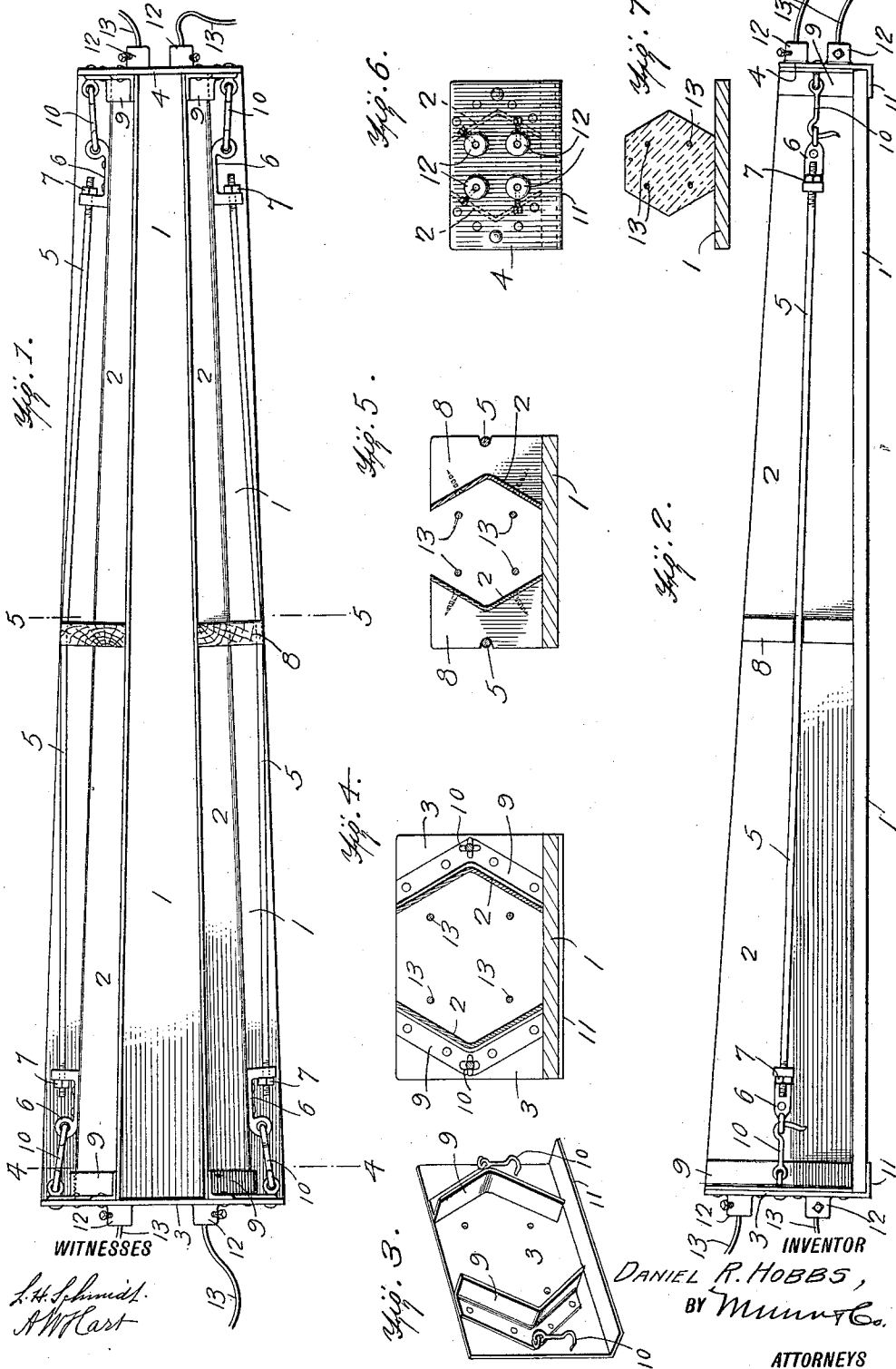


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MOLD FOR CEMENT POSTS.
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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL R. HOBBS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Oklahoma, in the county of Oklahoma and State of Oklahoma, have invented an Improved Mold for Cement Posts, of which the following is a specification.

In molding cement or concrete fence-posts by the usual method, it is required to leave the post in the mold until hardened, so that it may be safely handled independently of any portion of the mold. Hence the molding of such posts is slow and comparatively expensive.

