Feb. 19, 1935. C. G. DUFFY 1,991,550

TILE CONSTRUCTION

Filed July 31, 1933 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

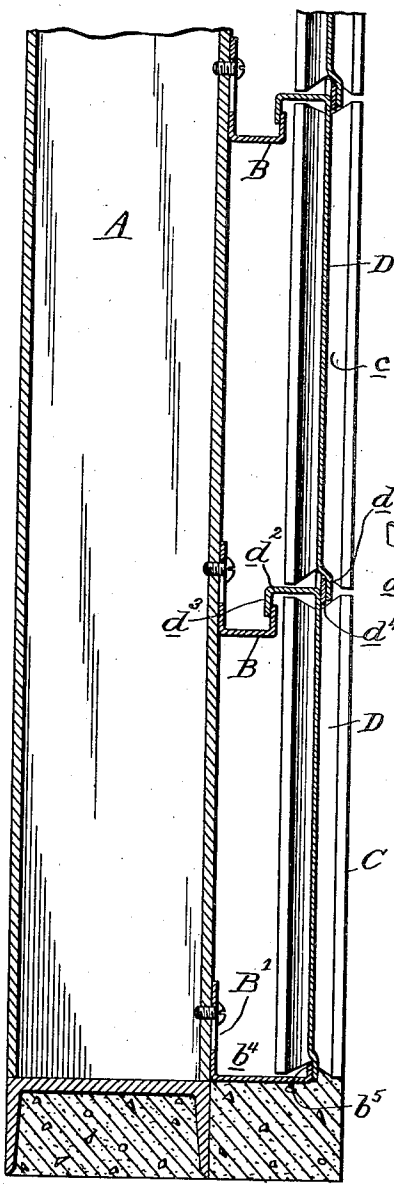


Fig. 2.

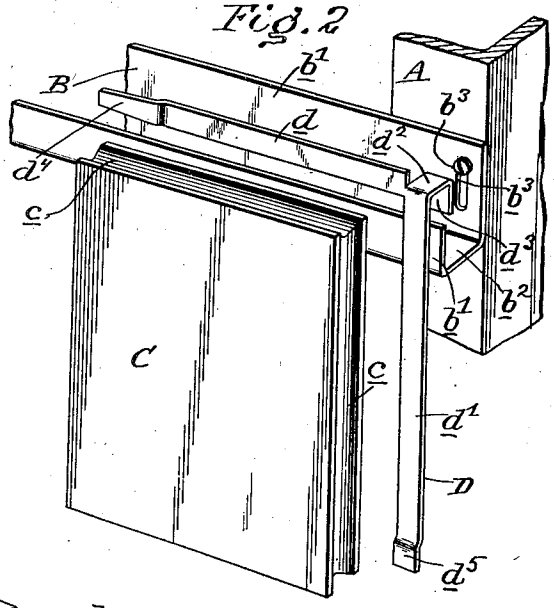


Fig. 3.

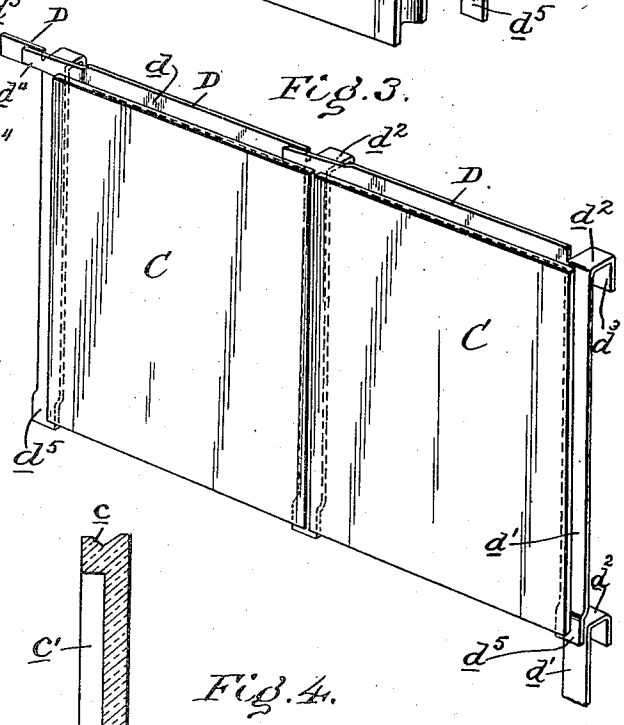


Fig. 4.

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Feb. 19, 1935. C. G. DUFFY 1,991,550

TILE CONSTRUCTION

Filed July 31, 1933 4 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5.

