No. 775,940. PATENTED NOV. 29, 1904.

J. P. SHERER.

MOLD FOR BUILDING BLOCKS.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 20, 1904.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

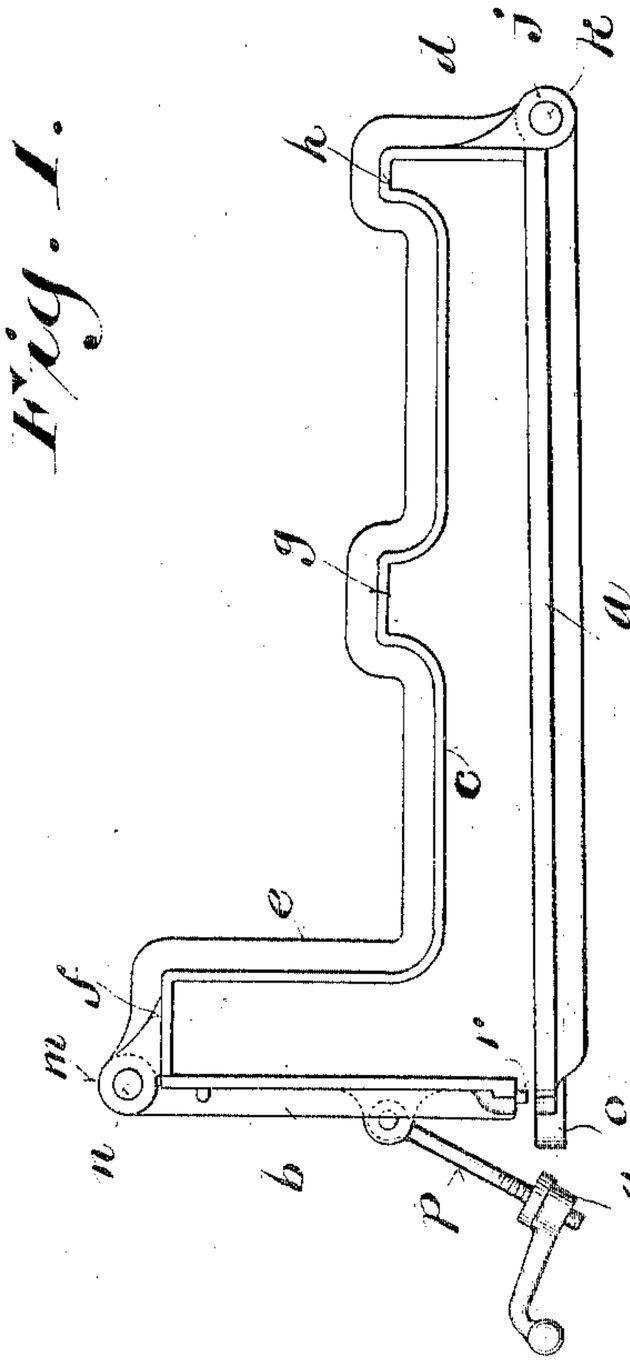


Fig. 2.

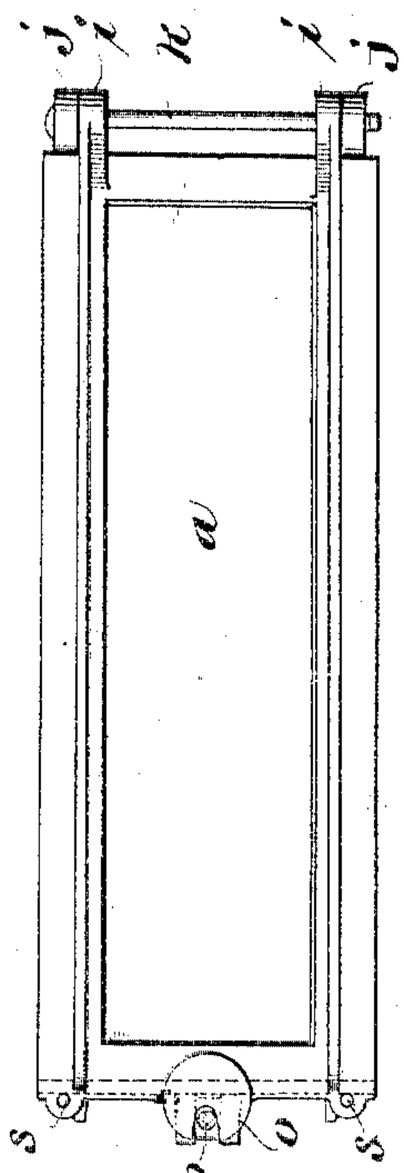
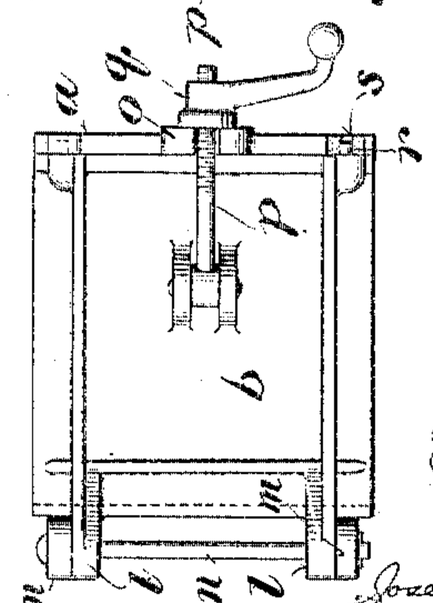


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH P. SHERER, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR TO NATIONAL BUILDING BLOCK COMPANY, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, A CORPORATION OF WISCONSIN.

MOLD FOR BUILDING-BLOCKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 775,940, dated November 29, 1904.

