

No. 856,363.

PATENTED JUNE 11, 1907.

G. S. ORMSBY.
MORTAR GAGE.

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Fig. 2.

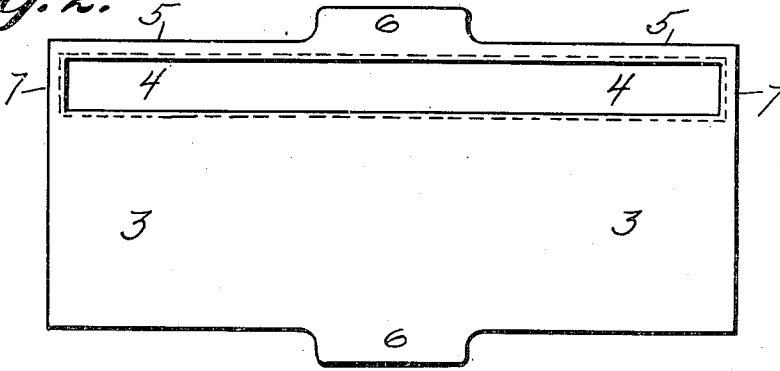


Fig. 1.

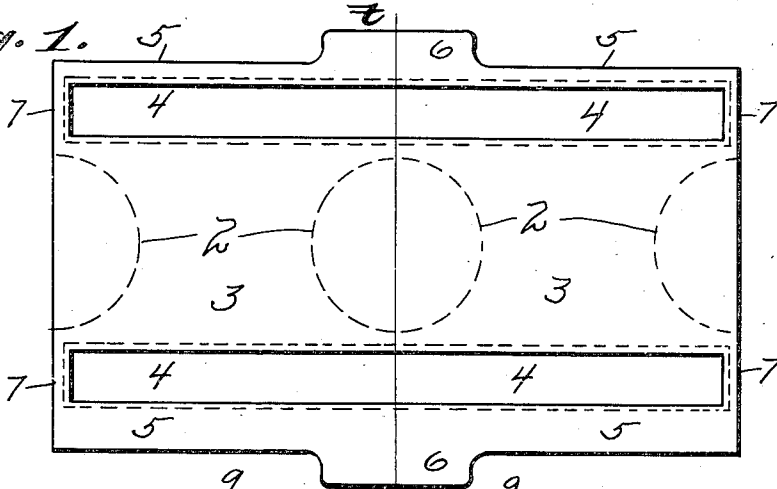
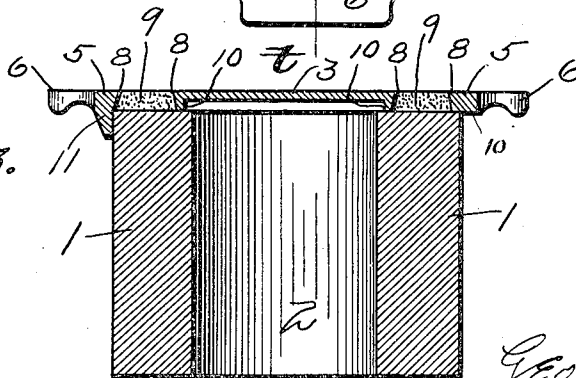


Fig. 3.



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MORTAR-GAGE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE S. ORMSBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Xenia, in the county of Greene and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mortar-Gages; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention comprises a mortar gage for accurately spreading mortar on cement blocks in the construction of buildings, walls or other masonry.

The object of the invention is first—to provide means which enables the workman in the construction of a wall to quickly and uniformly spread the mortar on the parts of a block where it should be placed, and to exclude the mortar from those parts where it should not be placed. Secondly, to provide means by which the mortar joints may be made uniform in width and thickness, and the upper surfaces of said joints always parallel with the surfaces of the blocks on which the mortar is spread.

Cement building blocks are usually made with openings in or through them, and, in laying such blocks it is necessary to exclude the mortar from these openings. Heretofore, this has been accomplished only with the expenditure of much time and labor and with a waste of material.

Preceding a detailed description of the invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1, is a top plan view of my improved mortar gage. Fig. 2, is a similar view showing a slight modification in the construction of the gage. Fig. 3, is a cross sectional view of the mortar gage as shown in Fig. 1 on the line $t-t$ and through a cement building block upon which the gage is placed to spread the mortar.

In a detail description of the invention, similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts.