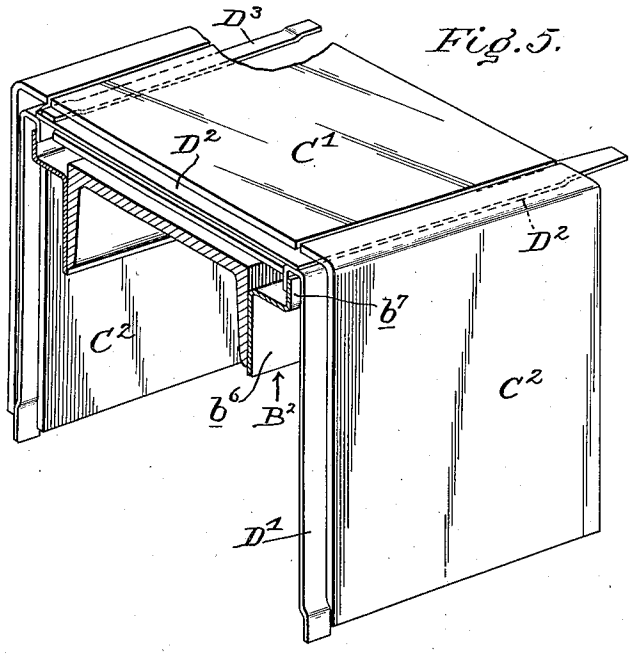
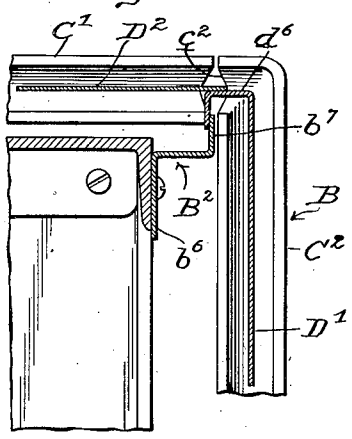


Fig. 6.



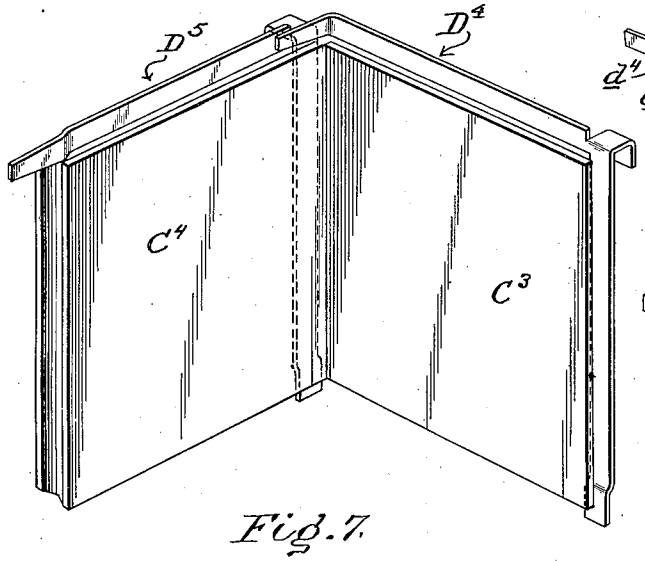
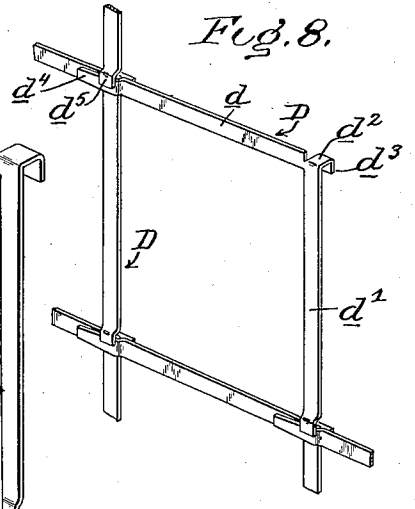


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.



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Feb. 19, 1935. C. G. DUFFY 1,991,550

TILE CONSTRUCTION

Filed July 31, 1933 4 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 10.

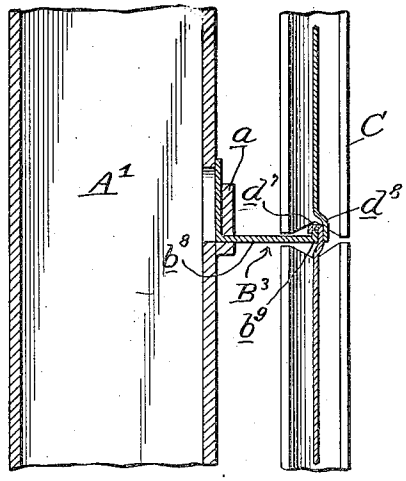


Fig. 9.

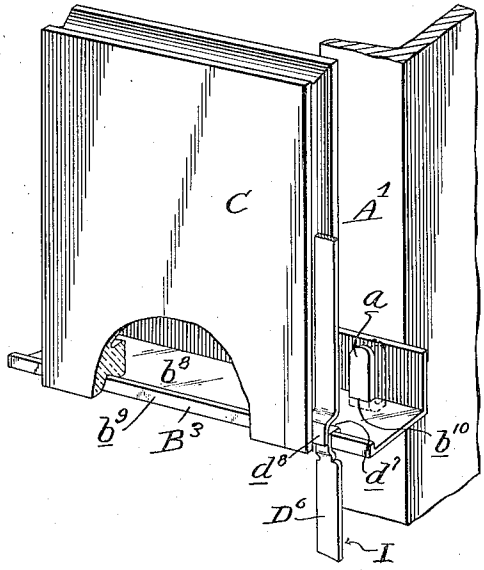


Fig. 12.

