(No Model.)

J. R. HEMPHILL.

CLEAT FOR ELECTRIC WIRING.

No. 551,032. Patented Dec. 10, 1895.

Fig. 1.

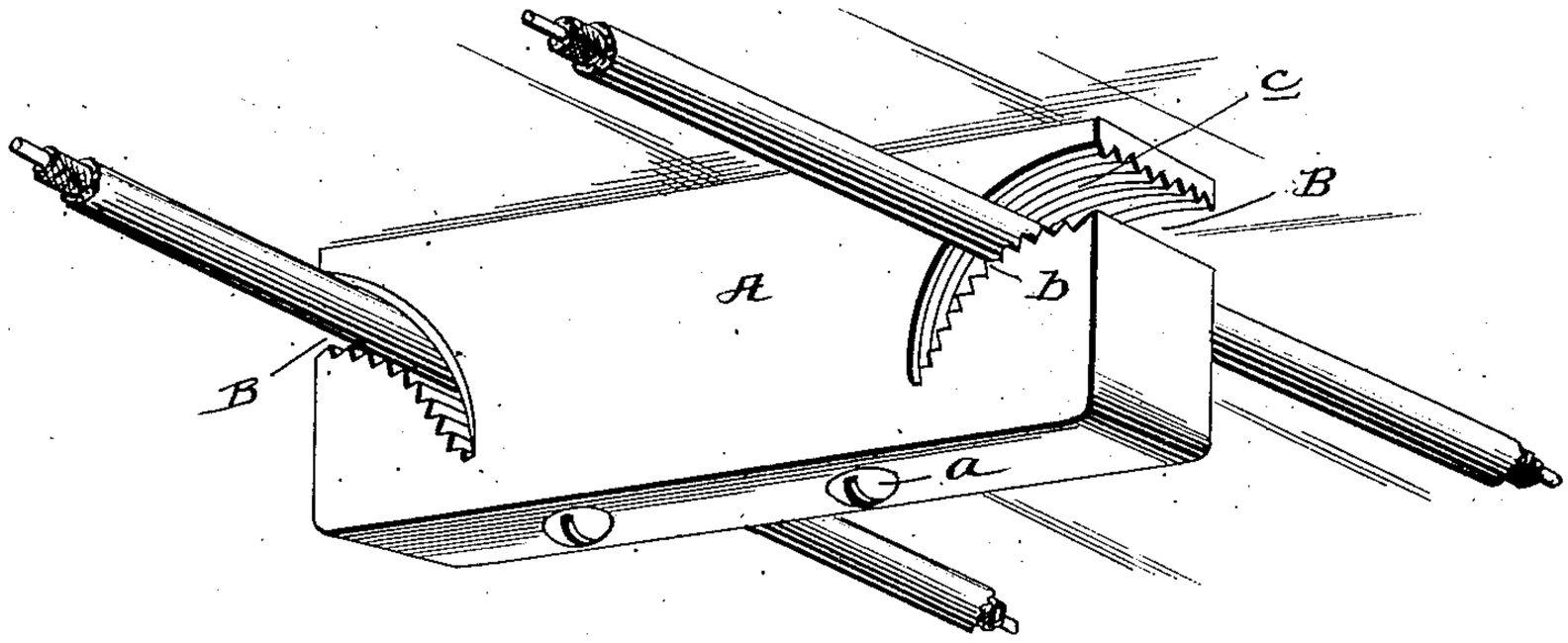


Fig. 3.

