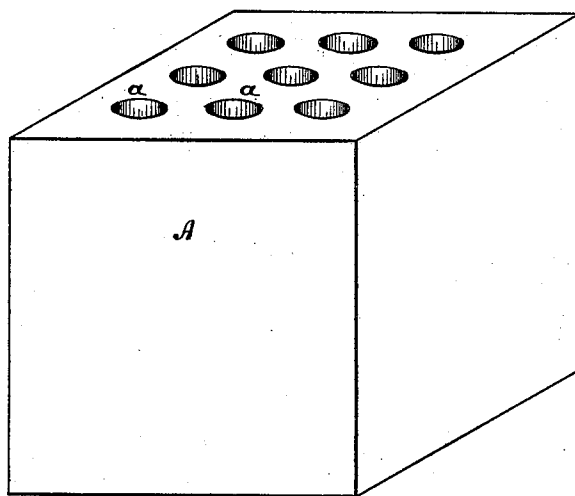


H. E. MERRILL.

PAVING-BLOCK.

No. 180,360.

Patented July 25, 1876.



Witnesses:

J. A. Kohler

John H. Campbell

Inventor:

Henry E. Merrill

J. Humphrey & Stuart

his attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HENRY E. MERRILL, OF AKRON, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN PAVING-BLOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,360**, dated July 23, 1876; application filed July 3, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY E. MERRILL, of the city of Akron, county of Summit, and State of Ohio, have invented an Improvement in Paving-Blocks, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists in the construction of paving-blocks for streets and other roadways, of clay similar to that in common use for sewer-pipe, by pressing the tempered clay into suitably-shaped blocks, preferably about eight inches square by ten inches deep, and perforated lengthwise with a series of parallel holes, as shown at *a a* in the accompanying drawing, which are subsequently dried, burned, and vitrified.

I am aware that it is not new to construct paving-blocks of burned earth, as some kinds have been used in England, and possibly in the United States; but an objection to their general introduction has been found in the difficulty of affording sufficient roughness to the pavement formed of them to prevent horses from slipping thereon.

When the face of the tile is corrugated it soon wears smooth.

If spaces are left between the blocks for this purpose the corners chip off, the top of the tile wears spherical, and renders the pavement rough.

I place my blocks closely together, with the holes *a a* perpendicular. A light coat of sand is then swept over them, filling the crevices and holes *a a*; and the pavement thus formed is smoother than those made of wood, possesses the durability of stone, and the holes *a a* afford a constant roughness until the block is entirely worn away, which will prevent horses from slipping thereon, while the edges will not chip off so as to change its general shape.

I claim as my invention—

A paving-block of burned and vitrified earth, pierced in one direction with a series of holes, substantially as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

HENRY E. MERRILL.

Witnesses:

C. P. HUMPHREY,
S. C. EDGERTON.