

No. 607,812.

Patented July 19, 1898.

E. E. VAN WIE.  
BUILDING TILE.

(Application filed July 29, 1897.)

(No Model.)

Fig 1

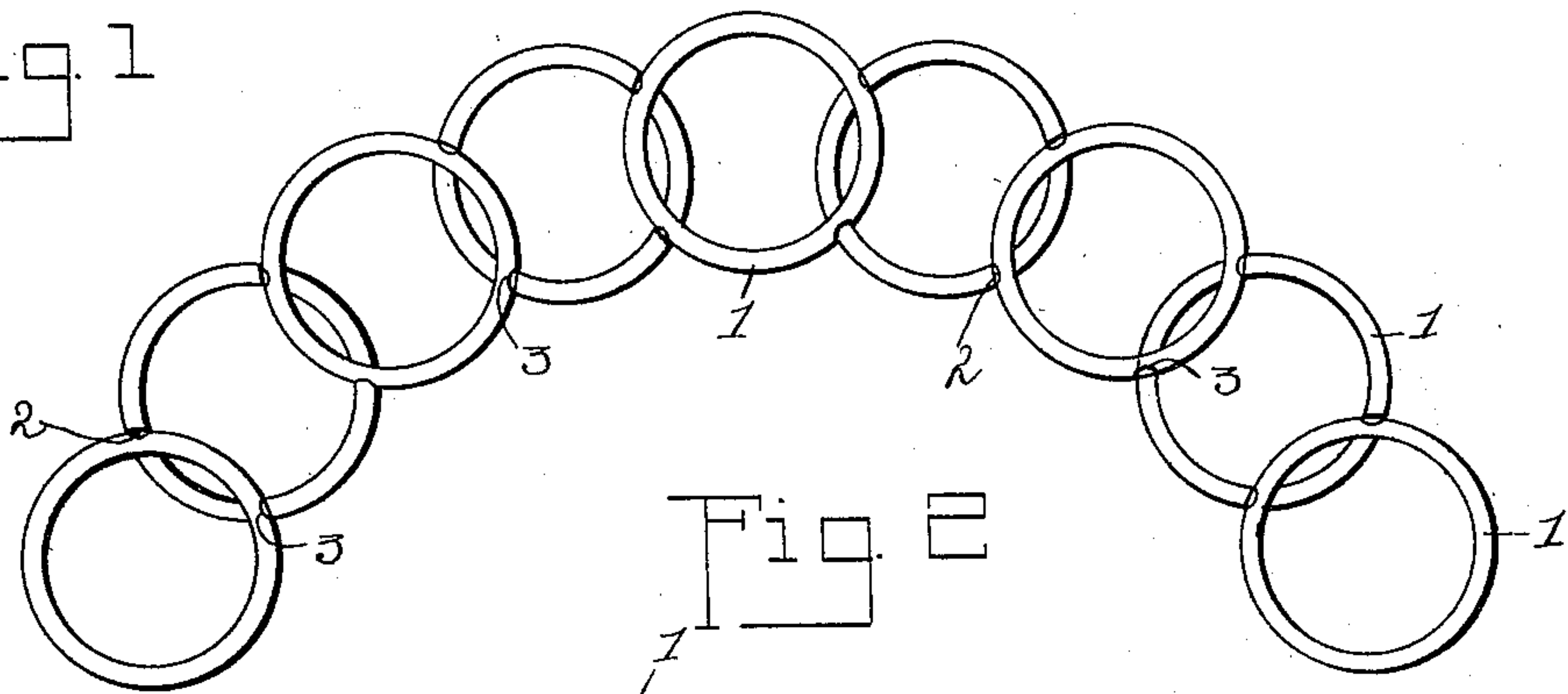


Fig 2