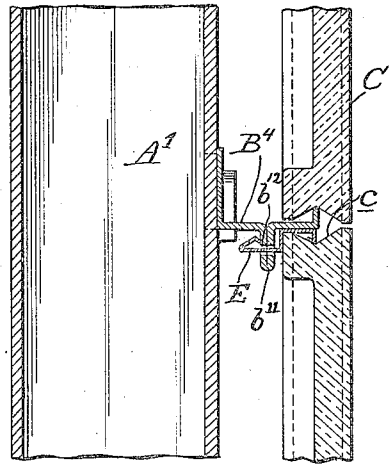
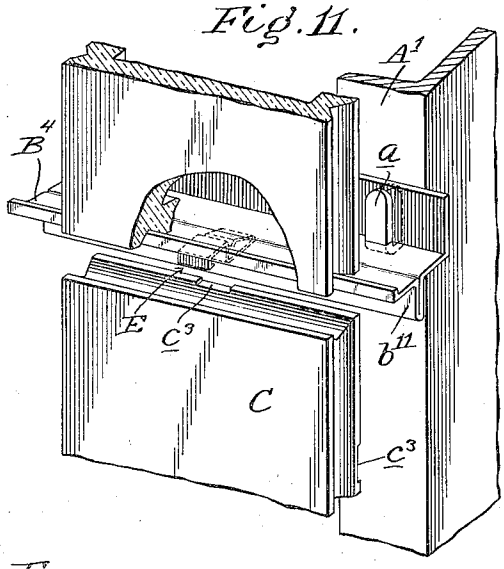


Fig. 11.



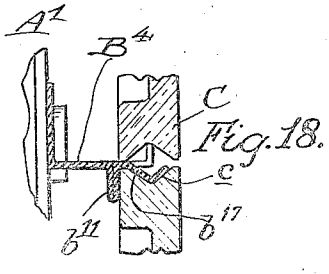


Fig. 18.

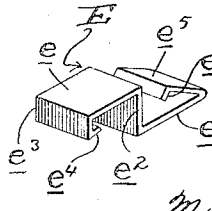


Fig. 13.

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Feb. 19, 1935. C. G. DUFFY 1,991,550

TILE CONSTRUCTION

Filed July 31, 1933 4 Sheets-Sheet 4

Fig. 14.

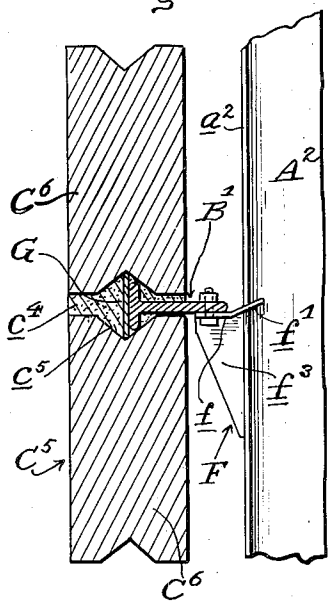


Fig. 16.

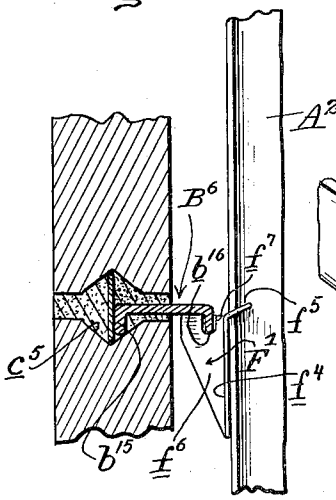


Fig. 15.

