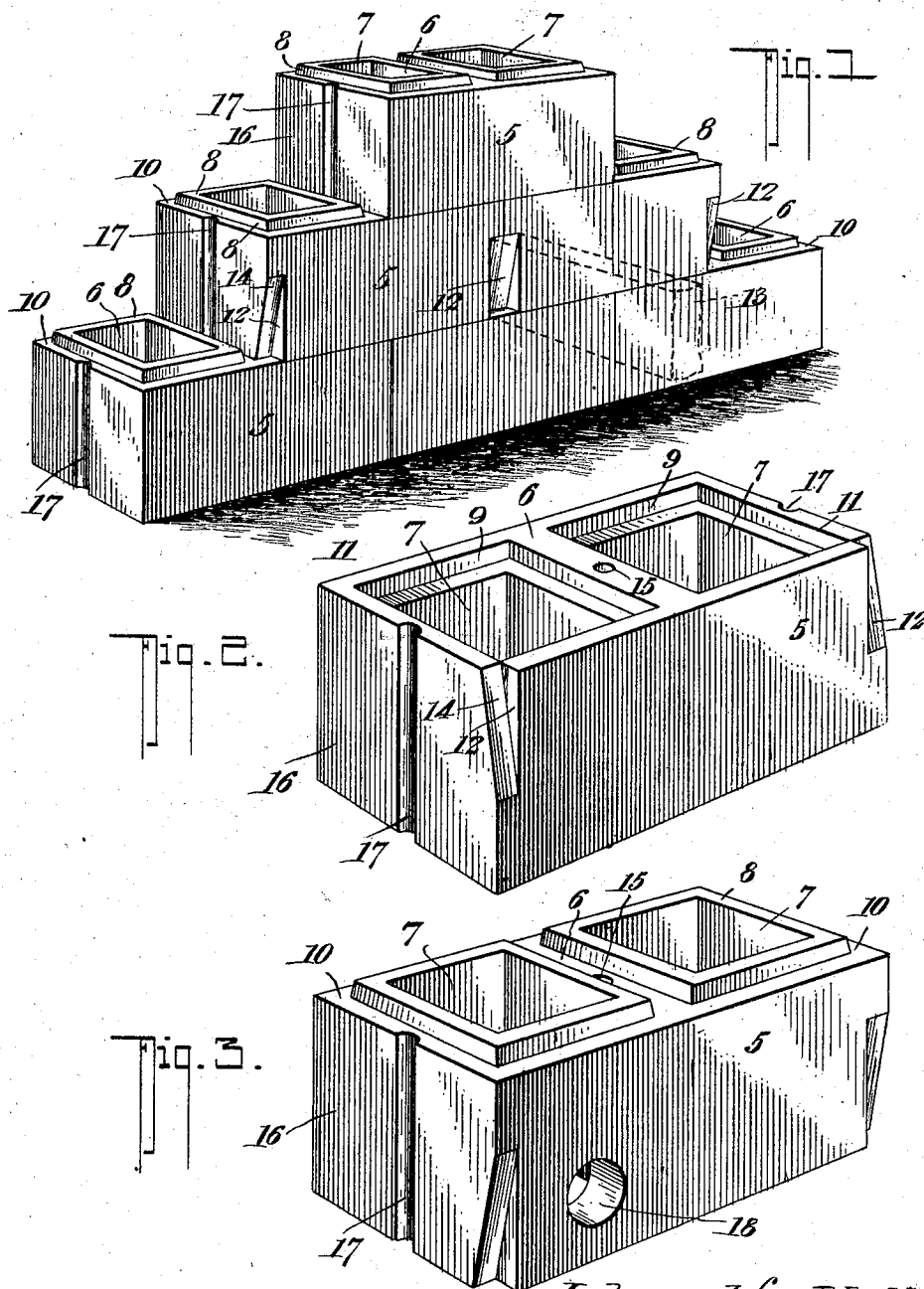


No. 800,385.

PATENTED SEPT. 26, 1905.

J. H. MILLER.  
BUILDING BLOCK.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1905.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HENRY MILLER, OF RISINGSUN, OHIO.

## BUILDING-BLOCK.

No. 800,385.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 26, 1905.

Application filed March 2, 1905. Serial No. 248,134.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN HENRY MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Risingsun, in the county of Wood and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Building-Block, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in artificial-stone building-blocks, and has for its object to provide a cheap, durable, and efficient block of this character which when set into a wall, arch, flue, or other structure will be securely locked against accidental displacement.