I have devised a molding apparatus which, save a base-board, may be immediately removed from the freshly molded post without waiting for the material to harden to any considerable degree. Thus I am able to mold posts rapidly, so that they may be produced at comparatively small cost.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved mold or molding apparatus. Fig. 2 is a side view. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the heads or ends of the mold. Fig. 4 is a cross section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a similar section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1. Fig. 6 is an elevation of the smaller head or end of the mold. Fig. 7 is an end view of a molded post as it appears resting on the base-board after the sides and ends or heads of the mold have been removed.

The chief parts of the molding apparatus are a base-board 1, two duplicate, metal sides 2 which are constructed in the form of angle iron, and two metal ends, or heads, 3 and 4. The latter are detachably applied to the ends of the base-board 1 and sides 2 and hold the sides in position duly spaced apart, and also hold the sides down upon the base during the molding operation.

As will be seen in Figs. 1, 4, and 5, the sides 2 are separated at both top and bottom by a considerable space, the bottom of which is closed by the base-board 1, while the open top facilitates the introduction of the cement and tamping of the same in the mold. The base-board and the sides have the same length. The sides are each trussed, the metal rod 5 extending along the outer angle and secured to hooks 6 which are riveted to the sides near their ends. The ends of the rods are threaded and nuts 7 are applied thereto and serve to strain the rods to the required degree over wooden bridge-

blocks 8 which are applied to the middle portions of the sides 2. The bottoms of the blocks 8 are flat and rest directly on the base-board 1, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5, thus serving to support the angular sides 2 in due position on the base-board before the ends or heads 3 and 4 are applied.

The heads 3 and 4 are duplicates in every respect except size, the smaller one 4 being half the diameter of the other, 3. They are preferably constructed of thin metal, and, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, each is provided with angular flanges 9 arranged opposite each other and the same distance apart as required for the ends of the sides 2, which, it will be observed, are arranged inclined to each other, so that the post formed in the mold will be slightly tapered.

It will be seen that the ends of the sides 2 lie within the angular flanges 9 and are thus supported against lateral displacement in the molding operation. The heads 3 and 4 are further provided with hooks 10 which engage eyes formed on the hooks 6 to which the truss-rods 5 are attached. By this means it will be seen that the heads 3 and 4 are detachably secured to the sides 2 of the mold and may be easily applied or removed as required in carrying on the molding operation. In order to hold the sides 2 down on the base-board 1, the heads 3 and 4 are provided, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, with an inwardly projecting flange or lip 11 which lies under the base-board.

I provide for the use of reinforcing wires or rods in the post by constructing the heads 3 and 4 with tubular projections or lugs 12, which are perforated and provided with clamp-screws and through which reinforcing wires or rods 13 may be introduced and strained, or drawn taut, between the heads 3 and 4. Their position in the mold is indicated in Figs. 4 and 5. It is of course to be understood that the wires or rods are cut off in the molding operation, the portions extending through the mold remaining in the post.

The parts comprising the molding apparatus being arranged as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the cement is introduced between the separated upper edges of the sides 2, and the mixture is tamped in the usual way to give it the required density. When the space between the sides 2 has been filled to the top, the material is smoothed off with a trowel. It is not necessary to wait for hard-

ening of the material as is usual in the manufacture of cement or concrete posts, but, so soon as the tamping and smoothing above referred to have been done, the hooks 5 10 are detached from the catches 6, which permits the heads 3 and 4 to be easily removed. Then the sides 2 are drawn away laterally from the molded post, leaving the latter resting on the board 1, as shown in 10 Fig. 7. The removed portions 2, 3, and 4, may then be immediately used for molding another post, it being only necessary to provide a new or fresh bottom-board. In other words, as many bottom-boards must be pro- 15 vided as shall be posts molded.

In molding cement posts, what is termed a "dry mix" or "slush" is used. When the dry mix is used, the mold may be practically removed immediately after the tamping; but, if a slush mix is used, then it will 20 be necessary to delay removing the mold until the mixture can harden a little, but in any case the delay is slight. Thus, with my

improved molding apparatus, cement posts may be produced rapidly and economically. 25

What I claim is:—

A fence post mold embodying a relatively flat base forming the lower side of the mold and the support for the molded post, angular sides disposed in spaced relation on the 30 base, ends having flanges along their lower sides engageable beneath the mold base and having angular ribs adapted to embrace the ends of said angular sides, brackets secured against the outer faces of the mold sides adjacent their ends, and provided with angular 35 eyes, and hooks carried by the side portions of the ends and engageable with said eyes for locking the mold parts together, the ends and sides of the mold being thus adapted for detachment laterally from the base. 40

DANIEL R. HOBBS.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."