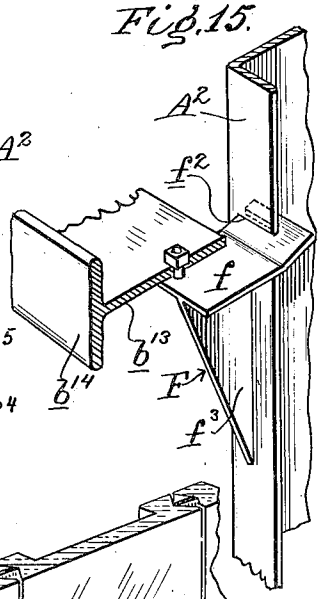
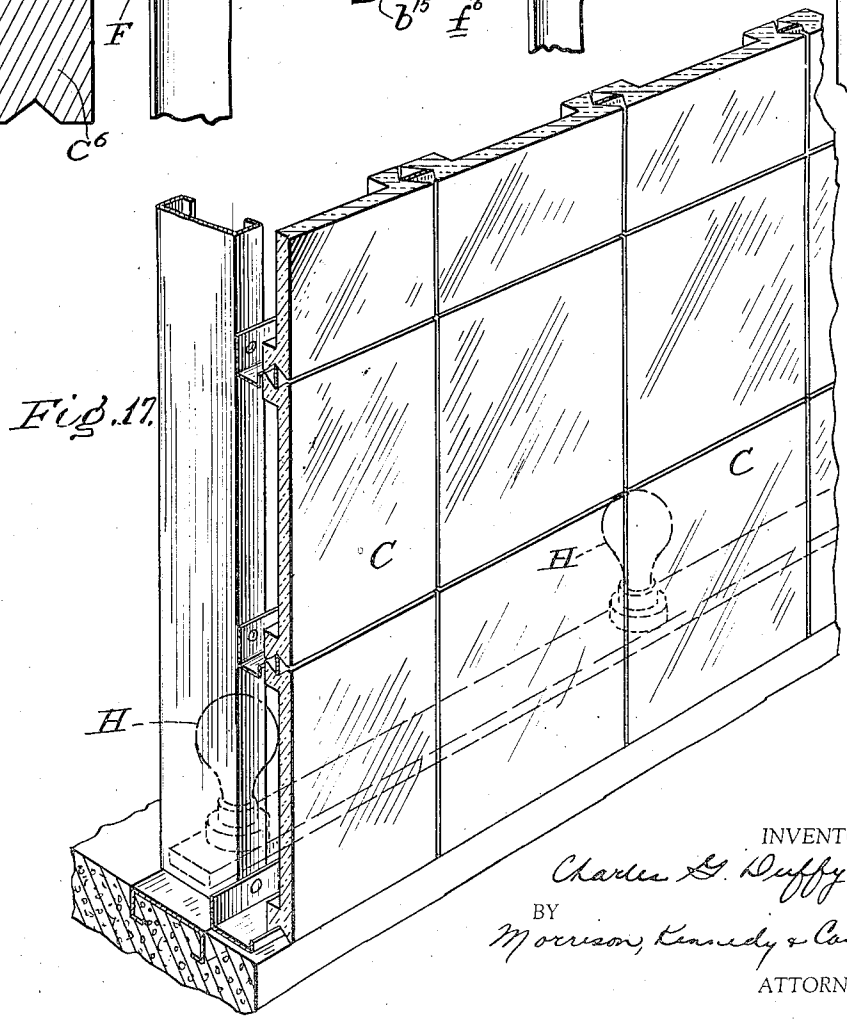


Fig. 17.



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Patented Feb. 19, 1935

1,991,550

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,991,550

TILE CONSTRUCTION

Charles G. Duffy, Brooklyn, N. Y., assignor, by mesne assignments, to Sealed Joint Products Company, Inc., a corporation of Delaware

Application July 31, 1933, Serial No. 682,960

17 Claims. (Cl. 72—19)

This invention relates to tile construction, and more particularly to a construction wherein the tiles are secured to a support or backing member by fastening elements.

In carrying out the invention, the tiles are preferably laid in courses supported by purlins arranged in parallel spaced relation and secured to a suitable support, as for instance, vertical studding members, beams, a plaster or brick wall, or the like. The tiles preferably employed in carrying out the invention are rectangular in shape and provided in their peripheral edges with recesses or grooves which serve to receive fastening elements which secure the tiles to the purlins.

The purlins may be of different shapes and are usually provided with a pair of flanges connected by an intermediate horizontal leg, one flange serving to secure the purlin to the support and the other serving to support the tile units, the width of the latter flange depending upon the character of the fastening elements employed.

In one embodiment of the invention, the fastening elements are somewhat similar to those disclosed in the pending application of H. P. C. Keuls, Serial No. 663,140, filed March 28th, 1933, that is, they are generally L-shaped strips, one leg of which projects into a recess provided in the tile at its upper edge, and the other leg of which projects into a recess provided in the tile in one of its lateral edges. In accordance with the instant invention, these fastening strips are equipped with means which engages the purlin, so that the tile units may be supported thereby. The fastening strips extend transversely of the joints and into the recesses provided in the edges of adjacent tiles, so that in the completed construction, a tile unit is supported at its lower edge by the fastening strip of the tile adjacent in the course below, and at one of its lateral edges by the fastening strip associated with an adjacent tile in the same course. The other two edges of the tile are retained in position by its own L-shaped fastening strip which, as previously mentioned, is fastened to one of the purlins. Thus, it is apparent with this construction, that each tile unit is in effect framed by fastening strips, each of which is hooked to a purlin, thus sustaining the tile facing against separation from the supporting wall or frame.

In another embodiment of the invention, the tiles are supported directly by the purlins, that is the outer flanges of the purlins engage directly in the recesses provided in the lower edges of the tile units. The fastening elements in this instance may be strips arranged between the vertical joints of adjacent tiles and extending into the opposed recesses or grooves thereof, the strips extending the full length of the joints and being provided at their upper ends with rebent portions which hook over the outer flange of the purlin adjacent the upper edge of the tile.

In still another embodiment of the invention, the purlins are equipped with an additional downwardly extending flange spaced somewhat to the rear of the front flange. The tile units employed are likewise equipped with recesses or grooves in their peripheral edges and are supported at their lower edge by the outer flange of a purlin, which flange projects into the grooves in the lower edges of the tile units, as in the case previously described. Each tile is retained at its upper edge by a clip of comparatively narrow width having a retaining flange projecting into the recess provided in the upper edge of the tile and a rebent portion which is inserted in a slot presented in the downwardly extending flange of the purlin adjacent the top of the tile, the rebent portion engaging behind said flange so as to hold the tile in position. When a clip of this type is used, the rear edge of the tile may be provided with a notch of a width sufficient to receive the clip, the tiles in this manner being held against horizontal edgewise displacement.