A further object of the invention is to form the top or upper edge of the block with a marginal seating rib or flange adapted to engage a corresponding recess formed in the bottom of an adjacent or mating block when said blocks are set into a wall, thereby producing a wall of great strength and durability and also preventing leakage of water or moisture through the joints of abutting bricks or blocks.

A further object is to form the blocks with terminal recesses disposed at the juncture of the rear and end wall of the block, whereby spaced sockets or seats are formed in the wall for the reception of joists or girders.

A still further object of the invention is to mold the blocks with terminal and intermediate rod-receiving grooves or channels, so that binding-rods may be inserted in the wall to assist in securing the roof of the building in position.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a wall formed of blocks constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the blocks looking at the bottom thereof. Fig. 3 is a similar view looking at the top of the block and illustrating a slightly different form of block.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The improved building-blocks, which may be formed of clay, terra-cotta, cement, or other plastic material, are preferably formed of a composition of crushed stone, sand, and cement, the latter being placed in a suitable mold and tamped and pressed in the usual manner.

The blocks 5 are preferably rectangular in contour and formed with intermediate webs 6, which connect the front and rear walls of the block and define a plurality of vertically-disposed flues 7, the latter rendering the block light in weight and permitting the free circulation of air through the wall. Surrounding the flues 7 are vertically-disposed locking ribs or flanges 8, adapted to engage corresponding seating-recesses 9, formed in the bottom of the adjacent block, when a plurality of said blocks are laid in superposed courses to form the wall. (Shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.) The locking ribs or flanges 8 are preferably spaced inwardly from the walls of the block to thereby define a marginal seating-shoulder 10, which extends around to the top of the block and receives and supports the base 11 of the adjacent block in the course above. Terminal recesses 12 are formed in the blocks at the juncture of the rear and end walls thereof, so that when the blocks are laid into a wall the recesses 12 of abutting blocks will register, and thereby form a series of spaced pockets or seats adapted to receive the ends of joists or girders 13, one of which is indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1. The rear walls of the recesses 12 are preferably inclined, as shown at 14, to permit of the ready introduction of the terminals of the joists and also to facilitate the removal of the block from the mold during the manufacture of the latter. The connecting-webs 6 are provided with vertical openings 15, while the end walls 16 of the block are formed with vertical grooves or channels 17, said openings and channels being adapted to receive vertical tie rods or bars (not shown) which are designed to extend the entire height of the wall and serve as an additional means for securing the roof of the building in position as well as a reinforcement to the wall.

In some cases it is desired to connect a stove-pipe or ventilating-pipe with one of the air-chambers formed by the vertical flues in the blocks, and for this purpose I form some of

the blocks with a lateral opening (indicated at 18 in Fig. 3 of the drawings) for the reception of said pipe.

It will of course be understood that the blocks may be made in half-sections and formed with any number of air-flues and that only those blocks laid in the course supporting the joists or girders will be provided with the terminal seating-recesses.

The blocks may be given any required form, according to the shape and outline of the wall, and may be curved on one or both sides, made angular, or provided in polygonal outline for use in bay-windows. The locking ribs or flanges may also be formed on one or more sides of the block, said flanges serving to maintain the several blocks in vertical and horizontal alinement, thereby preventing breaking of the wall and any lateral or horizontal movement of the individual blocks comprising the latter.

From the foregoing it will be seen that there is produced an extremely simple and inexpensive building block or brick admirably adapted for the attainment of the ends in view.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is—

1. A building-block comprising a body portion provided with oppositely-disposed joist-receiving recesses each of which is disposed at the juncture of one of the side and end walls of the block, said recesses having their rear walls inclined toward the bottom of the block.

2. A building-block comprising a body portion provided with a plurality of air-flues, seating-grooves formed in the top of the block and surrounding said flues, marginal lock-

ing-flanges surrounding said flues at the bottom of said block, and a joist-receiving recess formed at the juncture of one of the side and end walls thereof and inclined toward the base of the block.

3. A building-block comprising a body portion having a joist-receiving recess formed at the juncture of one of the side and end walls thereof and inclined toward the base of the block.

4. A building-block comprising a body portion having a joist-receiving recess formed at the juncture of one of the side and end walls thereof, said recess being of less height than the block, and having its rear wall inclined toward the base of said block.

5. A hollow building-block provided with an intermediate web defining a plurality of air-flues, locking-flanges surrounding said flues at the top of the block, and seating-recesses formed in the block and surrounding said flues at the bottom thereof, the opposite ends of the block being provided with joist-receiving recesses having their inner walls inclined toward the base of the block there being a rod-receiving opening formed in the intermediate web of said block, and vertically-disposed channels in the opposite end walls of the latter.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN HENRY MILLER.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH MILLER,

DAVID KIRK MORRISON.