

G. De WITT & J. FAIRMAN.
Building Blocks.

No. 140,122.

Patented June 24, 1873.

Fig. 1.

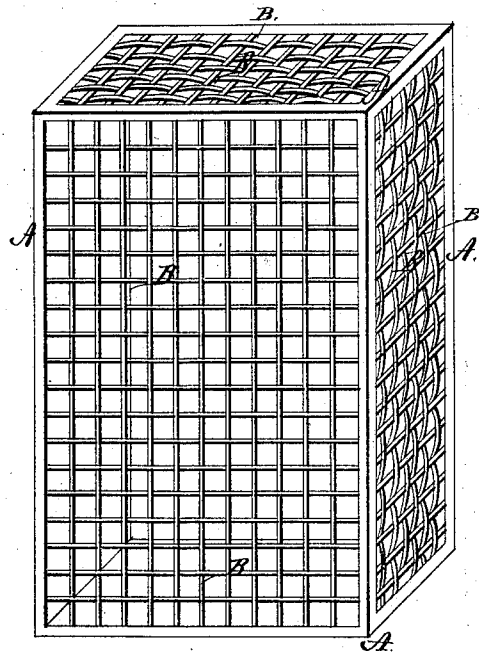
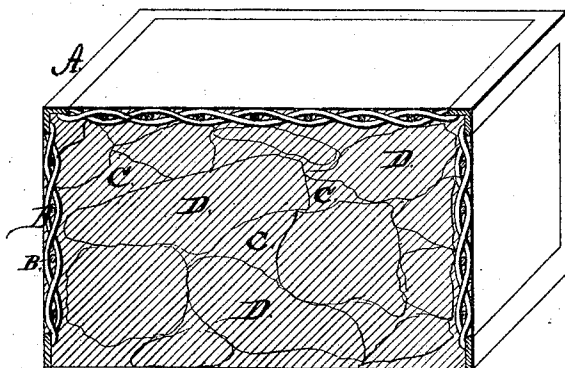


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN BUILDING-BLOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 140,122, dated June 24, 1873; application filed
March 31, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GASHERIE DE WITT, of Belleville, county of Essex and State of New Jersey, and JAMES FAIRMAN, of the city of New York, county and State of New York, have invented a new Method of Forming Building-Blocks, Columns, and Posts; and do declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being made to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification.

We first form a case, of the shape and size desired, of open metal-work or interlaced rods, as seen in Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawing, in which A represents the strong frame-work. B represents panels or faces composed of open work, interlaced wires, or rods. The outer portion or edges of the frame work can be made to represent molding. We place this case, when formed, in a mold of the same size and form, so as to fit closely. The inner surface of the mold may represent any design or figure required to show on the face of the stone when finished. We then pour and press a mixture of the most approved cements or concrete into the mold, intermingled with gravel and broken stone. The mass is then pressed by a force sufficient to secure the most perfect contact, and left until it sets and perfect cohesion has taken place between the particles before it is taken from the mold.

Fig. 2 represents a section of a block formed in this manner, cut so as to show the internal disposition of the parts, and illustrate the relation of the metal case to the mass in its construction. C represents the cement or plastic compound mixed with gravel. D represents

the broken stone. E represents the metallic case or basket formed with the mass.

In forming columns we pursue the same process, except we introduce in the center a hollow iron tube of any desired weight or strength, and by this device we secure the following among other advantages: First, by the iron being woven into and composing a part of the surface it subdivides the exposed part, prevents cracking, and gives a surface of stone, iron, and cement, interlocking and sustaining each other; second, it does not yield to the elements so readily as either stone, iron, or cement, singly used, and improves indefinitely by age; third, it has the tensile strength of the iron used with the solidity of stone; fourth, stone and other hard materials may be used in making these blocks, that otherwise would be useless for building purposes, and in places where building-stone cannot be found; fifth, they can be made cheaper than any dressed or cut stone of equal quality; sixth, they can be used as a substitute for stone in all kinds of buildings, for columns, fence and gate posts, and the general purposes for which stone is used.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A building-block, column, or post, formed of a plastic material, inclosed in a permanent casing or basket of metallic open work, which forms an integral part of the block when solidified, and strengthens and protects it from disintegration, substantially as specified.

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Witnesses:

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