In all of the constructions mentioned, the joints between the tiles may be pointed up with a mastic, so as to give the effect of usual tile construction if desired. It is unnecessary to use mortar between the joints, although this may be done in some cases. Where mortar is employed with the L-shaped strips, a substantially water-tight tile facing results, for the strips may be made to extend to the base of the recesses in the peripheral edges of the tiles. A construction of this character is suitable for swimming pools, shower baths, etc.

The invention also comprehends the adjustability of the purlins on the supporting frame. This is particularly advantageous when a brick veneering is used, the purlins serving to anchor the veneering to the supporting structure. With this construction, the outer flange of a purlin will extend into and engage in a groove provided between the opposed faces of the brick. As it is unnecessary to use such anchoring purlins between all of the courses, the adjustability feature permits the workmen to place the purlins wherever necessary.

With the construction provided by the invention, the walls of a building may be made hollow

or the tile facing may be spaced apart from a wall, leaving an intervening space of any desired size. Furthermore, the tile units may be made of transparent or translucent glass or of some other light transmitting material, and a source of illumination may be placed behind the tile facing, so that a room may be illuminated by a soft flood of light transmitted through the tile facing. By facing the outer wall of a building with tile construction in accordance with the invention, such outer walls may be also illuminated, thus obviating the use of flood lights which are now rendered necessary when an effect of this character is desired.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a sectional view illustrating a tile construction in accordance with the invention, and wherein L-shaped retaining elements are used;

Fig. 2 is an exploded view in perspective, illustrating the construction shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view in perspective, showing several tile units and L-shaped fastening elements assembled together;

Fig. 4 is a vertical section through a tile unit;

Fig. 5 is a view in perspective, showing the invention applied to the top of a partition;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view through a portion of the tile construction shown in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a view in perspective, showing a corner construction employing L-shaped retaining elements;

Fig. 8 is a view in perspective, showing the interlocking construction of the L-shaped retaining elements with the tile units removed for the purposes of illustration;

Fig. 9 is a view in perspective, showing an embodiment of the invention wherein a tile unit, at its lower edge, is supported directly by a purlin, and wherein the vertical retaining elements hook over the purlin adjacent the upper edge of the tile unit;

Fig. 10 is a section through the tile construction shown in Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 is a view in perspective, illustrating the construction wherein a tile unit at its lower edge is supported by a purlin, and wherein a clip holding the upper edge of the tile in position engages in a slot provided in a downwardly extending flange of a purlin;

Fig. 12 is a section through the tile construction shown in Fig. 11;

Fig. 13 is a view in perspective, illustrating one form of clip which may be used with the construction shown in Figs. 11 and 12;

Fig. 14 is a section through a wall construction, showing a brick veneering anchored to studding members by vertically adjustable purlins;

Fig. 15 is a view in perspective of the construction shown in Fig. 14;

Fig. 16 is a view similar to Fig. 14, showing a different type of purlin construction;

Fig. 17 is a view in perspective, showing a portion of a wall faced with tile units in accordance with the invention, and wherein illuminating elements are positioned to the rear of the tile facing through which the light from the illuminating elements is transmitted; and

Fig. 18 is a section through a wall construction wherein the upper edge of a tile is secured in position by an ear depending from a purlin.

Referring to the drawings:

The supporting structure to be faced with tile comprises, by way of example, a series of vertical studs A arranged in spaced relation, one stud only being shown for purposes of illustration. A plurality of purlins B are arranged in spaced relation on the supporting structure for sustaining the tile units, and include generally a rear and a front vertical flange b, b^1, and an intermediate horizontal flange b^2, the rear flange b being provided with slots b^3, by means of which the purlins may be adjustably secured to the studs A in a suitable manner, as for instance by screws b^3. The width of the intermediate flange b^2 depends upon the spacing desired between the tile facing and the supporting structure.

The tile units C are preferably rectangular in shape, and are provided in their peripheral edges with V-shaped grooves or recesses c which serve to receive L-shaped retaining strips D. As the invention is particularly applicable for use with glass tile, the tiles may be provided with recesses c^1 in their rear faces, both to decrease the weight of the tile, and also to permit the passage of light with as little absorption as possible.

The L-shaped strips D comprise generally a horizontal leg d, a vertical leg d^1, and a rearwardly extending portion d^2 provided at its end with a rebent ear d^3, which is adapted to hook over the front flange b^1 of a purlin when the tile units are laid in position.

As shown in Fig. 1, the tile units C are usually laid starting from the bottom, the lowermost purlin B^1 for this purpose having an intermediate flange b^4 somewhat wider than the other purlins B, since in this instance the front flange b^5 engages directly in the recesses provided in the lower edges of the tiles of the first course. The first tile is held in position by an L-shaped strip D which has its vertical and horizontal legs engaging in the recesses provided in a lateral edge and the upper edge of the tile unit respectively. The hook portion d^2 of the retaining strip fits over the front flange b^1 of the purlin B adjacent the upper edge of the tile, thus holding the strip D and the tile C in position. The other tile units are laid in similar fashion, it being noted that in this embodiment of the invention the tiles above the first course receive the upper portion of the horizontal leg d of the strip which retains the adjacent tile of the next lower course, the strips D thus serving as a support for the tile units, as well as a means for holding them against separation from the supporting frame.

