

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. M. GRAHAM.
BUILDING OR PAVING BLOCK.

No. 470,377.

Patented Mar. 8, 1892.

FIG. 1.

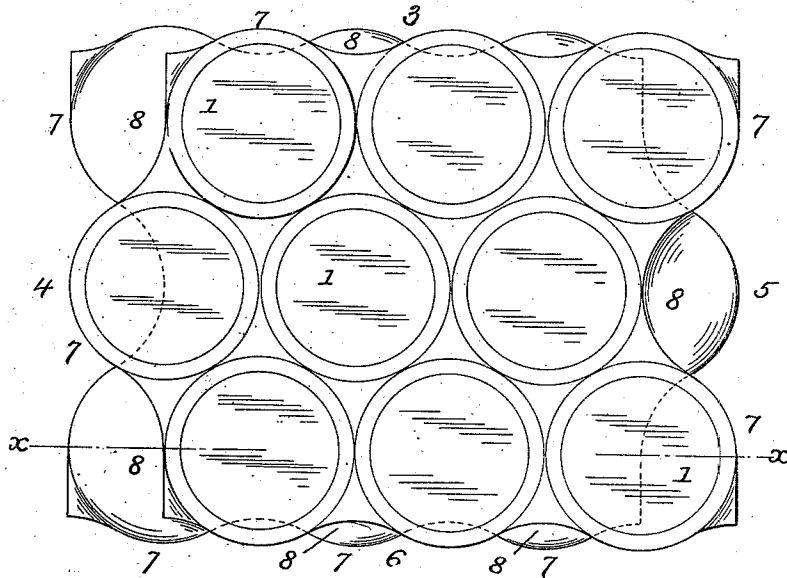
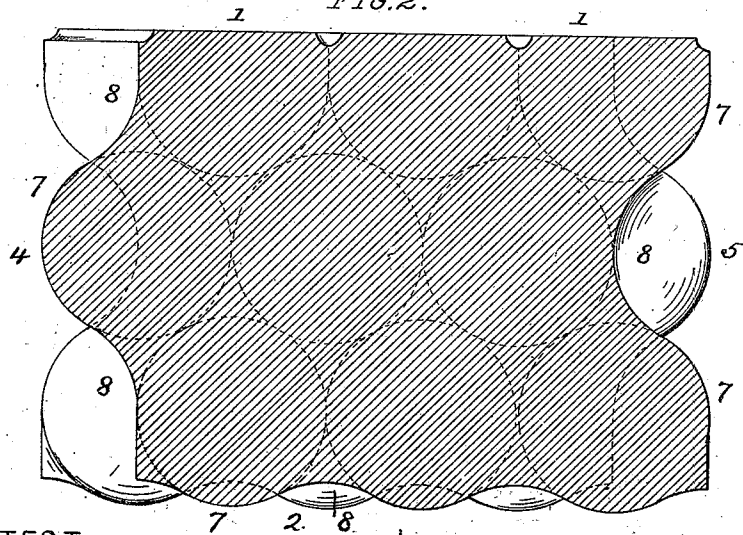


FIG. 2.



ATTEST:

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Attorney

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FIG. 3.

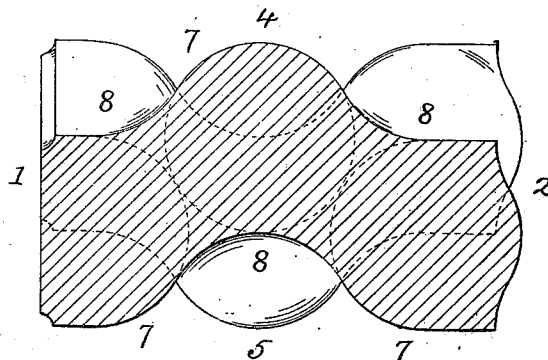
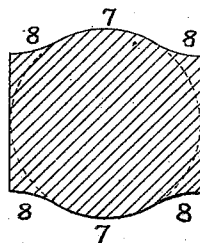


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE M. GRAHAM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BUILDING OR PAVING BLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 470,377, dated March 8, 1892.

