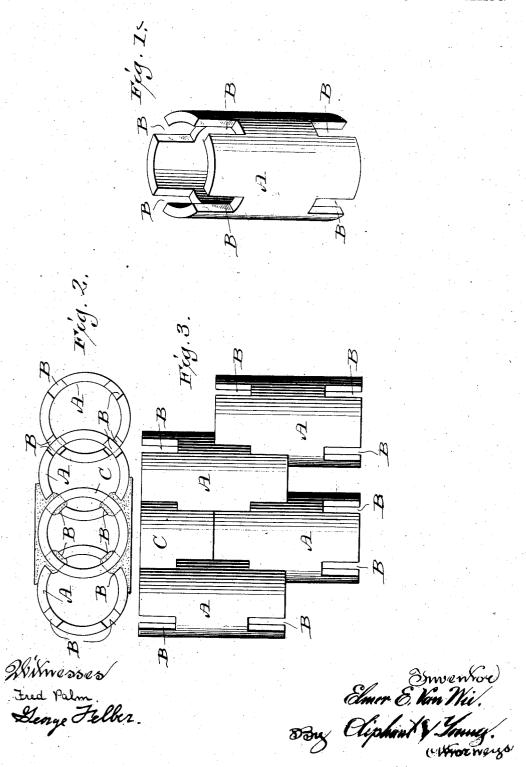
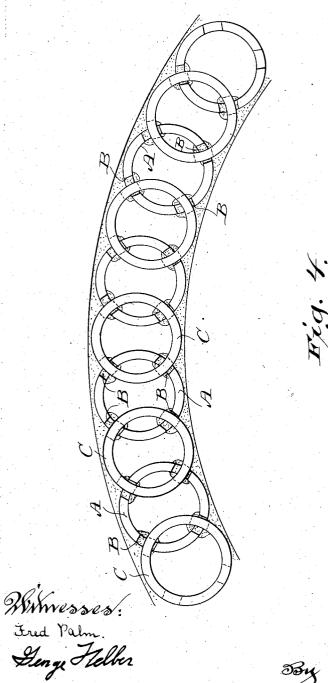
E. E. VAN WIE. BUILDING TUBE. APPLICATION FILED AUG. 7, 1905.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.



Swoonsord: Elmer E, Van Wie, By Cliphant & Toung, Clivorweys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELMER E. VAN WIE, OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN.

BUILDING-TUBE.

No. 834,950.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 6, 1908.

Application filed August 7, 1905. Serial No. 272,970.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER E. VAN WIE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Kenosha, in the county of Kenosha and 5 State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Building-Tubes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The object of my invention is to provide an interlocking tubular section for building purposes which will fill all the various requirements in the construction of buildings—such, for instance, as turning corners, square or circular, facing window-openings, &c., or archwork; and it consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combination of parts to be fully hereinafter set forth with reference to the accompanying drawings and subsequently claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a section of tube in perspective embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a plan view of a portion of a straight wall made up of a series of sections of said tubes interlocked; Fig. 3, a side elevation of the same, and Fig. 4 a plan view showing the manner of constructing a curved wall or arch with the interlocking tube-sections.

Referring by letter to the drawings, A rep-30 resents a short section of tube which may be molded from any suitable material, such as clay or the like. The tube, which is preferably cylindrical, is provided at either end with radial slots B ninety degrees apart coinciding with each other. These slots extend longitudinally a distance approximately one-quarter of the length of said tube and are of a greater width than the thickness of the latter, so that when they are interlocked there 40 is a space between the edges of the slots and walls of the tube fitted therein sufficient to permit adjustment of said tube at an angle to the one in which it rests, the object being to provide for turning corners in a curve or con-45 structing arches, as well as deflecting a wall at any point desired, which would be impossible were said slots cut to fit the tube or tile closely. By cutting the slots in either end, as stated, a double lock is obtained with each 50 tile, thereby increasing the strength and rigidity of the wall, and owing to the proportionate length of the tile the ends of the latter will abut each other and distribute the supporting strain equally throughout the wall 55 on each tile.

The primary object of the tile is to form a solid backing for a wall which may be of two or more tiers of tubes faced with any suitable material, such as cement or the like, it being desirable to first score or scratch the 60 surfaces of the tiles, so as to produce a tooth to which the plastic material will more readily adhere.

In place of molding the tubes of clay for arch construction, floors, or fireproof build- 65 ings a metal tube may be substituted, which if embedded in cement produces a structure of great strength and lasting qualities.

Fig. 2 of the drawings shows a portion of a straight wall and one method of applying the 70 cement or other coating to the outside of the tubes as well as at the interlocking joint, the slots of which are filled in with cement after the tubes are in position, and when said cement is set it forms a rigid continuous wall 75 of the same. If an even face or capping is desired for any purpose, the alternate tubes of the last row are cut in half, as shown at C, Fig. 3 of the drawings.

While I have shown and described one 80 method of cementing the interlocking tubes, it is understood that any means may be employed for this purpose consistent with good construction, and in some cases suitable metal braces may be employed, if necessary, 85 in conjunction with the tiles or tubes.

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

1. In a hollow section for building purposes, a tube having its ends radially slotted coincident with each other for approximately one-quarter of the length of the tube at each end.

2. In a hollow section for building purposes, a tube having its ends radially slotted at intervals of approximately ninety degrees, the said slots being coincident with each other and extending approximately one-quarter of the length of the tube at each end.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

ELMER E. VAN WIE.

Witnesses: N. E. OLIPHANT, GEORGE FELBER.