

C. M. Eakin,
Railroad Rail,
No. 12,505, Patented Mar. 13, 1855.

Fig. 1.

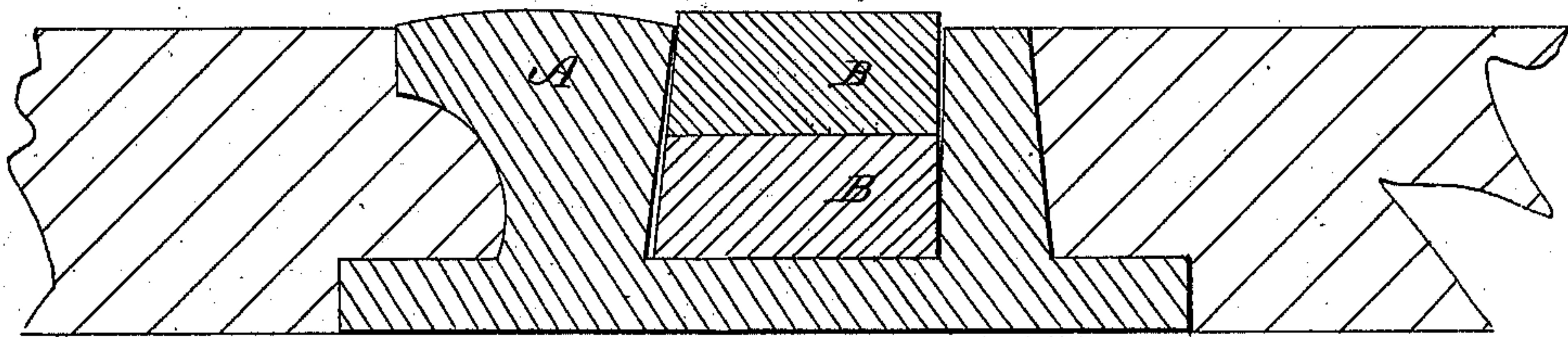
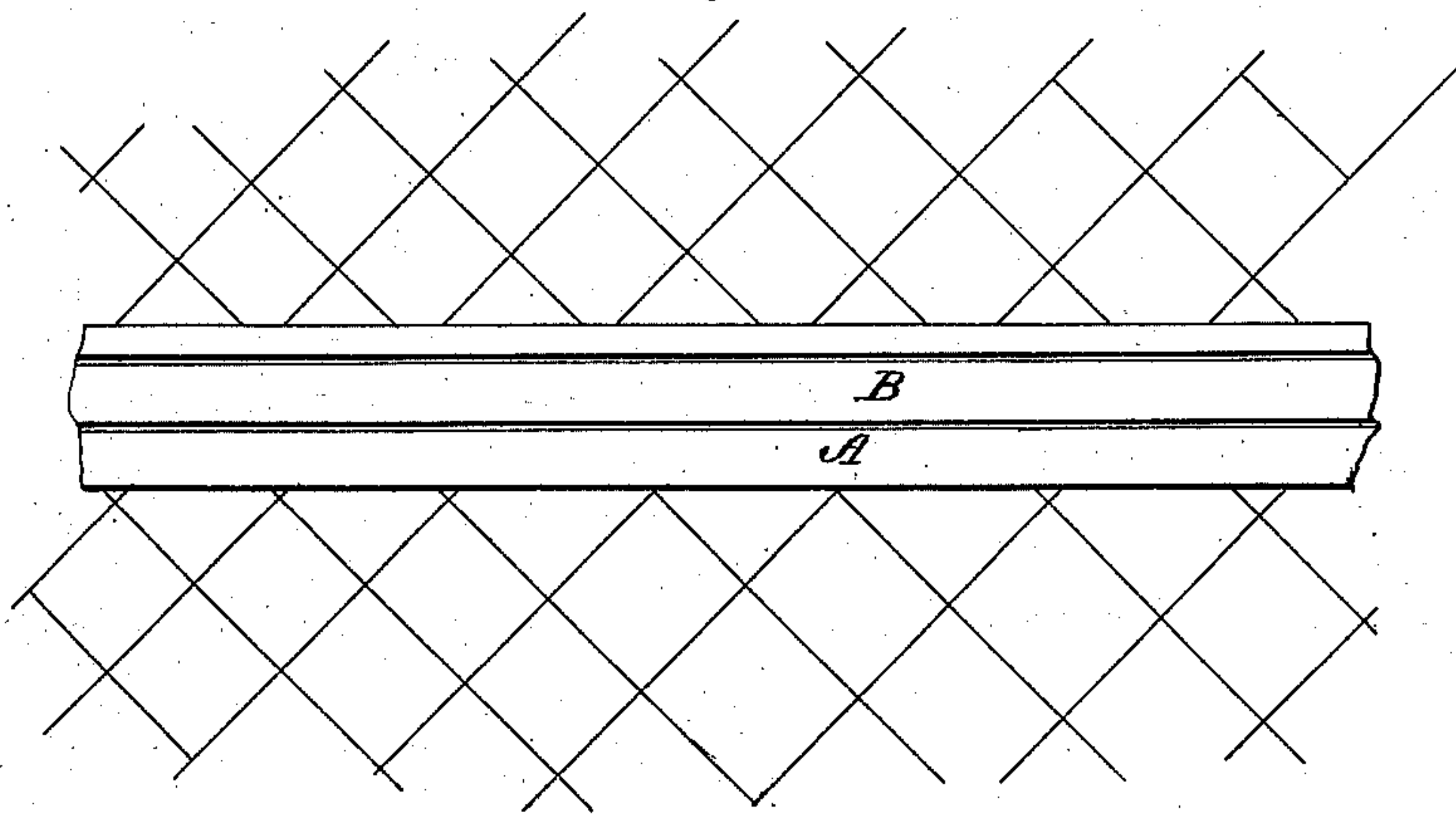