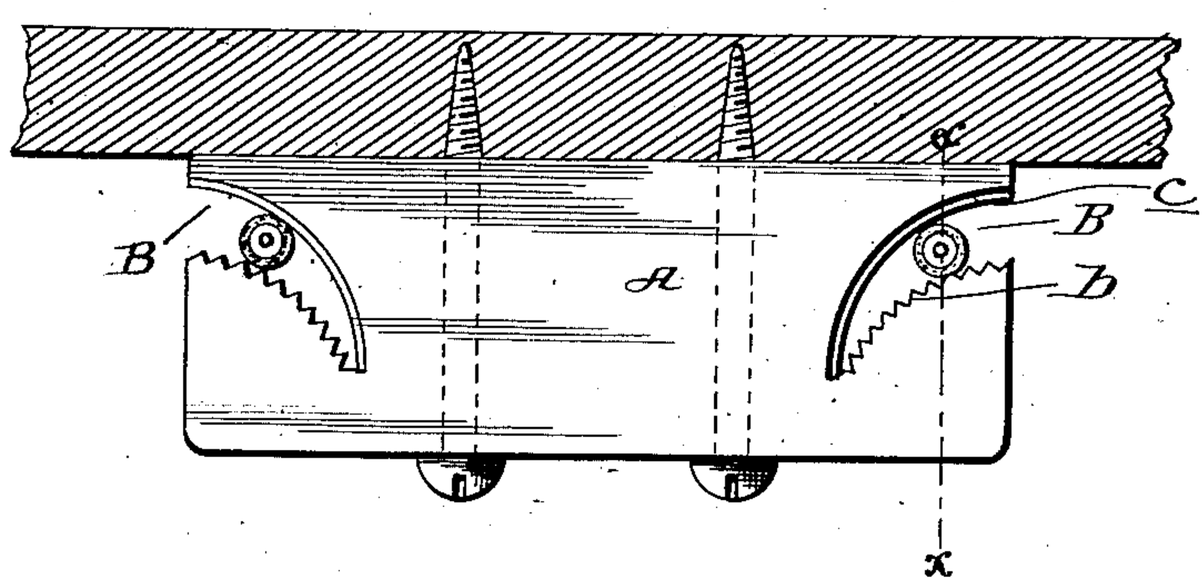


Fig. 2.

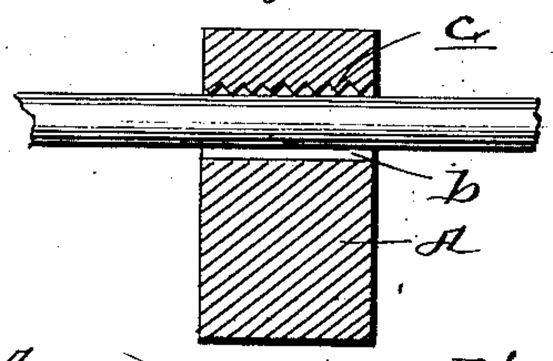
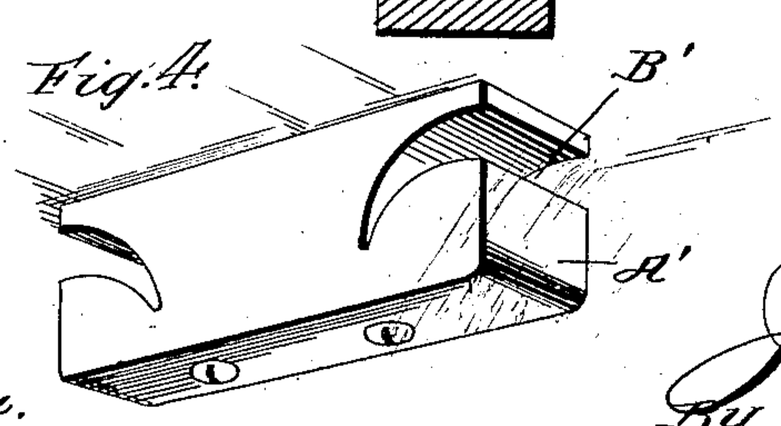


Fig. 4.



Witnesses!
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CLEAT FOR ELECTRIC WIRING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 551,032, dated December 10, 1895.

Application filed September 26, 1895. Serial No. 563,752. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES R. HEMPHILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cleats for Electric Wiring; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in cleats for electric wiring; and it has for its general object to provide a cleat which, although made in one piece, is adapted to receive and securely hold electric wires of different diameters.

With the foregoing ends in view the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in connection with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating my improved cleat as connected to the wall of a building and holding two wires. Fig. 2 is a transverse section taken in about the plane indicated by the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view, of a modification.

