

(No Model.)

J. KLEE.
MOLDED FACING FOR WALLS.

No. 406,448.

Patented July 9, 1889.

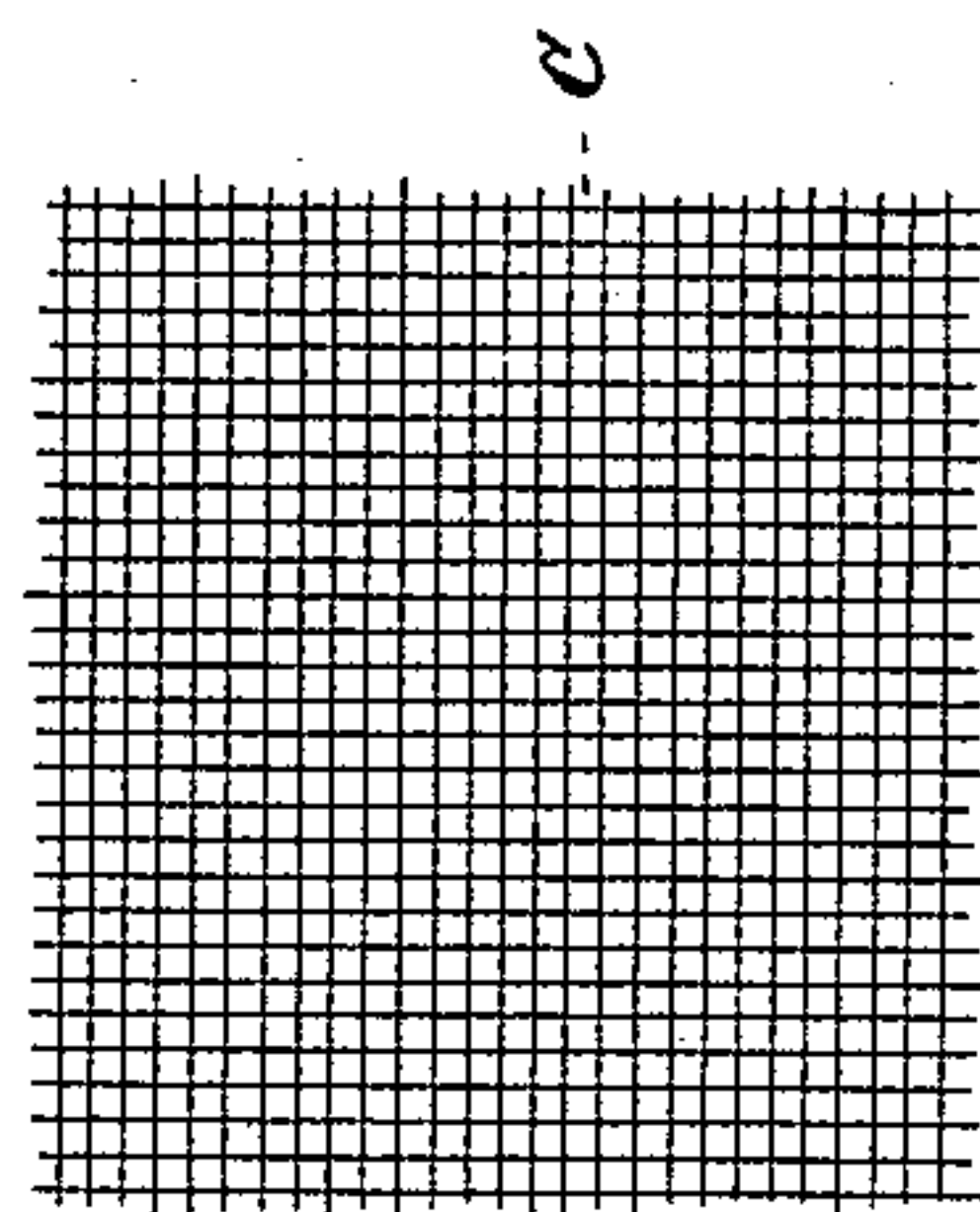
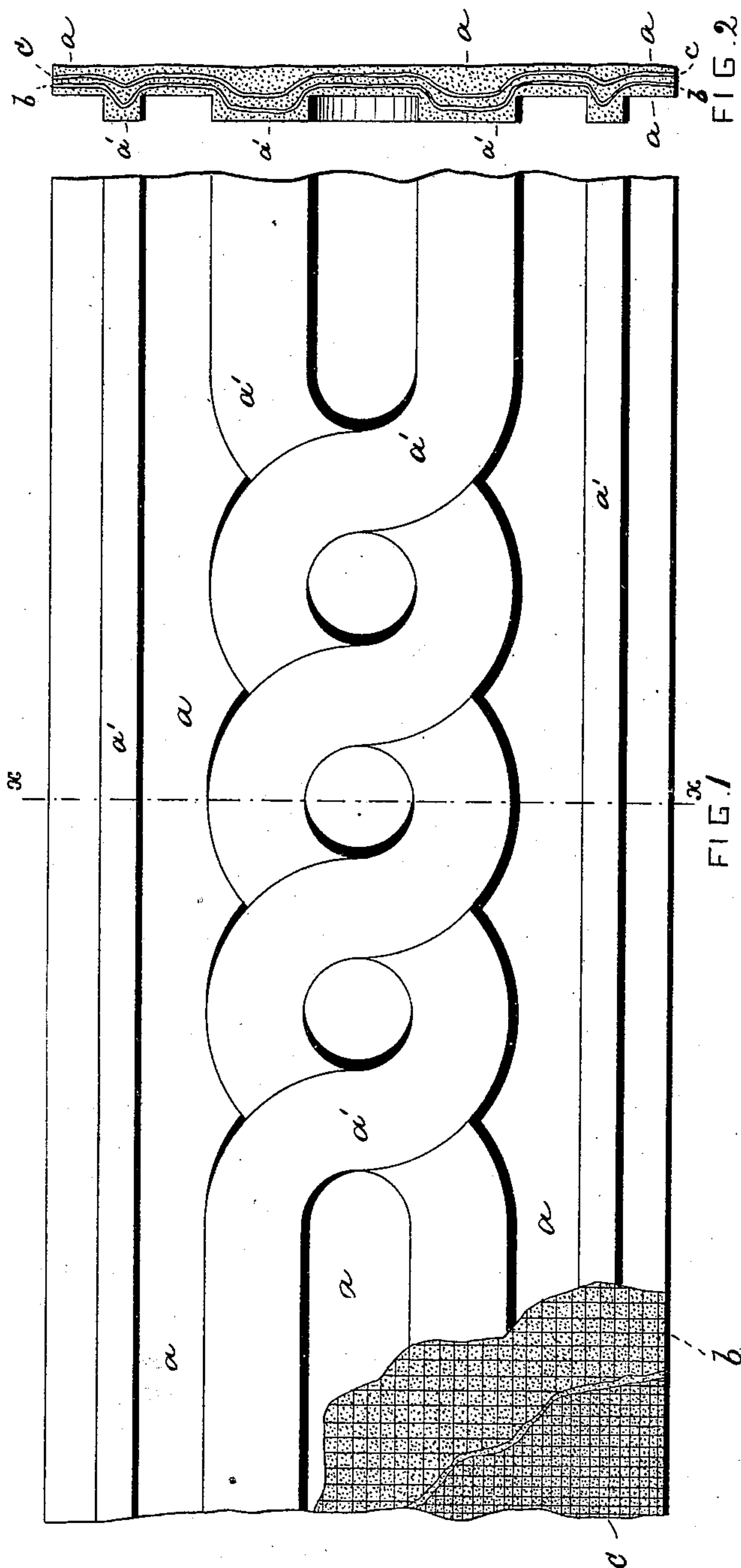