In the drawings, 1 designates a common form of cement building block with the usual openings 2 therein. In the laying of these building blocks, my improved mortar gage is utilized and the same consists of a plate

which conforms substantially to the shape of the block upon which it is laid, as shown in Fig. 3.

The gage has a longitudinal central portion 3 comprising a plate which covers the openings 2 in the block and prevents the mortar from entering said openings. On one or both sides of this plate portion 3 of the gage, are parallel mortar openings 4 of lengths substantially as shown in the drawing. These openings 4 are inclosed on their outer sides by bars 5, and from the central portions of said bars 5 handles or grips 6 extend by means of which the gage may be handled in using the same. The handles or grip portions 6 are recessed on their under sides to enable the fingers to conveniently grasp the same in removing the mortar gage and replacing it in position on the blocks. It will be observed in Fig. 1, one of the marginal bars 5 is of greater width than the other, and forms a shelf which prevents the mortar dropping from the gage and marring the face of the wall as the latter is being constructed. It will be understood that in using the gage the marginal bar of greater width lies on the outer side of the block. The mortar openings 4 are beveled downwardly and outwardly as at 8 in order that, when the gage is lifted from the block, none of the mortar will be removed therewith. The marginal bars 5 before referred to are joined to the body or plate 3 of the gage by short integral bars 7.

In Fig. 3, 9 indicates the mortar which has been placed in the mortar openings 4; from this view it will be seen that the gage may be lifted without disturbing the mortar which has been placed upon the block; this is due to the beveled or tapered surfaces 8 before referred to. The upper surface of the gage is a plane throughout; its under surface has ribs 10 on the inner sides of the mortar openings 4 and along its edges, said ribs projecting downwardly. These ribs raise the surface of the gage to such height as will give the mortar joint or joints the desired thickness. The thickness of the mortar joint equals the perpendicular distance of the upper surface of the gage from the upper surface of the cement block on which it is laid. Extending downwardly from the rear marginal bar 5 is a flange 11 which engages the upper portion of the inner vertical side of the block; this flange is a guide to insure the correct placing of the gage on the blocks, and

also it is a means for maintaining the gage in a correct position when spreading the mortar.

Fig. 2, illustrates my improved mortar gage with one of the longitudinal mortar openings 4 omitted. When the building block or blocks are wider or narrower than the gage, when constructed with a single longitudinal mortar opening, the mortar may be placed—first on one side of the block and then on the other side, by reversing the position of the gage. A single width of gage may thus be utilized for spreading mortar upon blocks of different widths.

I claim:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a gage for spreading mortar on building blocks in the construction of walls, the same consisting of a plate having a longitudinal mortar opening therethrough to admit mortar to the block at desirable points, the boundary of said mortar opening being beveled downwardly and outwardly, a marginal flange extending downwardly from the under side of the gage and adapted to engage a vertical side of the block, the said gage having its upper side in a uniform plane throughout.

2. A mortar gage for spreading mortar upon building blocks in the construction of walls, the same consisting of a plate having suitable longitudinal openings therethrough to admit mortar to the block, the boundaries of said openings being beveled downwardly and outwardly, a marginal flange extending downwardly from the outer margin of one of said openings, and handles projecting from opposite sides of the gage.

3. A mortar gage for spreading mortar on building blocks in the construction of a wall, the same having its upper surface in a uniform plane throughout and consisting of a

central longitudinal plate having a longitudinal mortar opening on one side, the boundaries of which are beveled downwardly and outwardly from the upper surface of the gage, and a downwardly extending flange adapted to embrace the upper vertical side of a block when the gage is placed in position thereon, and handle portions extending from said gage by means of which it is manipulated.

4. In a gage for spreading mortar on building blocks in the construction of a wall, the same consisting of plate having a longitudinal mortar opening on one side and extending approximately the length of the plate, the boundaries of said opening being beveled downwardly and outwardly and extending in the form of ribs to obtain the desired thickness of the mortar joint, a flange extending downwardly from the underside of the gage, and handles projecting from the gage.

5. A gage for spreading mortar on building blocks, the same comprising a plate having longitudinal mortar openings on its sides, and the upper surface of which is of a uniform plane throughout, the boundaries of said mortar openings being beveled downwardly and outwardly and forming underlying ribs which rest upon the surface of the block and by which the desired thickness of mortar joint is obtained, a flange extending downwardly from the under side of the gage, and handles extending from opposite sides of the gage.

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

GEORGE S. ORMSBY.

Witnesses:

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