

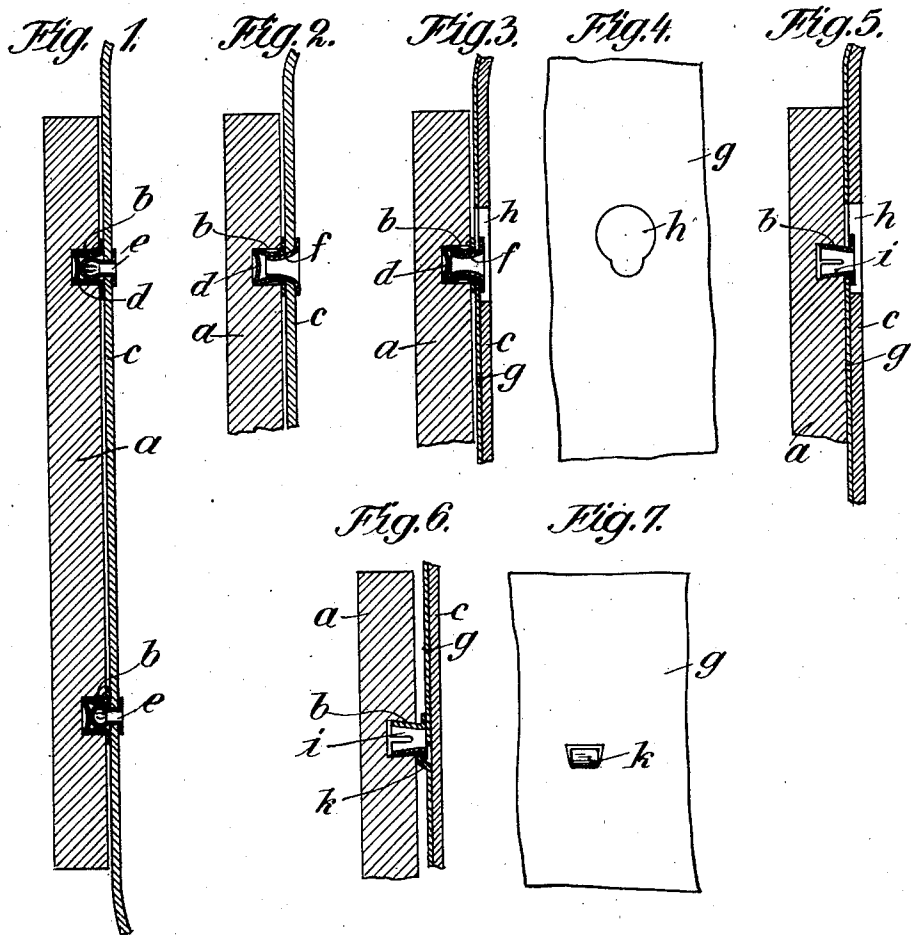
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WALL TILE COVERING

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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WALL TILE COVERING

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This invention relates to a wall tile covering of hard stoneware or similar material and consists in that the tiles have depressions in their rear side, and that a support to be fixed on the wall has projecting press button like connecting means so that if a tile is placed onto the support its depressions come into contact with the connecting means of the support and a clamping connection is established. Such press button like connecting means may also be provided in the depressions in the wall tile, the connecting means of the support fitting the same. According to a modified form of construction the connecting means in the depressions of the wall tile project from these depressions and the support has cut out portions or bent out flaps, in which the projecting parts of the inserted connecting means of the tiles can be engaged.

The advantage of this wall tile covering consists in that each tile can be separately exchanged and the fitting can be effected quickly and without any accessory means or preparations.

Several embodiments of the invention are illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 shows in vertical cross section one form of construction.

Fig. 2 is a similar view of a second form of construction.

Fig. 3 shows a third form of construction also in vertical cross-section.

Fig. 4 shows in front elevation a support for the construction shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 shows in vertical cross section a fourth form of construction.

Fig. 6 is a similar view of a fifth form of construction.

Fig. 7 shows in front elevation a support for the construction illustrated in Fig. 6.

Each wall tile *a* has in its rear side a plurality of depressions *b*, preferably of circular cross-section. For example four such depressions are provided on each tile arranged in a square.

The depressions are preferably wider towards the bottom end, but may also be cylindrical and reinforced with metal inserts.

