(No Model.)

D. A. SCHUTT.

CIRCUIT BLOCK.

No. 556,028. Patented Mar. 10, 1896.

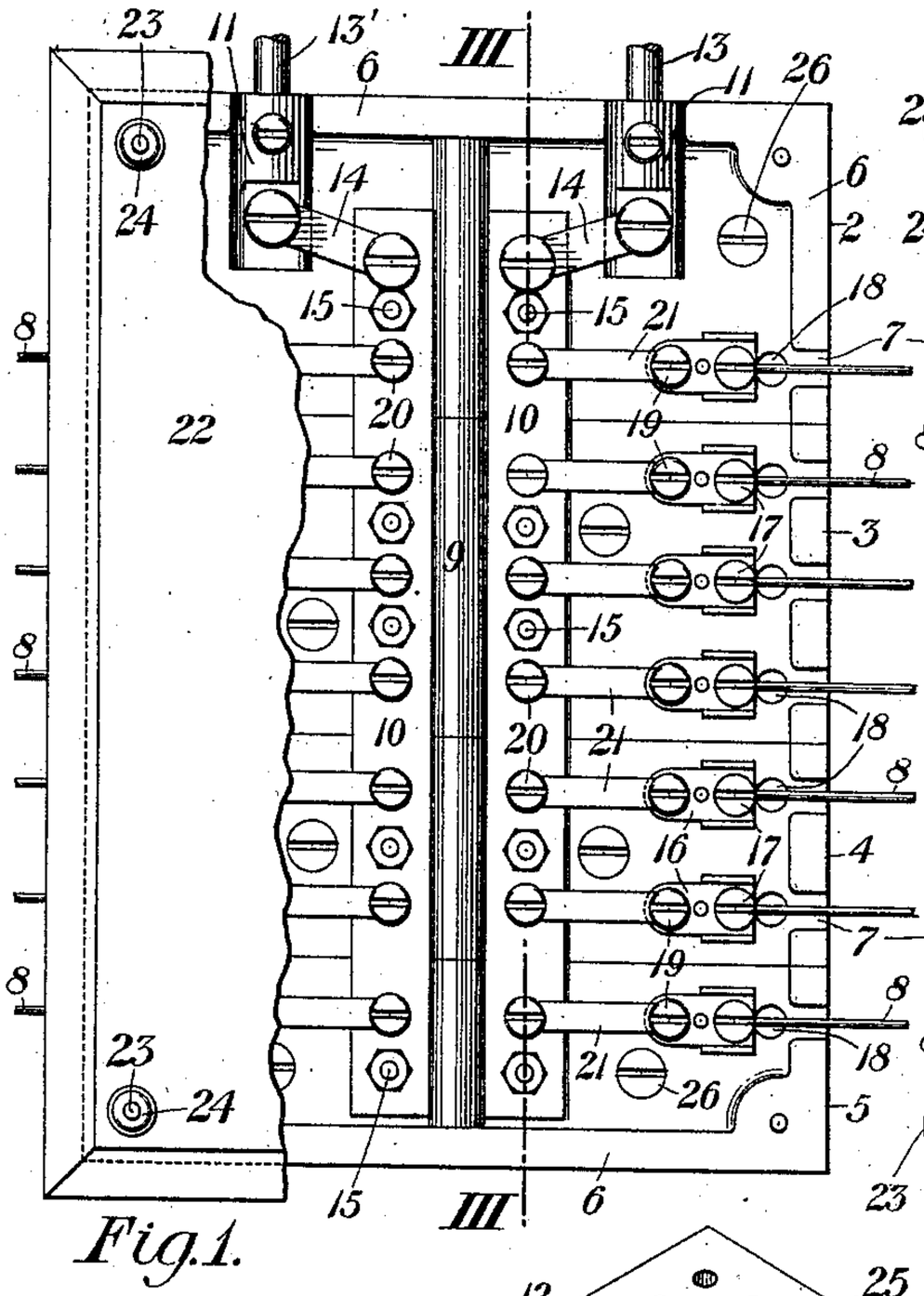

Fig. 1.

