

No. 876,399.

PATENTED JAN. 14, 1908.

H. L. ROBINSON.
TILE FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 9, 1907.

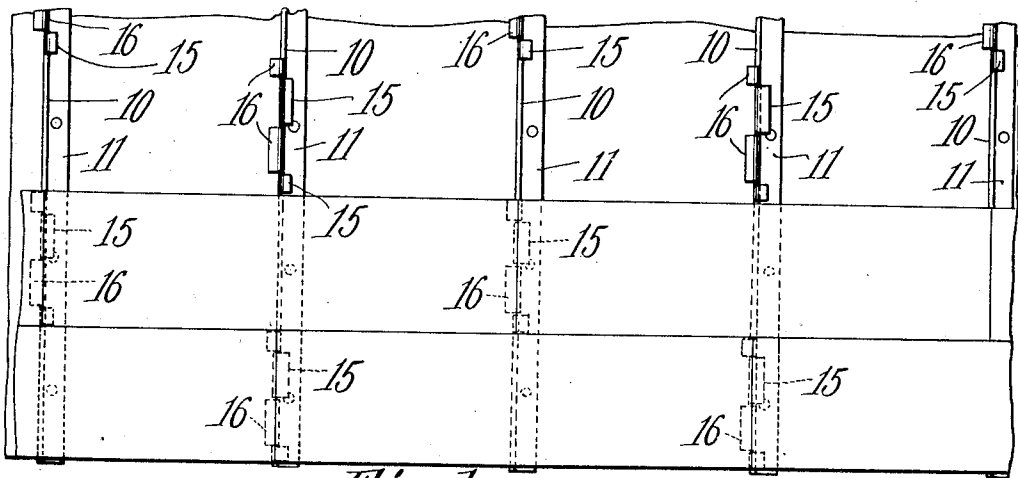


Fig. 1.

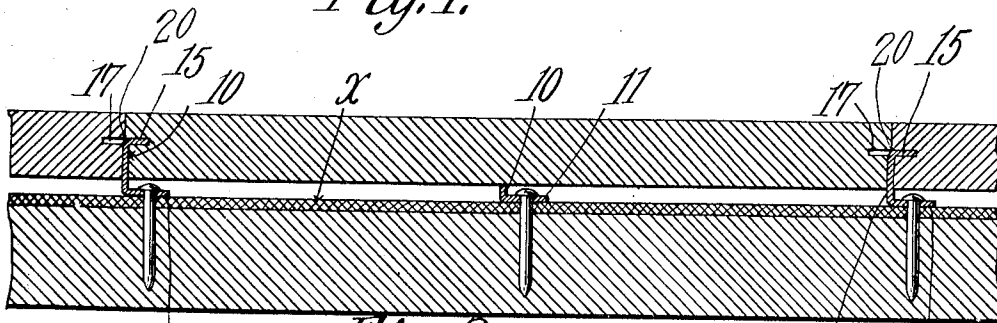


Fig. 2.

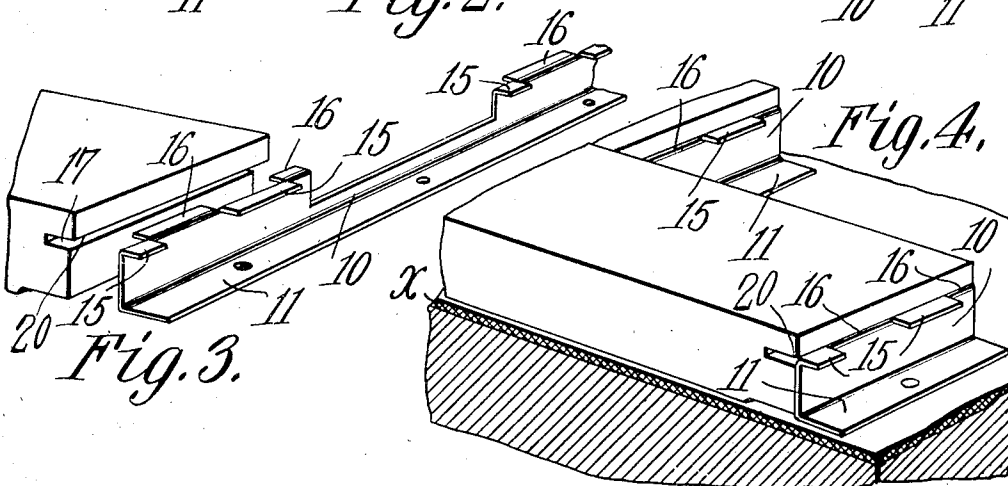


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

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HENRY L. ROBINSON, OF LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA.