The support *c* is preferably made of rollable material and has press button like heads so shaped and distributed over the entire surface of the support that the depressions of the tiles fit thereon and can be pressed onto the heads the heads being thereby clamped in the depressions to securely hold the tiles. The support may also consist of a strip designed for one row of tiles and at first fixed separately on the wall. Moreover the tiles can be fitted on the support before the same is fixed on the wall. The press-button like heads of the support may be of various shapes. Metallic press-button like connecting parts can also be inserted in the depressions in the tiles adapted to fit on the heads on the support.

In the form of construction shown in Fig. 1 metal sleeves *d* are inserted in the depressions *b* of the tile *a*. The support *c* to be fixed on the wall carries at corresponding points resilient press button like heads *e*. The sleeves *d* may also be made resilient by incisions in their wall. The sleeves *d* of the tiles are pressed onto the heads *e* and thus tightly adhere to the support *c*. The heads *e* may also engage directly into the depressions in the tiles and in this instance the depressions are preferably made conical by widening towards their bottom end, for example as shown in Figs. 5 and 6.

In the form of construction illustrated in Fig. 2 the connecting parts on the support *c* are constructed as sleeves *f* which fit in the sleeves *d* of the tiles and clamp therein.

In the form of construction according to Fig. 3 the two connecting parts are provided in the tiles. The sleeves *d* inserted in the depressions *b* of the tiles are pressed into the sleeves *f* so that the sleeves *f* still project slightly from the sleeves *d*. Both sleeves have a flanged edge and a gap remains between these flanged edges. The support is made of stronger material, for example of sheet metal, or it is covered with a rigid cover *g*. In the support cut out portions *h* are provided at the points registering with each of the depressions in the tile, so that it is possible to insert the flanges of the sleeves *f* in these cut out portions *h*. The

connecting parts *d, f* are fitted on the lower edge of the cut out portions *h* by means of the gap between the two flanges of a pair of sleeves *d, f*. In this form of construction it is also sufficient, only to insert a single connecting part in the depressions of the tiles, for example a sleeve *i*, as shown in Fig. 5. The depressions *b* widen towards their bottom end, and the sleeves *i* are incised and spread apart in the depressions. The flange of the sleeves projects so far from the plane of the tile, that a gap is formed between the tile and the flange, and the tiles are applied with this gap on the lower edge of the cut out portion *h*, as illustrated in Fig. 3.

In the form of construction shown in Fig. 6 the suspension gaps are formed in a similar manner to the construction shown in Figs. 3 or 5 by the sleeves *i* inserted in the depressions in the plate. In the support *c-g* flaps *k* are bent out at suitable points and form a supporting bearing for the projecting sleeve parts. These flaps *k* may be formed as continuous strips so that the tiles can be arranged side by side and pushed together. Other press-button like forms of construction of the connecting parts are possible. The invention covers all such metal parts inserted in depressions in wall tiles, for example sleeves, spring rings and the like and corresponding press-in parts, slots or projecting parts on the support.

I claim:—

1. In a wall tile covering of hard stoneware and like substances, the combination of tiles having in their rear side depressions, a support adapted to be fixed on the wall, and press button-like connecting means on said support adapted to be fixed in the depressions in said tiles and to clamp therein when said tiles are pressed against said support.

2. In a wall tile covering of hard stoneware, the combination of tiles having depressions in their rear side, a support adapted to be fixed on the wall, press button-like elements in the depressions of said tiles, and counter press button-like elements on said support registering with and adapted to engage the elements in the depressions in said tiles to hold said tiles on said support.

3. In a wall tile covering of hard stoneware the combination of tiles having depressions in their rear side, a support adapted to be fixed on the wall, metal sleeves in said depressions, and press button-like resilient sleeves on said support adapted to engage and clamp the sleeves in said depressions.

4. In a wall tile covering of hard stoneware, the combination of tiles having depressions in their rear side, a support adapted to be fixed on the wall having slots, press button-like sleeves in and projecting from said depressions, and a flange on each of said sleeves adapted to engage in the slots of said

support and to hold said tiles against said support.

5. In a wall tile covering of stoneware, the combinations of tiles having depressions on their rear side, a support adapted to be fixed on the wall, press button-like sleeves in and projecting from said depressions, a flange on the projecting end of each of said sleeves, and flaps on and bent out of the plane of said support adapted to engage said flanges and hold said tiles on said support.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HUBERT STÜKEN.

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