FIG. 4

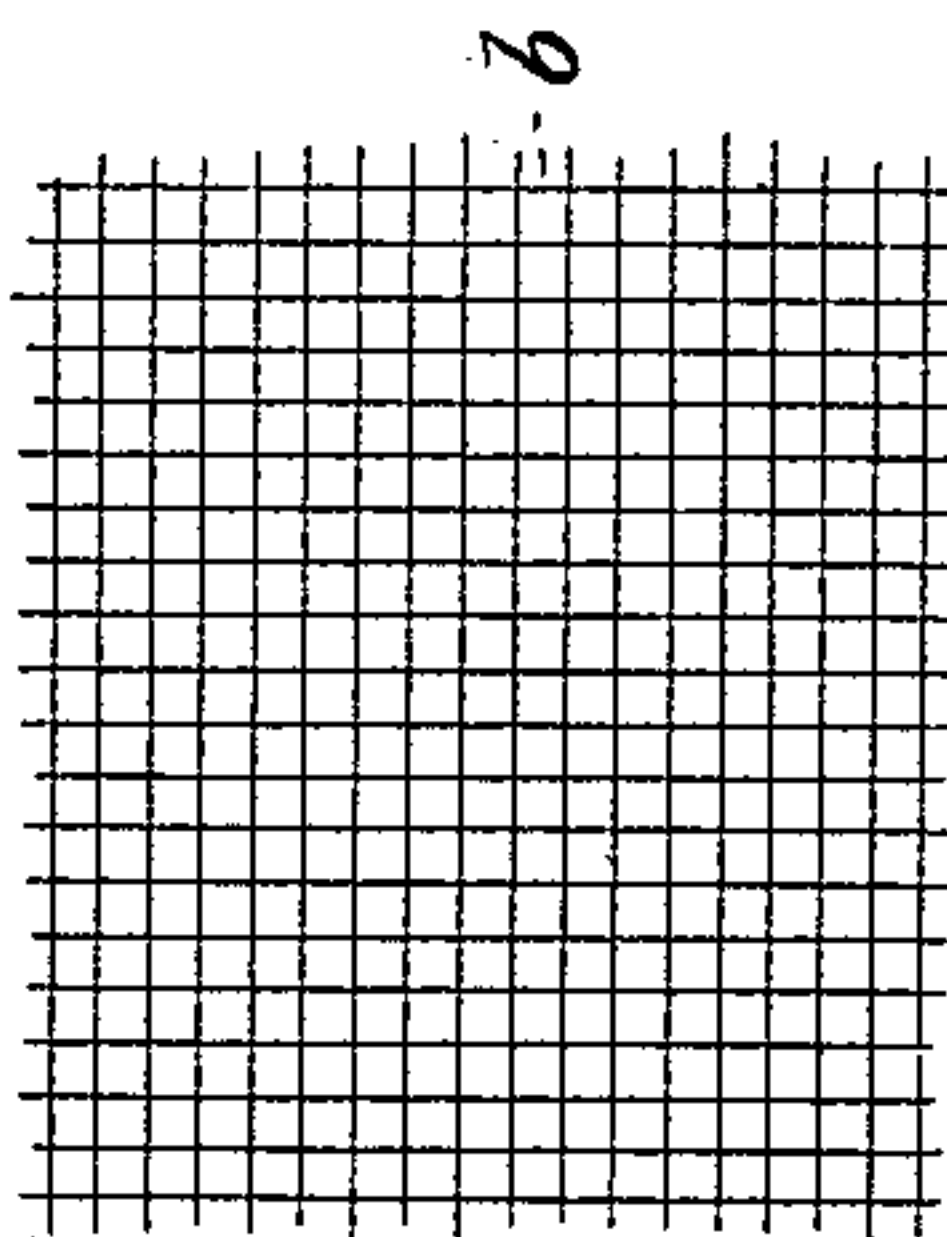


FIG. 3

WITNESSES

Wm. A. Lowe
Wm. Wagner

INVENTOR

Josef Klee
by his attorneys
Roeder & Briesen

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEF KLEE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

MOLDED FACING FOR WALLS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 406,448, dated July 9, 1889.

Application filed April 17, 1889. Serial No. 307,532. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEF KLEE, of New York city, New York, have invented an Improved Molded Facing for Walls, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a facing which is finished in the shop and is then applied to the wall similar to wall-paper.

The object of the invention is, first, to so construct the facing that its plaster-of-paris body is not liable to break or crumble away, and, secondly, that the facing can be firmly united with the wall and will not be apt to become spontaneously detached.

The invention consists in the various features of improvement more fully pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a face view of a section of my improved facing, showing it partly broken away. Fig. 2 is a cross-section on line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a face view of a piece of mosquito-netting, and Fig. 4 a face view of a piece of cheese-cloth embedded in my improved facing.

In manufacturing my improved facing I run into a mold having the desired pattern a plastic mass *a*, consisting preferably of about nine parts of plaster-of-paris and one part of dextrine. I next place upon the back of this plastic mass a sheet of mosquito-netting *b*, which, as is well known, is a woven fabric with very wide meshes. The netting *b* is pressed down by a trowel through the plastic material, so as to lie near the surface thereof. It will readily assume the outline of the mold and will enter the outwardly-projecting convex parts *a'* of the plastic pattern. After the netting *b* is thus put in place a sheet of cheese-cloth *c* is placed upon the back of the plastic material. The meshes of the cheese-cloth are of course smaller than those of the mosquito-netting. The cheese-cloth *c* is also worked or pressed down through the plastic material, but not so deep as the mosquito-netting. In pressing the cheese-cloth *c* into the plastic mass some of the latter will be forced upward through the meshes. This material is subsequently smoothed off by a straight-edge and forms the backing which completely covers the fabric *c*, Fig. 2. The facing is now permitted to harden, after which it is removed from the mold ready for use.

It will be seen that my improved wall-facing contains two woven fabrics, one with smaller meshes than the other and both embedded completely in the plastic mass. The object of using these two fabrics is as follows: The mosquito-netting having larger meshes more readily assumes the shape of the pattern and is thus adapted to enter the projections *a'*. Thus the plaster-of-paris, which forms these projections and which is most exposed to wear, is secured to a proper hold. The cheese-cloth having smaller meshes remains somewhat straighter than the fabric *b*. By reason of the comparative small size of its meshes it will tightly hold the rear portion of the facing in place and prevent it from breaking away. Thus great strength is imparted to the entire structure.

It will be seen that in my improved wall-facing the entire rear surface is formed of the plastic composition. This can be readily attached to the wall by any suitable adhesive. It will not be apt to fall away, as is the case if paper or a similar backing is interposed between the wall and the plastic composition, and which is apt to become detached if subjected to the influence of moisture.

I am aware that one or more layers of textile fabric have before my invention been embedded in plaster-of-paris cornices; but neither of such layers entered the ornamental projections or reliefs of the cornices to strengthen the same; nor were the two layers, when used, made with differently-sized meshes. I therefore do not claim, broadly, a plaster-of-paris cornice or facing with textile fabric embedded therein; but

I do claim—

A plastic composition for walls having relief ornaments molded thereon and containing two sheets of textile fabric, the front sheet having wider meshes than the rear sheet and being pressed out to form forward projections that enter the reliefs of the plastic composition, substantially as specified.

JOSEF KLEE.

Witnesses:

F. V. BRIESEN,
HENRY E. ROEDER.