The legs d, d^1 of the retaining strips overlap the strips associated with an adjacent tile unit in the same course and in the course below, and for this purpose both the horizontal and the vertical legs d, d^1 are provided at their ends with off-set portions d^4, d^5 to furnish the necessary clearance at the corners of the tiles where the overlapping occurs. It will be observed that in this embodiment of the invention, the tile units are framed by the steel strips D which extend transversely of the joints between the tiles and to the base of the grooves in the edges thereof, that is, the recesses in the lower edge and in one lateral edge of a tile unit receive the horizontal leg and the vertical leg, respectively, of the strips associated with the adjacent tile in the course below and an adjacent tile in the same course, while the recesses in the upper and other lateral edges receive the horizontal and vertical legs of the strip associated with said tile unit itself.

In this construction, therefore, the whole tile facing in effect is hung from purlins and if desired, the joints between the tiles may be filled with a mastic, rendering the tile facing waterproof, the retaining elements D serving as sealing strips in the manner set forth in the Keuls Pat-

ent No. 1,879,311. If desired, the joints between the tiles may be merely pointed up with mortar to give the effect of usual tile construction.

Figs. 5 and 6 illustrate the invention as applied to the top of a partition. Herein purlins B^2 are provided having their rear and front flanges b^6, b^7 extending in opposite directions, the front flange b^7 extending up beyond the top of the framework, in order that the top tile unit C^1 may be spaced from the top of the partition if a construction of this character is desired. The topmost vertical tiles C^2 have grooves or recesses c^2 at their upper edges provided in the rear faces instead of in the peripheral edges of the tile units as is usually the case. These upper tiles are held in position by vertical strips D^1 having hooked portions d^6 similar to those of the L-shaped strips D, and which engage over the front flange b^7 of the purlin B^2. The top tile C^1 which is of usual form, that is with recesses provided in its peripheral edges, is sustained in position by an L-shaped strip D^2 supported at the top of the vertical retaining strips D^1. In this construction, the tiles C^1 are sustained in position at two of their edges by an L-shaped strip D^2, at a third edge by one leg of a similar L-shaped strip associated with an adjacent tile (not shown), and at the fourth edge by a straight strip D^3 resting on and spanning the distance between corresponding legs of two of the L-shaped strips D^2.

Fig. 7 illustrates a corner construction which is in all respects similar to the construction described in connection with Figs. 1, 2 and 3, except that the tiles C^3, C^4 are arranged at right angles to each other; the end portion of the horizontal leg of the retaining strip D^4, associated with the tile unit C^3 being bent at right angles and overlapping the retaining strip D^5 associated with the tile C^4.

Figs. 9 and 10 illustrate another embodiment of the invention, wherein the tile units C are supported directly by purlins B^3. The purlins are similar to those previously described, except that the horizontal leg b^8 may be somewhat wider (since the tile units rest directly on the front flange b^9), and the front flange b^9 narrower so as not to require a large space between the tiles of adjacent courses. In this embodiment of the invention, also, the purlins B^3 are shown as being supported by tongues a struck up from the vertical studs A^1 and which extend through slots b^{10} provided in the horizontal leg b^8 and engage in front of the rear flange, thus providing a quick and simple means for attaching the purlins to the supporting studs. In this construction also, the tile units are held against separation from the supporting frame by straight strips D^6 extending transversely of the vertical joints and to the bottoms of the recesses in the opposed edges of adjacent tile units. As shown, these strips are provided at their upper ends with hooks d^7 which engage the front flanges of the purlins and at their lower ends with offset portions d^8 providing the necessary clearance so as not to interfere with the hook portions of the strips associated with the tiles in the next lower course. It will be noted also that the hook portions are somewhat narrower than the body of the strips so as to permit the tiles to rest directly on the flanges of the purlins. If desired, the flange b^9 may be provided with spaced notches to receive the hook portions d^7 of the strips D^6, this construction permitting the top of the hook portions d^7 to be flush with the upper edge of the flange and further acting to secure the strips D^6 and consequently the tiles C from edgewise displacement along the purlins.

Figs. 11, 12 and 13 show still another embodiment of the invention, wherein the tiles are supported directly on the purlins B^4, as in the embodiment previously described. In this instance however, the retaining strips are dispensed with and clips E employed which secure the tile units at their upper edges to the purlin adjacent said top edges. In this construction, the purlins B^4 are additionally provided with a downwardly extending flange b^{11} intermediate the front and rear flanges, this flange being provided with slots b^{12} centrally spaced with reference to the tile units. The clips E (Fig. 13) are bent to form two offset legs e, e^1 extending in opposite directions and connected by an intermediate vetrical leg e^2. The leg e at its front end is provided with a vertical flange e^3 terminating in a second flange e^4 rebent at the same angle as the side of the V-shaped recesses c in the tile units. The other leg e is likewise provided at its end with a portion e^5 rebent at an acute angle, this portion terminating in a flange e^6 bent inwardly toward the leg e^1. The clip is preferably formed of resilient material so that the rebent portion e^5 may be forced through the slots b^{12} provided in the downwardly extending flanges b^{11} of the purlins, whereupon the rebent portions will spring apart to their original angle with the edges of the flanges e^6 engaging behind said flange b^{11}. In placing the tile units in position, it is necessary only to place the tile unit with the groove in its lower edge resting upon the upstanding flange of the supporting purlin B^4, and place the clip E with the front face of the vertical leg e^2 adjacent the rear face of the tile unit and with the flange e^4 extending into the groove thereof. With the clip E alined with the slot b^{12}, the tile is pushed inwardly into position, the rear portion e^5 of the clip passing through the slot until the edge of the rebent portion e^6 clears the rear face of the downwardly extending flange b^{11} on the purlin, whereupon the rebent portion e^5 of the clip will spring apart to engage the flange b^{11} at its rear face, as previously described. With this construction, the tile units are firmly held against separation from the supporting framework. If desired, the rear outer edges of the tile recesses c may be provided with notches c^3 into which the clips E are adapted to fit, thus preventing movement of the tile units in an endwise direction.