Fig. 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

C. M. EAKIN, OF WEST PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

EXCLUDING DIRT FROM GROOVED RAILROAD-RAILS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 12,505, dated March 13, 1855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, C. M. EAKIN, of West Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a
5 new and useful Improvement in Railroad-Tracks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of
10 this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a transverse section of a rail with my improvement applied, and, Fig. 2, a plan of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.
15

The grooves of the grooved rails now commonly used for rail-roads passing through cities, are very liable to become filled with dirt, which is not unfrequently
20 the cause of the cars getting off the tracks.

This invention consists in the application within the groove of india-rubber or some other elastic material that will yield to the flanges of the rail-road wheels as they pass
25 over it, but after the wheels leave it free, will spring up again level with the face of the rail, and thus prevent the dirt of the street getting into the groove, or preventing any remaining therein that may have been
30 forced in by the wheels of vehicles running through the streets.

A, is the rail which is, or may be of the usual form for grooved rails.

B, B, are heavy strips of vulcanized
35 india-rubber entirely filling the groove to

the level of the face of the rail. A single strip of the required width and depth, or two or more strips may be used. This filling of india-rubber will be compressed by the weight of the cars, as the flanges of the
40 wheels pass over it, and will allow the treads of the wheels always to bear properly on the faces of the rails, but as soon as the wheels pass over it, every part will resume its natural position.
45

Instead of india-rubber, any other elastic filling may be used. It may be practicable to employ steel springs in the grooves, and some flexible covering that will be raised by the said springs to the level of the faces of
50 the rails, and therefore though I prefer to employ india-rubber, my invention is not limited to the employment of that material, but embraces any elastic filling for the groove.
55

By thus filling the grooves, the rails may be laid flush with the streets; and thus offer no obstruction to the various vehicles running through the streets.

What I claim as my invention and desire
60 to secure by Letters Patent is,

The application of an elastic filling to the groove which is formed in the track to receive the flanges of the wheels, substantially as, and for the purposes herein set forth.

C. M. EAKIN.

Witnesses:

F. DE L. EAKIN,
JAMES ALLEN.