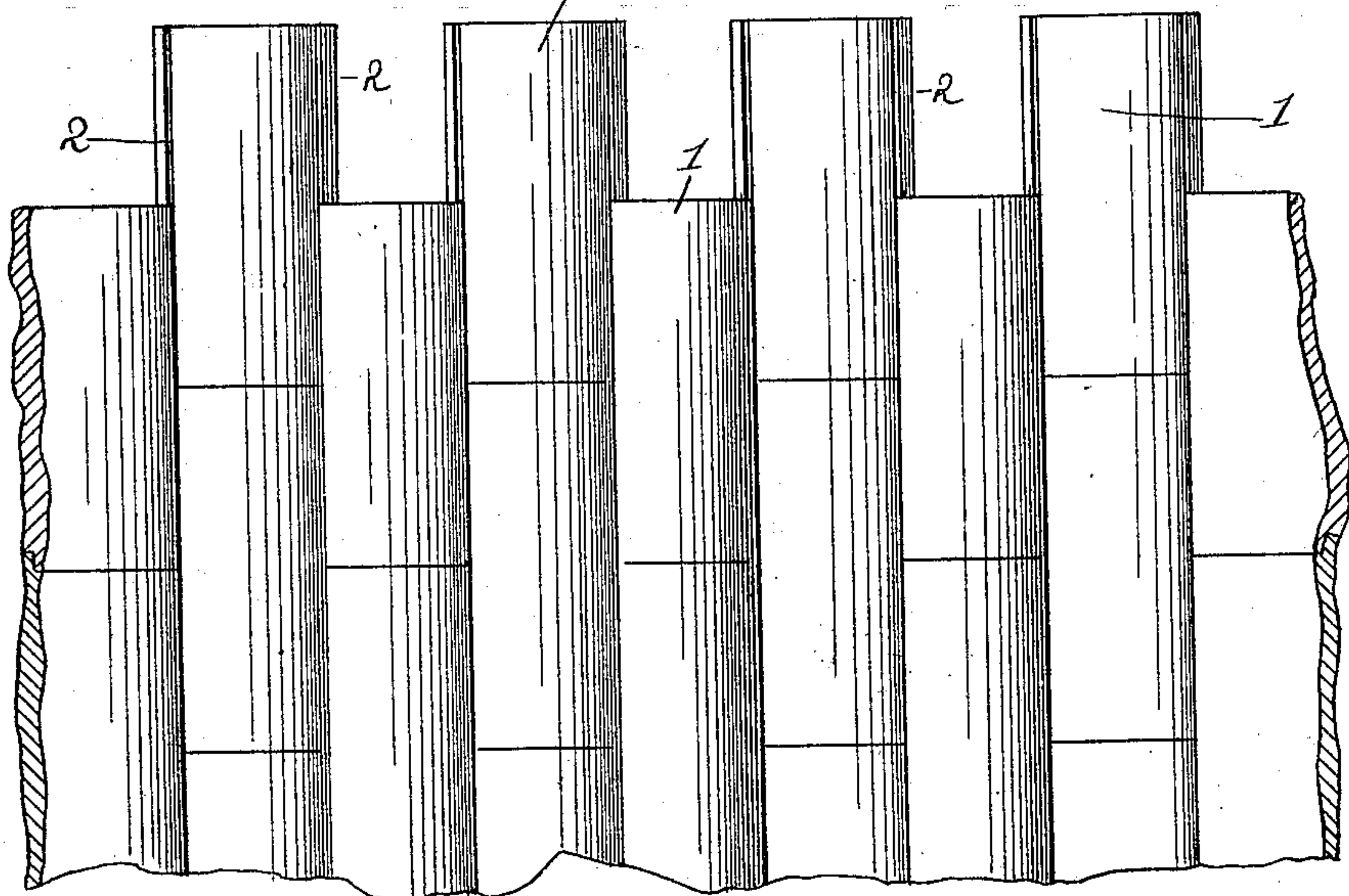


Fig 4

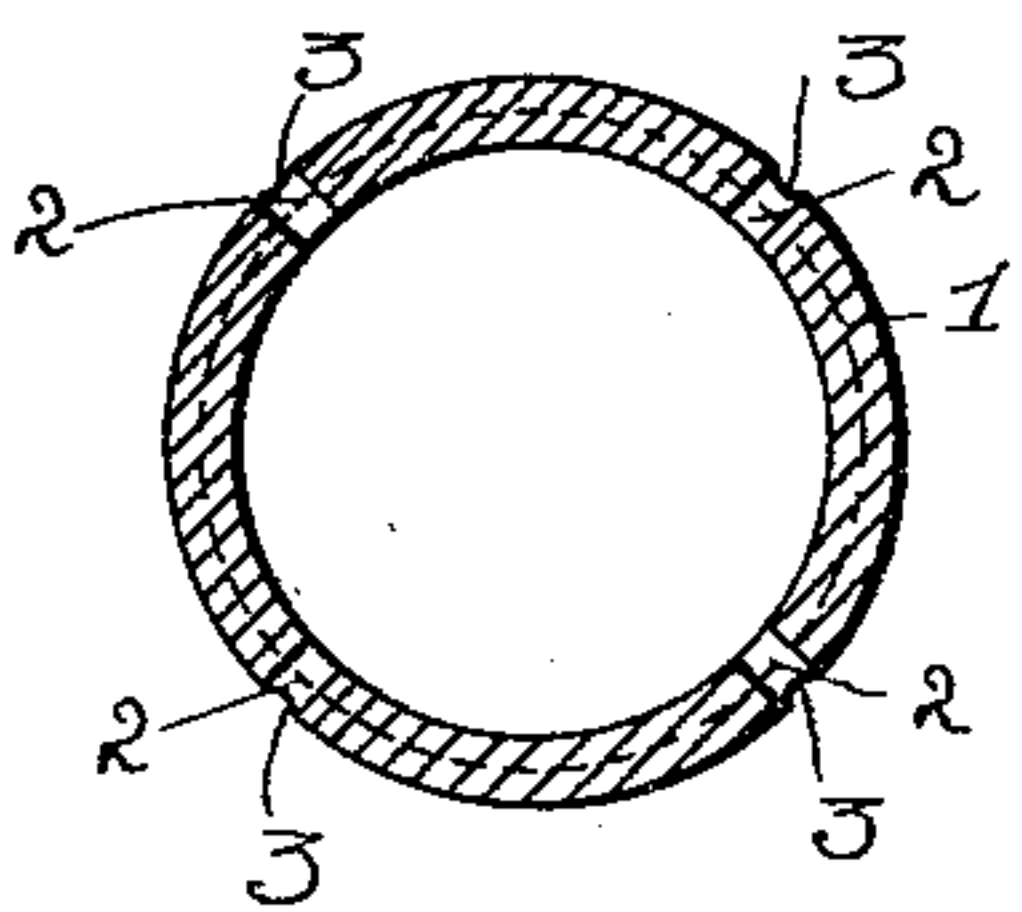