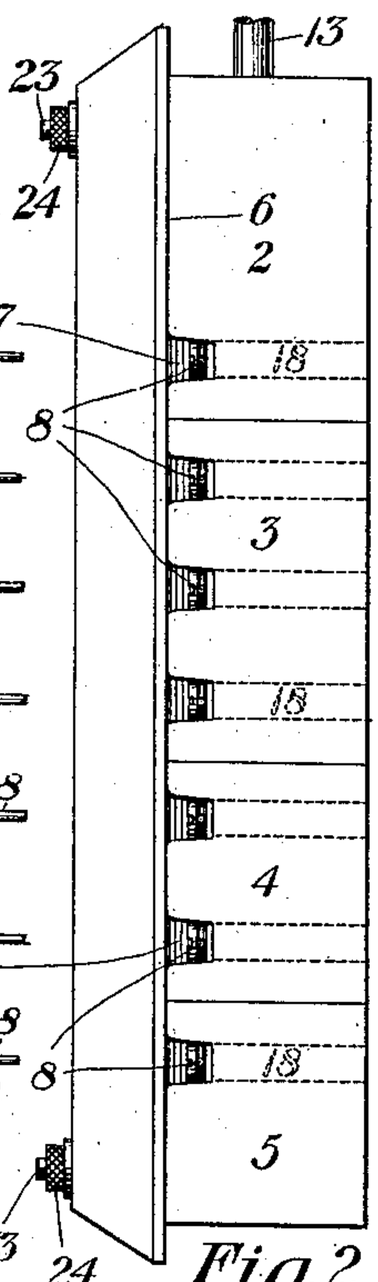

Fig. 2.

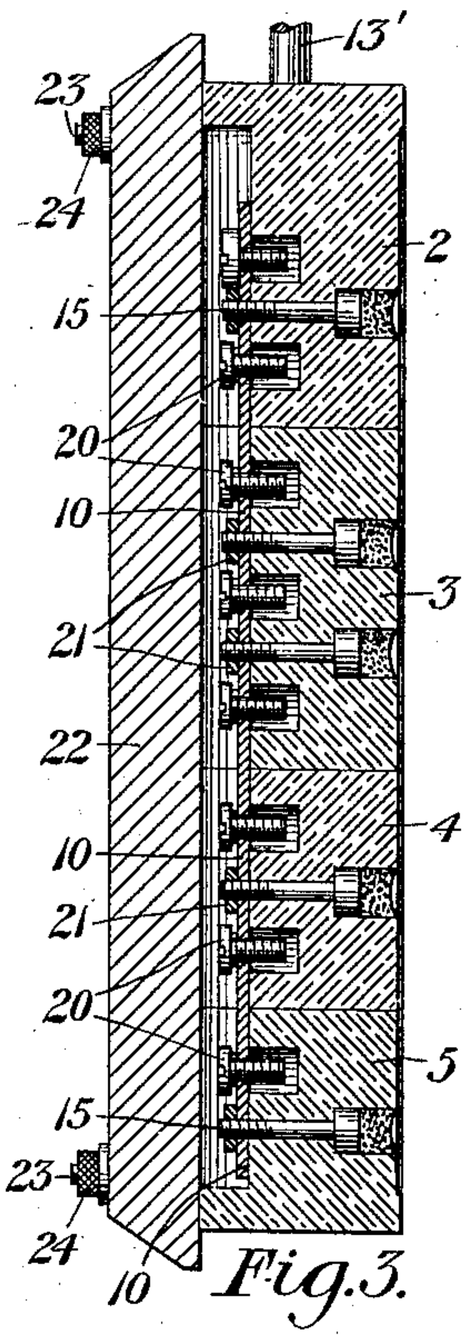

Fig. 3.

