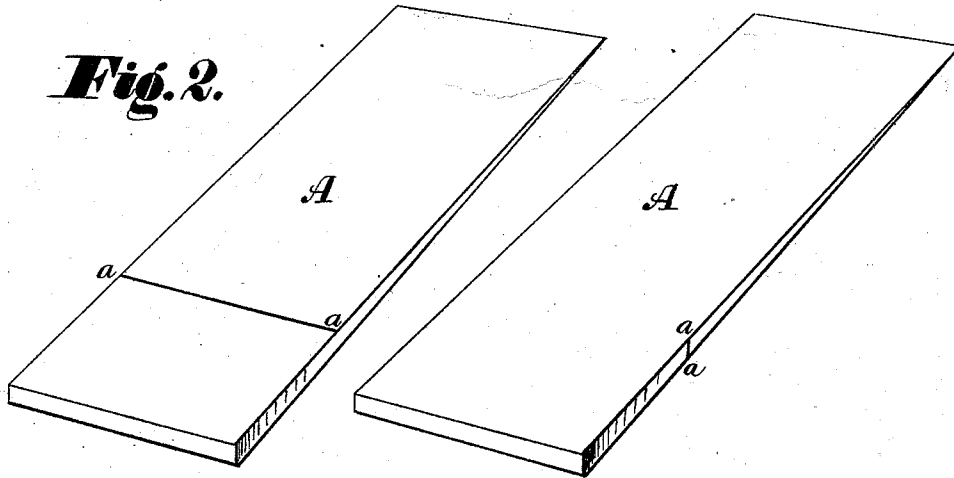
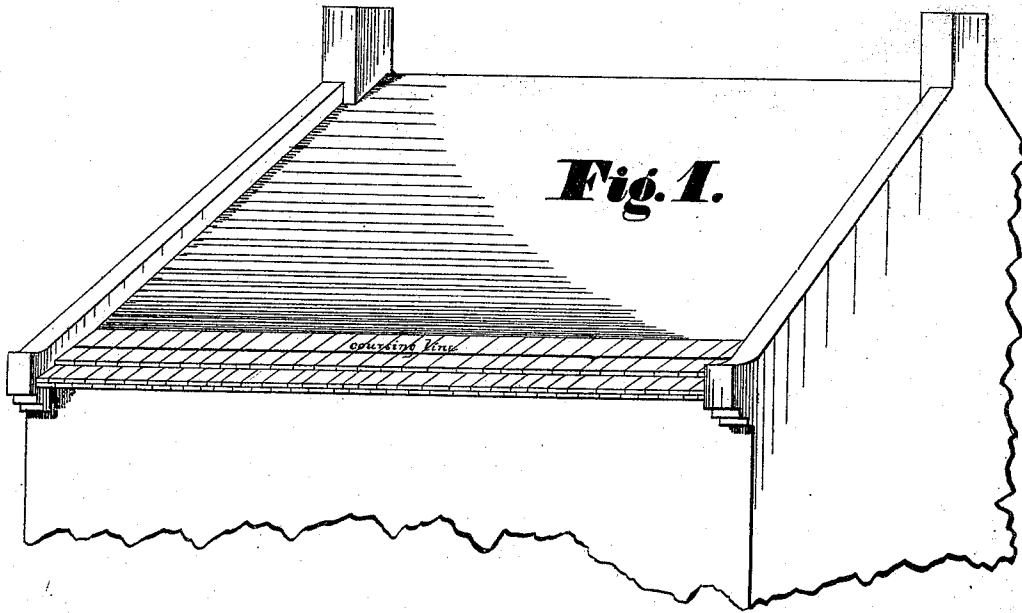


M. McCOMB.
SHINGLES.

No. 177,865.

Patented May 23, 1876.



Witnesses

Thos. A. Waterson
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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARSHALL McCOMB, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD HIS RIGHT TO DAVID PRESLEY HOYLE, OF SAME PLACE, AND ONE-THIRD TO DANIEL CRABTREE, OF BELMONT, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHINGLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,865**, dated May 23, 1876; application filed April 24, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARSHALL McCOMB, of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Shingles; 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view illustrating the present method of marking after the completion of one or two courses. Fig. 2 shows two forms of my invention in perspective.

This invention relates to improvements in shingles; and consists in scoring or marking the "coursing-lines" on each individual shingle at the time of manufacture, or after, so that no time is lost in chalk-lining the courses, but the shingles may be nailed on without any delay.

At present the workmen lay their first course at the eaves of the roof, and when that course is completed across they measure off two courses more, and mark them all across by means of a chalk-line. Then they lay the two courses next in order on these lines, and so on, measuring and marking the coursing-lines in pairs.

Now, this entails much unnecessary labor, and this is increased where there are dormer-windows and other obstructions to a continuous line. If the roof be steep, the workmen endanger their lives upon it under any circumstances, and the danger enhances if they are compelled, every few minutes, to get up and go from side to side for the purpose of establishing their coursing-lines properly.

Again, as only two courses are or can be laid from one measurement, more unnecessary delay arises from the inevitable fact that one man is sure to be a faster worker than his fellow; consequently he will have his share done before the other, but must wait in idleness till the other is also done, in order to run the next lines.

Now, I propose to do away with all these difficulties by placing the coursing-lines on each shingle before bundling, either on one or both sides or edges, and so enable a man to work right ahead, regardless of what his helper or helpers may be doing, and still preserve faultless accuracy in the weather-courses.

In shingling a roof the length of butt left exposed to the weather varies from four to six inches, according to the length of shingle used. I make a score or other mark at this point, parallel with the butt-line, either on one or both faces or on the two edges.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, A is the shingle, on which I mark the line *a*, on the face or edge, as shown. This line I prefer to make with lead, chalk, or equivalent, for if the wood be abraded with a saw or scorer it affords an entrance for the atmosphere, and consequently has a tendency to rot at that point. The shingles thus lined are bundled as usual, and leave the mechanic nothing to do but nail them down. This can be done by any one, since each shingle carries its own coursing-line, and they can be laid by one workman without any attention to what another is doing, and he can run his side of the roof clear up to the comb without any delay. Hence no time is lost in marking off the courses with a chalk-line, and no risk is undergone by running needlessly over the roof. No delay is caused by dormer-windows or other obstructions to the continuity of the courses.

The marking could be easily done automatically by having an endless belt running alongside a guide, constituting a V-shaped trough. The shingles carried by the belt, with their butts toward the guide, could be readily marked by a fixed pencil above or below as they passed along.

The invention is equally applicable to clapboards of any kind, in a similar way, and so does away with all guides and devices for effecting uniformity in applying.

Having fully described my invention, I claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a shin-

gle having the coursing line or lines marked upon its side or sides or edges, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The herein-described improvement in the manufacture of shingles, consisting in marking the coursing line or lines on each shingle, or in marking the edge of the blocks before sawing, as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of April, 1876.

MARSHALL McCOMB.

Witnesses:

THOS. J. McTIGHE,
WM. C. SALMON.