Fig 3

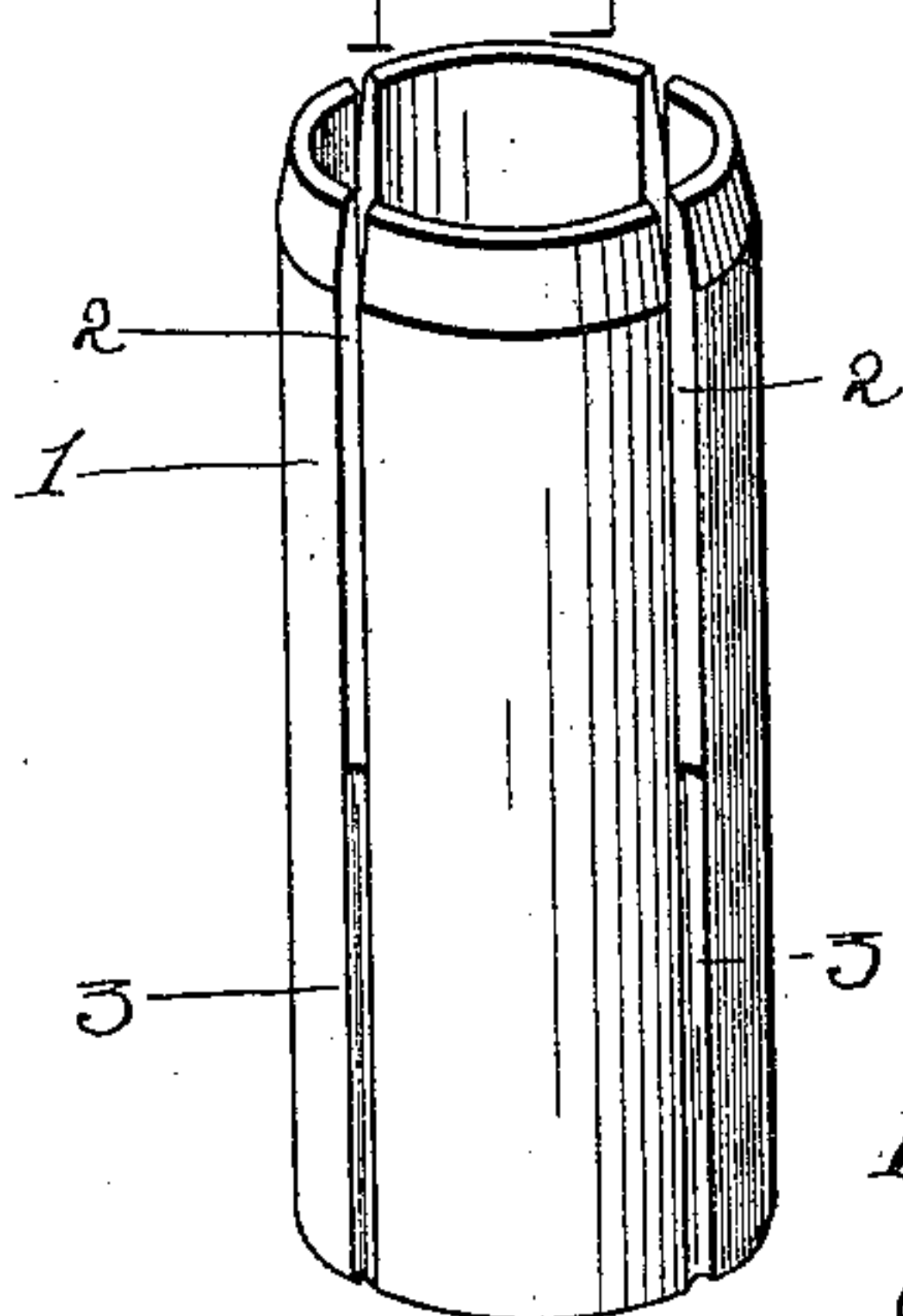
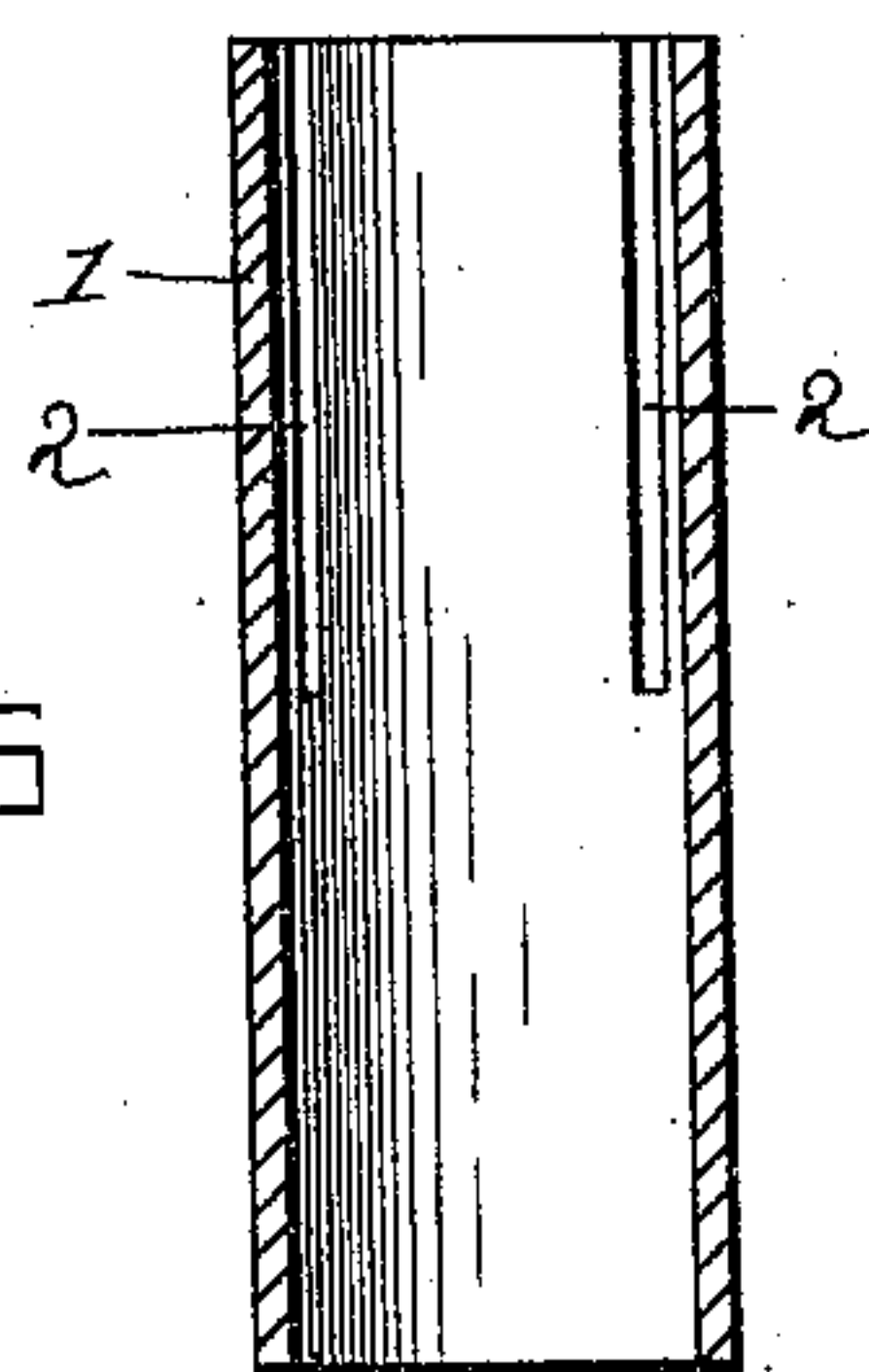