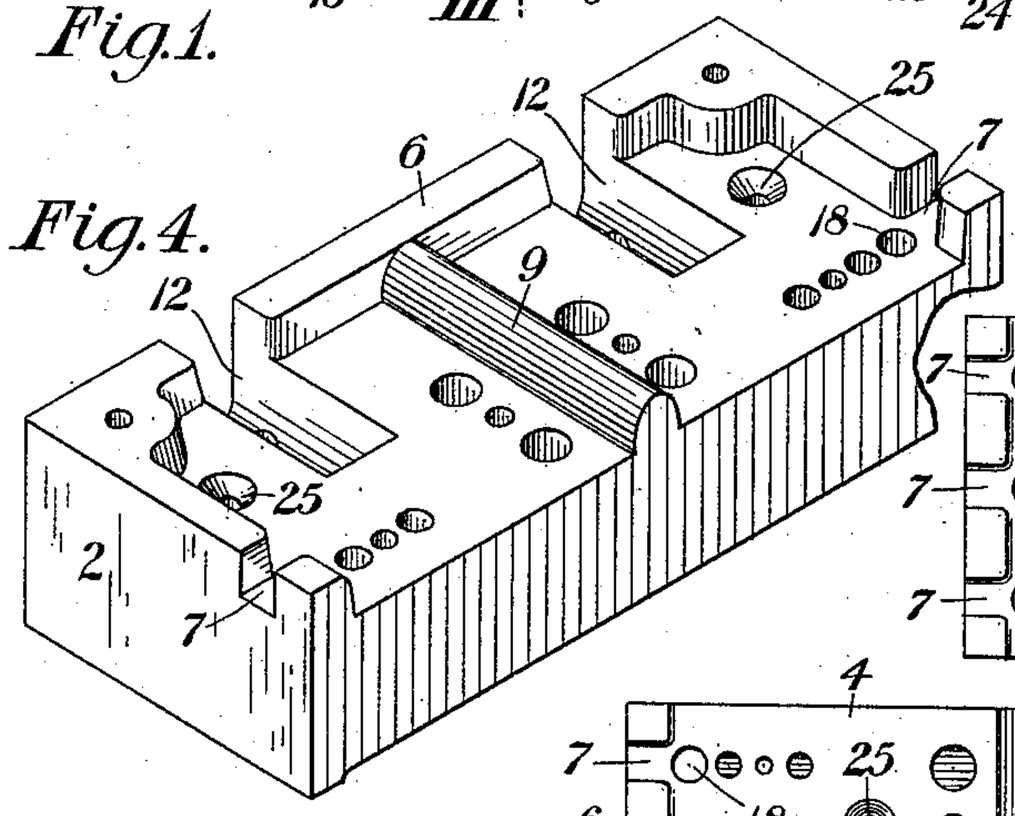

Fig. 4.

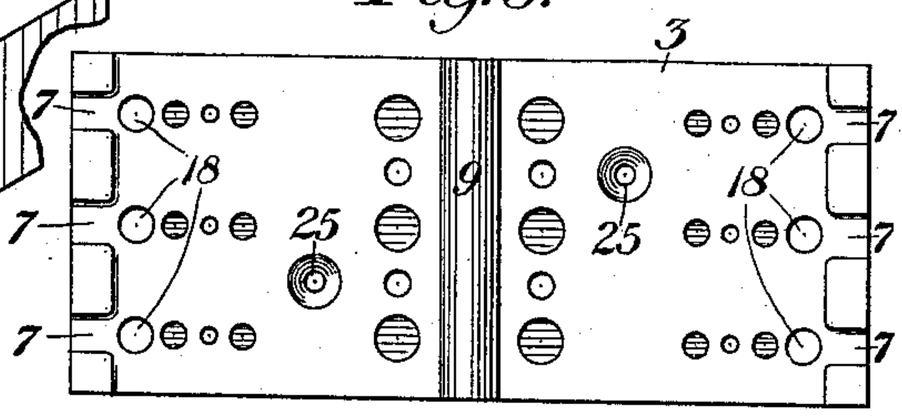

Fig. 5.

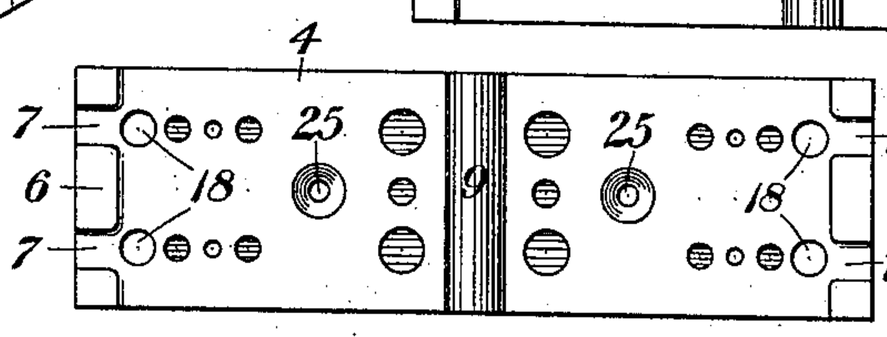

Fig. 6.

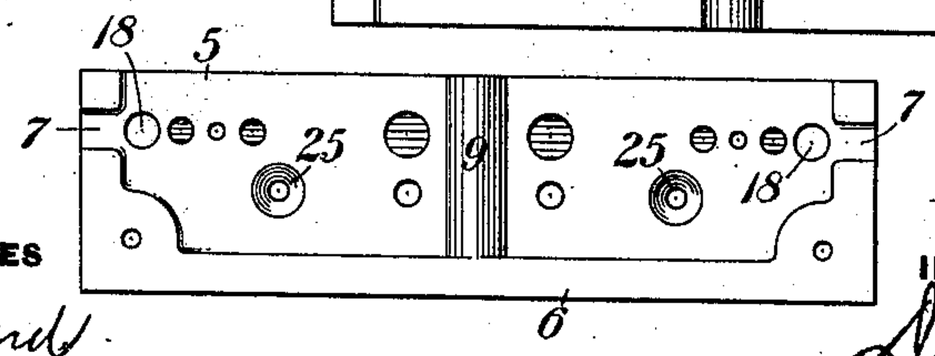

Fig. 7.

WITNESSES

T. J. Shypard

T. R. Clarke

INVENTOR

Danny A. Schutt.

by C. M. Clarke

his Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DUNY A. SCHUTT, OF PERU, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR TO THE PERU ELECTRIC MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

CIRCUIT-BLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 556,028, dated March 10, 1896.