TILE-FASTENER.

No. 876,399.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 14, 1908.

Application filed May 9, 1907. Serial No. 372,730.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY L. ROBINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lake Charles, in the parish of Calcasieu and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Tile-Fastener, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices of that class for holding tiles, building blocks, or the like in place, and has for its principal object to provide a fastener which may be secured in position on the wall or other supporting structure in advance of the application of the tile thereto.

A further object of the invention is to provide a tile fastener of simple construction which may be readily fastened to the wall or other support and which is provided with laterally extended ears or flanges arranged to enter grooves or recesses formed in the ends of the tiles.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a fastener that may be formed of a single strip of die formed metal having at one edge a securing flange to be attached to the wall, and the opposite edge being also flanged and split so as to form ears that project in opposite directions for engagement with the ends of adjacent tiles.

With these and other objects in view, as will more fully hereinafter appear, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportions, size and minor details of the structure may be made without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a face view of a portion of a tile structure provided with a fastener constructed in accordance with the invention. Fig. 2 is a detail sectional view showing the fastener and a tile. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of one of the tile securing strips detached. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the tile showing separate tile fastenings of the same length as the width of the tile.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In carrying out the invention, a strip 10, preferably formed of sheet metal, is bent at one edge to form a flange 11, and at the opposite edge is slit, and so bent as to form sets of laterally projecting ears 15 and 16, that extend outward in opposite directions, these ears being arranged to enter recesses or grooves 17 formed in the ends of the tiles, and the grooves preferably extend the full width of the tile.

In nearly all tile structures the tiles of superposed courses are staggered in order to break joint, and to accommodate this the sets of ears are spaced, so that adjacent sets of ears will engage with the tiles of alternate courses, while between these sets of ears a portion of the web of the securing strip is cut away, as shown more clearly in Fig. 3, so as not to interfere with the placing of the tiles of the intermediate courses, while the small section of webs left will stiffen and strengthen the structure. The strips may first be secured in position by nails or other fastenings driven through the lower or inner flanges 11, care being taken to properly space the strips in accordance with the length of the tiles, and as the strips of felt or similar material are usually introduced at the back of the tiles, the flanges and the heads of the nails will become partly embedded in this yieldable material and will not project, and thus interfere with the setting of the tiles, so that a perfectly smooth level surface will be formed.

It will be noted that the exposed face of the tile is longer than the rear surface, so that a shoulder 20 is formed, this shoulder forming the outer wall of the groove or recess 17, and the space afforded below the shoulder is sufficient to accommodate the fastening strip, so that the edges of the tiles will be brought closely together at the exposed surface, and no cement or filling material will be rendered necessary. The construction of the tiles in this manner is highly advantageous in securing the tiles in place in that the strips may be formed of comparatively light metal and that portion of the web carrying the ears 15—16 may be sprung sidewise by a pair of pliers or similar tool to

permit the proper placing of the tile, the web and ears moving back when released, so that the ears enter the tile recesses.

In Fig. 5 is illustrated a slight modification of the invention. In this case the tile fastening strips are of the same length as the width of the tiles and are not formed in continuous strips as shown in Fig. 3.

The end grooves or recesses in the tiles are of such area as to permit close fitting of the ears or lugs 15, 16, so that it will not be necessary to employ cement to hold the same in place, and the spaces formed between the ends of the tiles at the rear surfaces thereof are approximately equal in width to the thickness of the web of the fastening device, the object being to secure as close fitting as possible, and thus secure proper position of the tiles without resorting to cement or analogous substances, although the space to the rear of the tiles may be filled in with cement or other plastic.

It will be noted that the central portion of the tile is backed by the reduced portion of the web, as illustrated, for instance, in Fig. 2, and this materially assists in properly placing the tiles in position. The ears furthermore being spaced may be readily sprung outward when placing the tiles in position, it being

necessary only to bend that portion of the web which carries the ears to be at the time introduced into the tile recesses.

I claim:—

1. A tile fastener comprising an elongated metallic strip having a web and a continuous base flange at one edge thereof, the web of the fastener being cut away at intervals to pass to the rear of alternate courses of tiles, the edges of the higher portions of the web being slit, and the portions between the slits being bent to form tile engaging ears.

2. A tile fastener comprising an elongated strip forming a web and bent at one edge to form a continuous base flange, the web having alternate higher and lower portions, the lower portions forming supports for engaging against the rear faces of the tiles of alternate courses, and the higher portions of the web being slit and bent to form ears that extend alternately in opposite directions.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY L. ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

E. HUME TALBERT,
M. J. WARRINER.