Fig 5



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELMER ELLSWORTH VAN WIE, OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN.

## BUILDING-TILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 607,812, dated July 19, 1898.

Application filed July 29, 1897. Serial No. 646,401. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELMER ELLSWORTH VAN WIE, of Kenosha, in the county of Kenosha and State of Wisconsin, have invented  
5 certain new and useful Improvements in Building-Tiles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable  
10 others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved tile by which a number of them can be readily and conveniently interlocked with  
15 each other and used in building a wall or arch and for other purposes requiring a rigid structure adapted to withstand a considerable strain or pressure.

The invention contemplates a peculiar construction of the tile, permitting a wall of any  
20 length to be built by simply placing one upon the other and interlocking them with the adjoining tiles on each side.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain the same consists in a  
25 tubular tile, either round or angular, one half of which is provided with longitudinal slots open at their outer ends, while the other half has a series of grooves on a line with said slots, whereby one tile can be interlocked  
30 with another of the same construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a view illustrating the  
35 application of my invention to the building of an arch or culvert. Fig. 2 is a view illustrating its application to the construction of a vertical wall. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the tile. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view through the tile. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view.  
40

In carrying out my invention I prefer to make the tile cylindrical, either by casting, rolling, forging, or otherwise, presenting a  
45 tube 1, in one end portion of which are cut a series of open-ended slots 2, extending inward to or slightly beyond the center of the tile, the number of slots depending upon the use to which the tile is to be applied. In  
50 connection with these slots the other or unbroken part of the tube is formed with a cor-

responding series of channels or grooves 3, extending on a line with the aforesaid slots and of a depth not to materially weaken the structure. The slots may be of a length 55 equal to one-half the length of the tube, and in this event the meeting ends of the tiles which are on a line with each other will abut, though I prefer to extend the slots a short distance or shorten them and have one end 60 of the tile or tube tapered and the opposite end reamed out to receive the tapered end of the adjoining tile. This construction reinforces the end of the tile which is provided with the slots, and will therefore provide a 65 more rigid structure.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that a wall, arch, or other structure requiring strength can be built from tiles constructed in accordance with my invention, requiring 70 no extraneous substance to hold said tiles together, the interlocking parts serving to brace each other or practically form continuous hollow tubes. In forming columns the tiles at the center are slightly larger than 75 those surrounding the same, and the slots and corresponding channels in the said central tiles are slightly wider. In forming an arch the curve of the arch will be determined by the location of the slots, those at the un- 80 der side being closer together than the other pair.

The tiles can be made up of metal, artificial stone, terra-cotta, glass, or other material according to the character of the structure to 85 be built therefrom, and it is obvious that the application of the tile is practically unlimited, and I therefore do not wish to be limited to the particular uses herein set forth.

Having thus described my invention, what 90 I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A tubular building-tile having open-ended slots extending a part only of the length thereof, as and for the purpose set forth. 95

2. A building-tile, comprising a tube one end of which is provided with open-ended slots extending longitudinally to or near the center of the tube, the other part of the tube being grooved on a line with the slots, substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth. 100

3. A building-tile, comprising a tube one  
part of which is provided with an open-ended  
slot and the other part having grooves or  
channels on a line with the aforesaid slots,  
5 the said tube being tapered at one end and  
reamed out at the other, substantially as  
shown and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this  
specification in the presence of two subscrib-  
ing witnesses.

ELMER ELLSWORTH VAN WIE.

Witnesses:

NORMAN L. BAKER,

ROBERT VERNE BAKER.