Application filed November 16, 1895. Serial No. 569,154. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DUNY A. SCHUTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peru, in the county of Miami and State of Indiana, have invented or discovered a new and useful Improvement in Circuit-Blocks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view, with the front board partly broken away, of my improved multiple circuit-block. Fig. 2 is an edge view thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on the line III III of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail view in perspective of one of the section-blocks detached. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are face views of other section-blocks employed.

Similar numerals of reference refer to like parts wherever used throughout this specification.

The object of my invention is to construct a circuit-block for use in making branch connections from lines or electrical conductors in such a manner that the number of branches may be increased at will and to a practically unlimited extent. Heretofore in making such circuit-blocks they have been constructed of a single piece of porcelain or other suitable insulating material, and inasmuch as in the process of manufacturing these blocks it has been found impossible to make them larger than sufficient for a limited number of circuit connections, owing to their liability to fracture, warpage and shrinkage in the process of burning the porcelain, the number of possible circuit connections is in consequence necessarily limited. For the purpose of obviating this difficulty I construct my circuit-block of a number of sections, varying in proportion to the number of circuit connections desired, built up and secured together, as I shall hereinafter describe. I have found in practice that such a construction gives most satisfactory results and is a marked improvement over other forms of blocks, and, moreover, is a more economical and practical way of making them.

Referring now to the drawings, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are sections of porcelain molded into the forms illustrated, so that when assembled and secured together, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, they shall form a complete block, having an outer surrounding raised edge 6 with openings 7 at intervals, through which pass the branch wires 8. In making connections from my circuit-block, when it is desirable to keep the wires concealed, I employ the opening 18 running through from the front to the back, as shown in the drawings, the wires 8 in such cases being passed through such openings and back of the circuit-block to any desired point instead of through the openings 7. In electrical equipment practice such construction is known as "concealed work." A rib 9 divides the sections centrally and serves to strengthen them and form a backing for the connecting-bars 10, of brass, which are secured to each of the sections of porcelain, binding them all firmly together and also acting as a conductor. Terminal connections 11 11 are let into apertures 12 in the block 2, to which they are secured by screws in the usual manner, (not shown,) and electrical connection is made from positive and negative wires 13 13′ through such connections or binding-posts 11, fuses 14, to the bar 10 secured to each of the porcelain sections by one or more screws 15 let in through the porcelain from the back and reinforced by cement to hold them in position. On each side of the sections are one or more branch connections 16, similarly secured to the porcelain and provided with a binding-screw 17 for electrical connection with the branch wire 8, and in the inner end having a screw 19. Opposite each screw 19 are similar screws 20 in the bar 10, and between screws 19 and 20 is placed a piece of fuse or other electrical connection 21, thus making independent connection for each wire 8 with the bar 10.

It will be noticed that the sections of porcelain vary in size and in the number of connections to each, thus making it possible to build up a circuit-block of any desired capacity by using the sections of suitable size, and in this manner I am enabled to easily and quickly furnish any special circuit-block by simply using a number of stock sizes of sections. A top or cover piece 22 of wood is

secured in position on top of the sections by screws 23 and thumb-nuts 24, thus greatly strengthening the block, and holes 25 for screws 26 are provided at intervals for securing the block to the wall. Screw-holes and clearance-holes are made wherever necessary in the sections in the customary manner. Changes and modifications may be made by the skilled mechanic in the construction, proportions, and arrangement of sections without departing from my invention, since I do not desire to be limited to the form of block as illustrated in the drawings, as it is obvious that such changes will suggest themselves to suit different requirements of use.

Having described my invention and in what manner it operates, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A circuit-block for use in making branch electrical connections, consisting of two or more sections of insulating material secured together by one or more metallic connections attached to each section, such metallic connections having electrical connection with main feed and branch wires respectively, substantially as set forth.

2. A circuit-block for use in making branch electrical connections, consisting of two or more sections of insulating material, secured together by one or more strips of metal, attached to each section, such strips having electrical connection with main feed-wires and with branch connections secured to the sections, respectively, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, in a multiple circuit-block of two or more sections of insulating material, secured together by strips located on each side of a central rib formed by the sections, and feed-wire connections and branch-wire connections respectively, secured to the sections, substantially as set forth.

4. In a circuit-block for use in making branch electrical connections, consisting of two or more sections of insulating material secured together by one or more strips of metal attached to each section, having electrical connection with main feed-wires, openings in the sides of the sections for branch wires electrically connecting with the strips, substantially as set forth.

5. In a circuit-block for use in making branch electrical connections consisting of two or more sections of insulating material, secured together by one or more strips of metal attached to each section, having electrical connection with main feed-wires; openings through the sections from front to back for branch wires, electrically connecting with the strips, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of September, 1895.

DUNY A. SCHUTT.

Witnesses:
WM. B. MCCLINTIC,
JOHN MITCHELL.