Referring by letter to the said drawings, A indicates my improved cleat, which is shown in the form usually employed for house-wiring purposes. This cleat A is formed in one piece of porcelain-clay or other vitreous or other material, and it is provided at suitable points with holes for the passage of attaching-screws *a* or is otherwise adapted for attachment to a support, and is also provided at its ends or at other suitable points with two (more or less) wire-receiving recesses B, as better shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The said recesses B, of which two are preferably formed in each cleat, are tapered or reduced in width toward their inner ends and are preferably curved or pitched downwardly, as shown, and they have their walls dentated in such a manner as to enable them to securely hold wires of different diameters against casual lateral movement or displacement, and also against casual longitudinal or endwise movement. Such dentation by preference consists in the provision of the transverse teeth *b* on one wall of the recesses, which are adapted to hold the wires against casual displacement, and the longitudinally-disposed teeth *c* on the other wall, which are adapted to hold the wires against casual longitudinal or endwise movement.

In using my improved cleat it is first fastened to a wall or other support by the screws *a* or other suitable means, and the wires are pressed laterally into the recesses B through the outer ends thereof until they bind, when, as will be readily observed, they will be securely held against lateral outward movement by the teeth *b* and against casual longitudinal movement by the teeth *c*. It will also be observed that by virtue of the recesses B being tapered or reduced in width toward their inner ends wires of various diameters within the capacity of the said recesses may be held as securely as those of the diameter illustrated.

When desired, the recesses B may be provided with transverse teeth *b* only; but I generally prefer to provide them with both kinds of teeth *b c*, as they are then adapted to hold the wires against casual lateral displacement, and also against casual longitudinal movement.

A cleat such as above described, while adapted to securely hold one or more wires, is very simple and may be provided very cheaply, since it may be cast or otherwise formed in one piece of porcelain or other vitreous substance, which is easily obtainable at small cost.

As is obvious, the cleats may be made with but a single-wire recess when but one wire is to be held.

In Fig. 4 of the drawings I have shown a modified form of cleat A′, which, like that shown in Figs. 1 to 3, may be easily and cheaply formed in one piece of porcelain-clay. This cleat A′ is provided at its ends or at other suitable points with two (more or less) wire-receiving recesses B′. These recesses B′ are tapered or reduced in width toward their inner ends and are by preference curved or pitched downwardly, as shown, and their upper and lower walls being smoothed, as illustrated, they are designed to receive and securely hold by frictional contact wires of different diameters against casual displacement. In using the said modified form of cleat it is first fastened to a wall or other support, and after the wires are drawn tightly they are

pressed into the recesses B′, when they will be securely held in the manner before described.

As will be readily appreciated, the cleat A′ may be manufactured at a much less cost than the cleat A and is adapted in some cases to hold wires, as well as the said cleat A.

Both forms of my improved cleat may be provided with one, two, or more wire-receiving recesses, and being adapted to be formed in one piece and to hold wires without the aid of any fastening devices it will be observed that they may be produced and sold very cheaply and that wires may be secured in them with but a minimum amount of trouble, which is a desideratum.

It will further be observed that when desired two or more wires of different diameters may be secured and held apart in each of the recesses of my improved cleat.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a cleat for electric wiring having a wire receiving recess tapered or reduced in width toward its inner end and having one of its walls dentated so as to hold a wire, substantially as specified.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a cleat for electric wiring, having a wire receiving recess tapered or reduced in width toward its inner end and having its walls dentated so as to hold a wire against lateral and longitudinal or endwise movement, substantially as specified.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a cleat for electric wiring formed in one piece and having a wire receiving recess curved and tapered or reduced in width toward its inner end and having its walls dentated so as to hold a wire against lateral and longitudinal or endwise displacement, substantially as specified.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a cleat for electric wiring formed in one piece and having the wire receiving recesses B, tapered or reduced in width toward their inner ends and provided on one wall with the transverse teeth *b*, and on their other wall with longitudinal teeth *c*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a cleat for electric wiring formed in one piece and having a wire receiving recess tapered or reduced in width toward its inner end and curved or pitched downwardly, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

JAMES R. HEMPHILL.

Witnesses:
JAS. P. LOOMIS,
GEO. NEWMAN.