

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODOR FRANKE, OF BERLIN, GERMANY.

WALL AND CEILING COVERING.

No. 888,006.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 19, 1908.

Application filed October 25, 1907. Serial No. 399,109.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODOR FRANKE, a subject of the German Emperor, residing at Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wall and Ceiling Coverings, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved imitation fabric covering or lining for walls and ceilings and to the process of producing the same.

In order to produce an imitation cloth lining for the walls and ceilings of rooms, the surface to be covered has been coated over with paint or other substance acting as an adhesive medium, and some fibrous material dusted over it or otherwise applied thereto. For this purpose wood-meal, hemp, cotton, and other vegetable fibers, and also wool have been employed. All these materials, however, have the disadvantage that they are affected by moisture to a greater or less extent and are, moreover, liable to decay, being thus prejudicial to the health of occupants of places where they are used. Attempts have been made, therefore, to discover some fibrous material which effectually resists both moisture and decomposition. For somewhat similar purposes inorganic substances such as talc, emery, sand, and mica have been employed, but these materials do not possess the fine fibers necessary

to produce a uniform cloth-like wall lining. I have now found that bog-moss, also known as peat or sphagnum, in a state of fine division is admirably suited for the purpose in question. This substance is not affected by moisture, nor is it subject to decay. Furthermore it is insensible to the action of rays of light. The chief advantage of the material, however, is its pronounced disinfecting property; for by absorbing foul odors it purifies the air—a point obviously of great hygienic importance.

A wall or ceiling may be covered merely by coating it with some medium possessing adhesive properties, such as ordinary paint, and then distributing the finely divided peat upon the surface in any suitable manner.

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

A wall or ceiling whose surface presents a covering consisting of finely divided bog-moss held to it by a suitable adhesive agent, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THEODOR FRANKE.

Witnesses:

HENRY HASPER,
WOLDEMAR HAUPT.