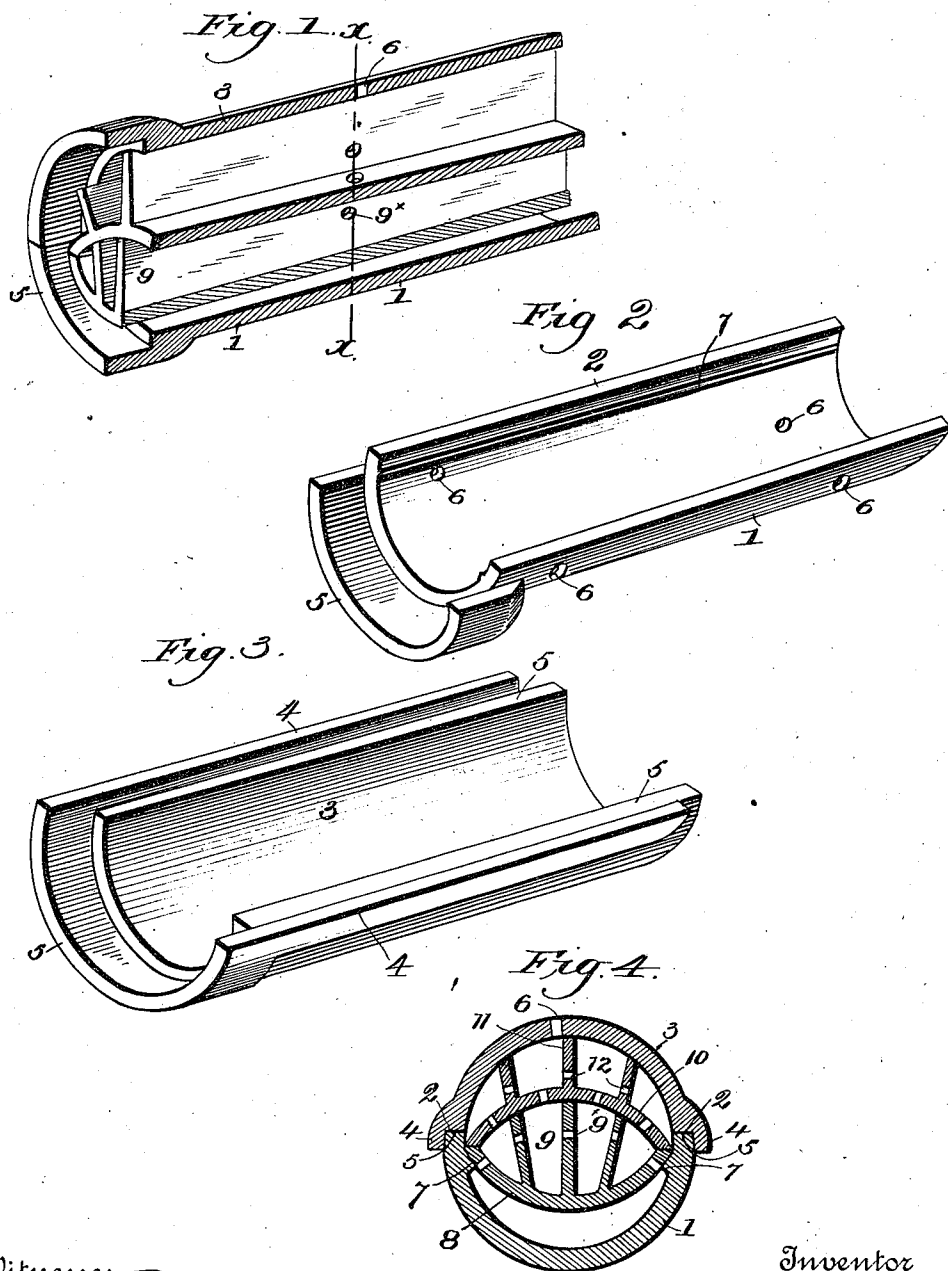


(No Model.)

J. E. EDWARDS.
UNDERGROUND CONDUIT.

No. 527,597.

Patented Oct. 16, 1894.



Witnesses
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JOSEPH E. EDWARDS, OF TORONTO, OHIO.

