a plain or ornamental face or not, to form a tooth to which the cement will adhere and hold the tiles firmly in position on the walls.

In Fig. 4, B indicates the wall; C, the rough coat of plastering or other lining, and D the layer of cement, which holds the tiles A in position on the walls, the cement being worked into the cavities *a*, which form a tooth or roughened surface for the retention of the cement.

As before stated, these tiles are made very thin and by the dry-clay processes patented to me at various times, and when they are put into seggars to be burned they are piled on top of each other, thus effecting a saving in space in the kiln, which is a very important item in the manufacture of tiles on a large scale.

Any desired finish or color may be given to the tiles, and, when put in position on the walls, give to the same a very finished and artistic appearance; and, furthermore, the walls are readily cleaned, and will not retain unhealthy fumes or germs of disease.

As heretofore stated, it is not practical to make these tiles so thin and dense under the known processes and machines for manipulating clay; but by the methods and apparatus of feeding the clay to the molds by the force of suction as practiced by me, and as described

and claimed in my applications for Letters Patent filed January 20, 1886, Serial No. 189,174, and May 6, 1886, Serial No. 201,303, I am enabled to draw the dry-powdered clay uniformly into the molds so as to fill all the cavities for producing the designs in relief, and at the same time place therein a body of clay of uniform thickness, so that when the pressure is applied no portion of the tile will be more densely pressed or contain more clay than the other portions, and in this way I am able to produce tiles of a predetermined and uniform thickness and density.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A thin clay tile of uniform thickness and density, for the facings of interior walls, having one side ornamented with designs in relief or depression, the other portion or side of the tile being formed with cavities or raised portions to correspond with the designs on the other side of the tile, as set forth.

2. A wall or ceiling having its surface covered or ornamented with wafer-tiles made of clay in the manner described, said tiles having raised and depressed portions on both sides, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

J. C. ANDERSON.

Witnesses:
FRANK L. BLAKE,
OSCAR A. V. RUNNGREN.