With this construction, a broken tile may be readily replaced merely by moving the clip E of the broken tile by cutting off that portion which extends to the rear of the flange b^{11}. A new tile can then be inserted in the manner just described.

A modification of the clip construction just described is illustrated in Fig. 18. In this construction the purlins and tiles are the same as shown in Fig. 12, the clip, however, being dispensed with. The tile units below the purlins are secured in position by ears b^{17} formed by cutting the purlins for a short distance inwardly from the front edges and bending the cut portions downwardly to engage in the grooves c provided in the upper edge of the tile units C. The resiliency of the metal is such that the ears will spring back and engage in the grooves when the tile units are placed in position. In this modification the rear faces of the tiles rest in service against the flanges b^{11} of the purlins, the flanges thus acting to determine the proper position of

the tile units. One or more of such ears may be provided for each tile unit, as desired.

Figs. 14 and 15 illustrate another embodiment of the invention, wherein purlins B^5 are used to anchor a brick veneering C^5 to a frame structure, particularly where the latter consists of steel studding members A^2. Bricks C^6 constituting the veneering are laid in courses and at suitably spaced intervals, say every ten courses or so, the anchoring elements are inserted to hold the veneering to the frame support. Due to the variations which must necessarily exist in the mortar joints c^4 between the courses of brick, it would be quite impossible to stamp or drill the vertical studding members A^2 for the purlin retaining elements before erection in the field and obtain the proper spacing for the purlins. In accordance with the invention, the anchoring purlins B^5 are secured to brackets F which are adjustable in position on the vertical studding elements A^2. The vertical studding members A^2 are preferably steel shapes, such as angles or channel members, having one leg a^2 arranged parallel with the brick veneering. The bricks preferably used have V-shaped grooves c^5 in their peripheral edges, and such grooves in a course of bricks will be in horizontal alinement. The purlins B^5 shown in Figs. 14 and 15, are T-shaped elements having a web b^{13} secured at its inner edge to the sustaining brackets F and extending into the joints c^4 between the courses of brick and terminating in a flange b^{14} which engages in the vertical grooves c^5, thus serving to anchor the veneering to the supporting frame.

The brackets F comprise generally a horizontal shelf f terminating at its rear edge in a flange f^1 which extends upwardly at an angle, the flange being provided with a slot f^2 engaging the vertical leg a^2 of the stud member, and a vertical supporting plate f^3 secured at the underside of the shelf and resting against the outer surface of said vertical leg. The friction between the edges of the slot f^2 and faces of the vertical leg a^2 of the stud is sufficient to hold the bracket in any adjusted position, the bracket being adjusted to the desired position merely by being tilted upwardly until the flange f^1 is at right angles to the leg of the stud, in which position the bracket F will be enabled to slide on the stud without undue binding. If desired, sealing strips G may be employed extending transversely of the joints between the courses and into the V-shaped grooves in the manner disclosed in the Keuls patent previously referred to.

Fig. 16 shows a somewhat similar construction for accomplishing the same result, the purlin B^6 in this instance being shown as a channel member, with the outer flange b^{15} engaging in the V-shaped grooves c^5 between the courses, and the inner flange b^{16} being sustained by a supporting bracket F^1. The bracket F^1 here illustrated, comprises a vertical plate f^4 resting against the outer leg a^2 of the supporting stud A^2 and terminating in a flange f^5 similar to the corresponding flange f^1 of the bracket F shown in Figs. 14 and 15, and a vertical plate f^6 at right angles to the plate f^4 and having a notch f^7 in its upper edge to receive and sustain the flange b^{16} of the purlin B^6. The flange f^5 is provided with a slot (not shown) similar to the slot f^2 of the bracket F, and for the same purpose, an upper shelf similar to the shelf f however, being dispensed with.

With the tile construction of the instant invention, it will be noted that both the outer and inner faces of the tile units are exposed, a portion of a wall built in accordance with the invention being shown in Fig. 17. By making the tile units C of a light transmitting material, such as transparent or translucent glass, and positioning lamps H at the rear of the tile facing, the light from the lamps will be transmitted through the facing. With this construction, the illuminating elements of a room may be entirely concealed and the room illuminated by light which is shed directly from the walls, the degree of illumination depending upon the power of the lamps used and the translucency of the tile units. The outer walls of a building may be also illuminated in the same manner, thus obviating the necessity of using flood lights which are required at the present time if this effect is desired.