Application filed May 11, 1891. Serial No: 392,391. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. GRAHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Building or Paving Blocks; 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.

My present invention relates to that type of building or paving blocks the abutting sides or surfaces of which are provided with counterpart projections and recesses, so as to interlock together and be held in proper position or alignment, and particularly such as form the subject-matter of Letters Patent No. 401,492, issued to me April 16, 1889, the object of the present improvement being to provide an improved construction of such blocks, in which the surface formation is such as to afford a perfect interlocking of the one block with the other contiguous block or blocks and which at the same time avoids a sharp angular form in the cavities or recesses in said interlocking surfaces, that has heretofore been a serious element of weakness in former constructions, owing to the fact that such sharp angularity of the recesses serve as a ready starting-point for a fracture or crack in the main body of the block when exposed to undue or unequal strain, sudden or excessive impact, &c. I attain such object by the construction of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view or elevation of the preferred form of my improved building or paving block as best adapted for general use in large constructions; Fig. 2, a section of the same at line *xx*; Fig. 3, an elevation of a simpler form of the block; Fig. 4, a section of an elementary member of the present improved construction.

Similar numerals of reference indicate like parts in the different views.

As represented in the drawings, my improved building or paving block will have a plane outer face 1, suitably divided or otherwise ornamented with depressions and projections, and an inner face or back 2, either plane, ornamental, or formed with interlocking ridges and depressions for interlocking

with a similarly-formed block in the construction of walls having a much greater thickness than that of a single building-block of the present construction.

The four sides or surfaces 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the block are of an interlocking formation, which in the present invention consists of alternating ridges 7 and depressions 8, curved on an equal radii, which in my most perfect and preferred construction divides the sides or surfaces 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the block into a number of rows or series of projections and recesses of a segmental spherical contour, the one row or series being immediately placed or "staggered" with relation to the next adjacent row or rows, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2.

In its elementary form, as shown in Fig. 4, the block will be of an approximately spherical shape, blending into that of an irregular hexagonal form, the top, bottom, and sides being formed on reversed curves of equal radii, as heretofore described, and the end or ends formed plane, as shown, to constitute an abutment for a similarly-formed elementary block. This elementary or individual form of the block is not intended for, practical use, as it does not afford the universal interlocking features that its integral combinations will afford, as illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, and 3.

In the formation of my improved building or paving block any required number of the elementary forms above described may be integrally united together to constitute a block of the size and dimensions required, either small enough to be readily placed by hand or large enough to require a derrick in handling.

The practical advantages or merits arising from the present improved construction are similar to that set forth in my aforesaid Letters Patent in relation to the construction therein shown and described, the only and superior difference in the present construction being that the joints between the blocks, which in both constructions are supported and braced in every direction by the solid form of the adjoining block, are in the present improvement formed by curved projections and recesses instead of the angular or prismatic formations in the former, an added strength being the outcome, owing to the avoidance of any tendency to fracture or

cracking, as no starting-point is afforded for a crack or fracture, while, on the other hand, the former angular or prismatic construction afforded at each angular depression a ready
5 starting-point for a crack or fracture of the block under irregular strain, accidental impact, &c.

In the manufacture of my improved building or paving block any suitable material may
10 be employed—either artificial stone, terracotta, clay, metal, or other suitable compound or composition—in accordance with the special uses to which the blocks may be applied.

Having thus fully described my said invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure
15 by Letters Patent, is—

1. A building or paving block having its

sides 3, 4, 5, and 6 formed with interlocking projections 7 and recesses 8, of a segmental spherical form and equal radii, substantially
20 as set forth.

2. A building or paving block having its sides 3, 4, 5, and 6 formed with rows or series of interlocking projections 7 and recesses 8, intermediately arranged or staggered and of
25 a segmental spherical form and equal radii, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE M. GRAHAM.

Witnesses:

ROBERT BURNS,
M. W. BYRNE.