UNDERGROUND CONDUIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 527,597, dated October 16, 1894.

Application filed June 7, 1894. Serial No. 513,822. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH E. EDWARDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toronto, in the county of Jefferson and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Underground Conduits; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an underground conduit, and sewer for electric light, telephone, and other wires, and has for its object to provide a simple and convenient form of conduit which may readily be opened for the purpose of manipulating the wires or for making suitable connections.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of the construction and arrangement of the several parts which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a sectional perspective view of a conduit embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the lower section of the conduit. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the upper section of the conduit. Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line *x, x*. Fig. 1.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the bottom of the conduit, which is of semi-circular form having the opposite edges thereof shouldered as at 2.

The numeral 3 represents the top of the conduit which is of similar form to the bottom 1 and has opposite rims 4 with interior shoulders 5 to engage the shoulders 2 of the bottom section. When the sections 1 and 3 are united they form a cylindrical casing and may be of any suitable length, having at one end an extended flange 5 to receive the reduced end of an adjacent section after the manner of an ordinary sewer pipe, the rims falling a little short of the reduced end of each top section to permit the said fitting of one section entire into the other. By the arrangement of parts set forth the top section may be readily removed to manipulate or otherwise arrange the wires and both top and bottom

sections are provided with openings 6 for the purpose of making connections with houses or other places as may be found desirable and necessary.

The lower section 1 of the casing is provided with interior longitudinally extending ribs 7 over which are removably slid the opposite upper edges of a concavo-convex wire supporting rack 8 having longitudinally extending upwardly projecting flanges or partitions 9, the center one of which is perpendicular while the two on opposite sides of said center slightly diverge outwardly or are arranged oblique. It will be seen that this arrangement of partition provides a series of four gutters or chambers in the said lower rack for the reception of a similar number of wires, or more or less as may be desired. At or about the center of the flanges and opposite outer portions of the lower rack a series of openings 9^x is provided for the purpose of making connections with the wires in the gutters or chambers. By the formation of the ribs in the lower section 1 of the conduit the said lower rack is held in properly adjusted position, and retained in said position. In the lower section or rack it will be observed that the concaved side is uppermost and mounted above the said lower rack is an upper concavo-convex rack 10 having its convex surface uppermost and from which project upwardly a series of three flanges or partitions 11 similar to those formed in the lower rack and providing as many gutters or chambers as in the said lower rack. The upper rack is placed loosely over the lower rack and has its edges resting against the upper portions of the longitudinally disposed ribs in the lower conduit section 1.

It will be understood that when several of the conduit sections and rack sections are placed end for end a continuous formation in each instance will be provided and it will also be understood that the racks may have the number of flanges increased or decreased in order to increase or decrease the number of gutters or chambers. The upper rack 10 has the flanges thereof, as well as the body of the same provided with a series of openings 12 for the purpose of making connections with the several wires.

The conduit herein described is lasting and

serviceable and can be used as a combined sewer and conduit to which access can be easily had in order to arrange the wires for the purpose of connection or to otherwise manipulate said wires and rectify breaks or other irregularities. This operation is performed by simply removing the top section of the conduit and the several sections of the conduit can be made full length and continuous or of different lengths with intervening spaces.

It is preferable that all the parts be constructed of vitrified fire-clay.

The advantage of the construction is the facility and dispatch by which wires may be laid and a comparative reduction of cost as well as the easy access to the wires attainable through the removability of the several sections.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In a conduit of the character set forth, the combination with the outer pipe sections, of inner superposed wire supporting racks having upwardly projecting flanges, the said racks and pipe sections being provided with

openings for the purpose of making the connection with the wires, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. In a conduit of the character set forth, the combination of outer pipe sections, one of which has interior longitudinally disposed ribs, a lower rack having its edges engaging said ribs and flanges projecting from the upper side thereof, said rack being of concavo-convex form and having its concave side uppermost, and an upper concavo-convex rack with its convex side uppermost, flanges or partitions projecting upward from said convex side, all of the said parts having suitable openings for the purpose of making the connections, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH E. EDWARDS.

Witnesses:

WM. C. LYNCH,
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