The invention has been described in connection with the tiling of a wall or vertical frame, but it will be understood that the position of the support is not a limitation upon the invention, as the backing member may be horizontal or inclined as desired. Throughout the specification, the words "tile unit" have been used to indicate the wall facing element, but the invention is equally applicable to brick, building blocks and other similar building materials, and in the claims the expression "tile unit" is to be interpreted as covering such materials. Although steel is preferably used for the fastening strips, this is likewise not a limitation upon the invention as any suitable material may be substituted therefor. The invention is susceptible of many modifications within its spirit, as for instance in the characteristics of the tile and the shape of the fastening strips and purlins. For example, when the L-shaped fastening strips are used, the hook portion may extend along the upper edge of the horizontal leg, so that the tile units will rest upon the upper portion of the hook and be supported directly by the purlins. The invention is, therefore, to be limited only by the prior art and the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units for facing said support, metallic fastening elements engaging the edges of the tile units and attached to the purlins, whereby the tile units are held against separation from said support.

2. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units for facing said support and provided with recesses or grooves in their peripheral edges, and means engaging in said recesses and secured to the purlins, whereby the tile units are held against separation from said support.

3. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units facing said support, each of said tile units receiving individual support from one of said purlins and being held against separation from said support by means secured to another of said purlins.

4. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units facing said support and being provided in their peripheral edges with grooves or recesses, means associated with the purlins and engaging in a groove in one edge of each of the tile units, whereby the tile units are individually supported, and means secured to another of said purlins and engaging in a groove

in another edge of each of the tile units to hold said tile units against separation from said support.

5. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units facing said support and being provided in their peripheral edges with grooves or recesses, and means engaging in the grooves of two adjacent tiles and secured to said purlins for attaching the tile units to said support.

6. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units facing said support and being provided in their peripheral edges with grooves or recesses, and retaining elements equipped with hook portions engaging the purlins and with other portions seating in the grooves of the tile units, whereby said tile units are secured to said support.

7. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units arranged in courses facing said support, said purlins serving to sustain the tiles of one course and being provided with means for retaining anchoring elements associated with the tiles of an adjacent course.

8. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units arranged in courses facing said support and being provided in their peripheral edges with grooves or recesses, each of said purlins being equipped with a flange arranged to extend into recesses provided in the edges of the tile units of one course, and retaining elements secured to said purlins and engaging in the recesses provided in the tile units of an adjacent course.

9. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units arranged in courses facing said support and having grooves or recesses provided in their peripheral edges, each of said purlins being equipped with a flange extending into the recesses of the tile units of one course to sustain said course, and retaining elements engaging in recesses provided in the edges of adjacent tile units of a course, said anchoring elements being secured to a purlin sustaining an adjacent course of tile units.

10. A tile construction in accordance with claim 9, wherein the retaining elements which engage in the recesses between adjacent tiles of a course are provided with hook portions which engage the flange of the purlin sustaining an adjacent course of tile units.

11. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units arranged in courses facing said support and being provided in their peripheral edges with grooves or recesses, said purlins being equipped with flanges extending in opposite directions, one of said flanges being arranged to extend into the recesses provided in the tile units of one course and the other of said flanges being provided with means for retaining anchoring elements engaging in recesses provided in the tile units of an adjacent course.

12. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, the units arranged in courses facing said support and having grooves or recesses provided in their peripheral edges, each of said purlins being equipped with flanges extending in opposite directions, one of said legs being arranged to extend into the recesses provided in the tile units of one course to sustain said course, and the other of said flanges being provided with spaced slots receiving anchoring clips which have portions engaging in recesses provided in the tile units of an adjacent course.

13. Tile construction in accordance with claim 12, wherein at least one edge of each of the tile units is provided with a notch into which its associated anchoring clip fits so as to prevent lateral edgewise movement of the tile unit.

14. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units arranged edge to edge in courses and being provided in their peripheral edges with grooves or recesses, a fastening strip associated with each tile element extending longitudinally of the edge thereof and engaging in the recess provided therein, and means for securing said strip to a purlin.

15. In tile construction, the combination of a support, purlins arranged in spaced relation on said support, tile units arranged edge to edge in courses, recesses provided in the opposed edges of adjacent tile units, fastening strips each having a pair of legs, one engaging in the recess provided in one edge of a tile unit, and the other engaging in the recess provided in an intersecting edge of said tile unit, and each of said legs also engaging in a recess presented in the edge of an adjacent tile unit, and means for securing the fastening strips to the purlins.

16. In building construction, the combination of a support, building units laid in courses to provide a veneering for said support, a recess provided between two courses and formed in at least one of the opposed faces thereof, and a purlin adjustably secured to the support and engaging in said recess, whereby the veneering is held against separation from the support.

17. In building construction, the combination of a support including a plurality of vertical studding members, a plurality of horizontally arranged purlins, means for securing the purlins to the studding members and providing for the vertical adjustment of the purlins with respect thereto, and building units arranged in courses to form a veneering for said support and having recesses between certain of the courses and formed in at least one of the opposed faces thereof, said purlins being equipped with means engaging in said recesses, whereby the veneering is held against separation from said support.

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