Application filed May 20, 1904. Serial No. 208,792. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH P. SHERER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Molds for Building-Blocks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

The main object of this invention is to provide a mold of simple construction and operation with interchangeable parts for making a variety of concrete building-blocks.

It consists in certain novel features of construction and in the peculiar arrangement and combinations of parts hereinafter particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings like letters designate the same parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a mold, partially opened, embodying the invention; Fig. 2 is a front view; and Figs. 3 and 4 are end views as seen from the left and right, respectively, with reference to Figs. 1 and 2.

The mold comprises three distinct members—a front plate *a*, an end plate *b*, and a back plate *c*. The back plate is formed with oppositely-turned limbs *d* and *e*, the limb *d* forming one end of the mold and the limb *e* being longer than the limb *d* and terminating in an extension *f* parallel with the body or main portion of the plate. Offsets forming vertical recesses or channels *g* and *h* in the inner face of the back plate are usually made, the channel *g* being about midway between the ends of the plate and the channel *h* next to the shorter limb *d*.

The front plate *a* is formed at one end with a pair of perforated ears *i i*, which are fitted between corresponding ears *j j* on the limb *d* of the back plate and are detachably connected therewith by a removable hinge-pin *k*.

The end plate *b* is also formed at one end with a pair of perforated ears *l l*, fitted between corresponding ears *m m* on the other end of the back plate and detachably connected therewith by a removable hinge-pin *n*.

The mold is open at the top and bottom, and the plates of which it is composed are preferably cast with ribs or flanges, as shown, to give them the necessary strength and rigidity without unduly increasing their weight.

The hinged front and end plates *a* and *b* are arranged to close together at the ends opposite their hinged ends perpendicular or at right angles to each other and are provided with a suitable fastening for securely holding them together when the mold is closed. This fastening may consist, as shown, of a notched lug *o*, formed on one of the plates, and an eyebolt *p*, pivoted between ears on the outer face of the other plate in position to be turned into and out of engagement with the notch in said lug and provided with a handle-nut *q* or other suitable clamping device.

To prevent the plates *a* and *b* from springing out of place when the mold is closed and the consequent molding of winding or imperfect blocks, the end plate *b* is provided in its front edge with dowel-pins *r*, fitting into corresponding holes *s* in the front plate *a* when the mold is closed.

By making the front and end plates *a* and *b* detachable from the back plate *c* a number of interchangeable front and end plates having their inner faces variously formed to mold blocks resembling smooth and rough stone, brickwork, &c., may be provided and used with a single-standard back plate.

Blocks of different dimensions may be formed in the same mold by inserting in the ends of the mold-cavity wood or metal blocks of different dimensions, the mold being constructed to form building-blocks of the largest dimensions that may be required without such filling-blocks. Thus by providing a number of interchangeable front and end plates and a number of filling-blocks of different dimensions a great variety of building-blocks may be made in the mold without unnecessary duplication of parts.

In operation the mold is placed on a smooth floor, board, or other support, which serves as a bottom wall or closure for the mold-cavity. The hinged front and end plates *a* and *b* being closed and secured together by the

fastening, as shown in Fig. 3, the mold is filled with concrete or other plastic material, which is tamped or pressed into the mold-cavity. To facilitate the filling of the mold, a removable hopper, which is not shown, may be provided. After it has been filled to the top the hopper is removed and the excess of concrete or other material is removed by means of a trowel or other suitable instrument flush with the upper edges of the mold. The front and end plates *a* and *b* are then unfastened and swung outwardly and the mold is removed from the block thus formed. The blocks may be left where they are formed, the mold being progressively moved from place to place, or they may be molded on boards or trays and taken away to a storage-room or other convenient place to dry and harden.

When the front and end plates *a* and *b* are recessed or indented in their inner faces to imitate rough stone or produce raised portions on the exterior faces of the building-blocks, the hinging of said plates to the back plate admits of their being swung outwardly from the molded blocks and of the removal of the mold therefrom without mutilating or injuring projecting portions of the molded exterior faces of the blocks.

Various changes in the details of construction and in the conformation of the component parts of the mold may be made to adapt it to molding building-blocks of various sizes and forms and in imitation of various materials.

I claim—

1. A mold for building-blocks comprising three members, two of which are hinged to the other at diagonally opposite corners of the mold and are provided with a fastening at the ends opposite the hinges, substantially as described.

2. A mold for building-blocks comprising a generally L-shaped plate constituting the back and narrower end of the mold and front and end plates hinged to opposite ends of said L-shaped plate at diagonally opposite corners of the mold, substantially as described.

3. A mold for building-blocks comprising a back plate having oppositely-turned transverse limbs at the ends, the rearward limb being longer than the forward limb, and front and end plates hinged to the ends of the back plate at diagonally opposite corners of the mold, substantially as described.

4. A mold for building-blocks comprising a back plate open at the top and bottom and having a transverse limb forming one end of the mold, a front plate hinged at one end to the end of said limb and an end plate hinged at one end to the other end of the back plate, substantially as described.

5. A mold for building-blocks comprising a back plate having at the ends oppositely-turned transverse limbs one of which is longer than the other and has an extension parallel with the body of the plate, and offsets forming vertical channels or recesses in the inner face of the plate, one next to its shorter limb and the other between its ends, and front and end plates hinged to the ends of the back plate, substantially as described.

6. A mold for building-blocks comprising a back plate having a transverse limb forming one end of the mold and front and end plates hinged to the ends of the back plate so as to close at right angles to each other, and provided one with dowel-pins fitting into corresponding holes in the other and with a fastening for holding them together when the mold is closed, substantially as described.

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

JOSEPH P. SHERER.

Witnesses:
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BERNARD C. ROLOFF.