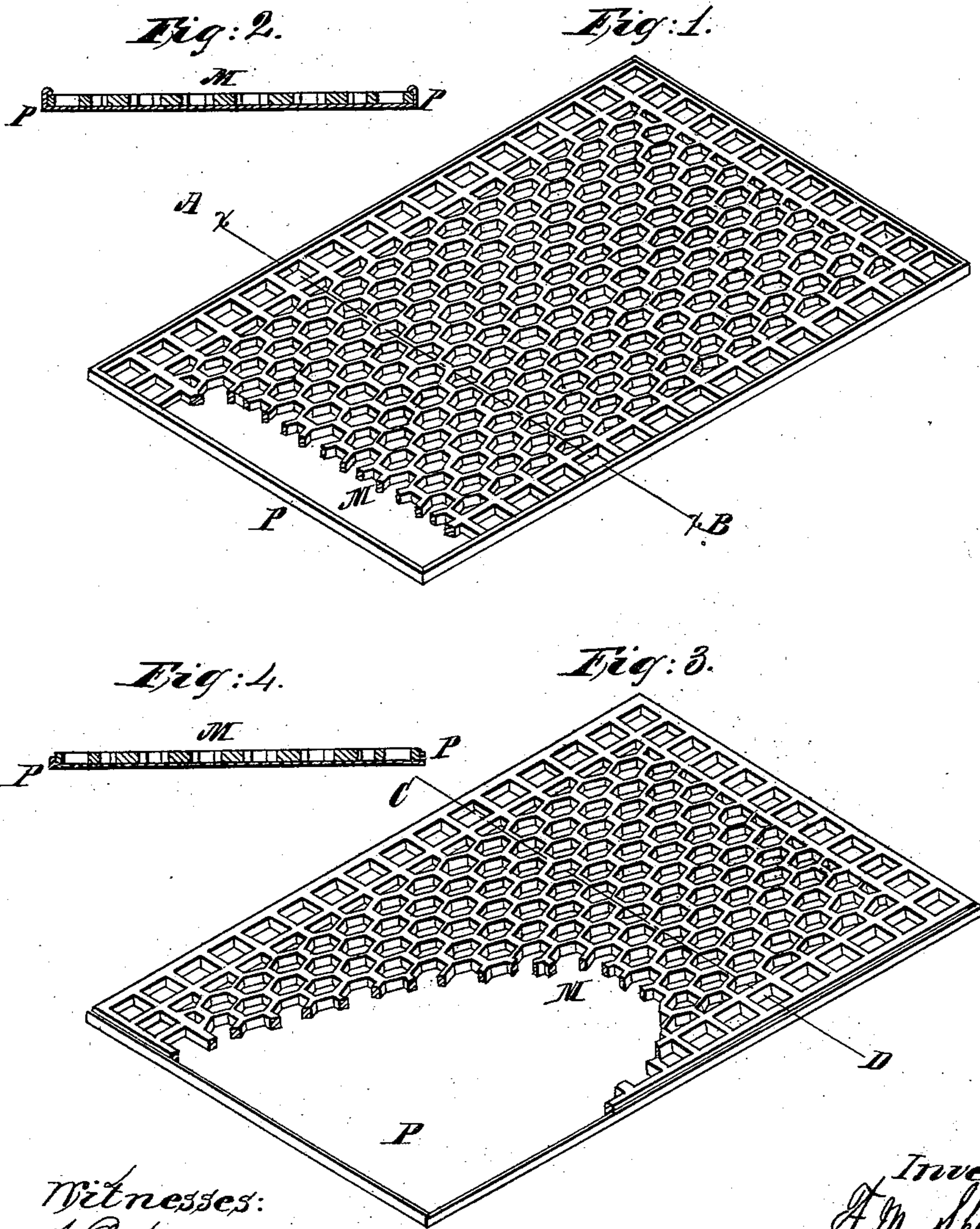


F. M. Shepard,
Rubber Mat.

N^o 82,647.

Patented Sept. 29, 1868.



Witnesses:
A. Barbarin
Wm. D. McNamee

Inventor:
F. M. Shepard
by A. Hollob
his atty

United States Patent Office.

FREDERICK M. SHEPARD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 82,647, dated September 29, 1868.

IMPROVED RUBBER MAT.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

Be it known that I, FREDERICK M. SHEPARD, of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mats; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an isometrical perspective view of a mat, constructed in accordance with my said invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional elevation of the same on line A B in fig. 1.

Figure 3 is an isometrical perspective view of a modified form of said mat.

Figure 4, a section of the same on line C D in fig. 3.

The object of my invention is the production of a mat combining the advantages of an elastic scraping-surface with the convenience of a detachable receptacle of the mud, dust, and other scrapings.

Rubber mats, as heretofore constructed, consisted of a cellular grating made in one piece with a receptacle or pan, or of a pan or receptacle provided with projecting studs or points, the latter acting as a scraping-brush.

The objections attending mats as heretofore made, are—

First. When the cellular grating is used, it being much thinner on the upper side than at the bottom, and also than the receptacle, it is more highly heated during the vulcanizing process, and consequently becomes more stiff and brittle, and is therefore more readily worn out than the other parts of the mat.

Second. When the points are used, inasmuch as they are exposed to great flexure, unless they are made of very pure and therefore expensive rubber, they will be easily broken off by the scraping of the feet thereon.

Third. In either case the dirt is apt to clog in between the projecting parts of the mat, and thus rendering the cleaning of the mat difficult, and often impossible, without the aid of water.

These and other objections attending the old mats are obviated by my improvement.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which the same is or may be carried into effect.

The mat is composed of two parts, M and P. The former is a cellular web of uniform thickness throughout. I prefer to use hexagonal cells, with a border of quadrangular cells, the whole being of the usual width and length.

In connection with the cellular mat, I use a pan or receptacle, provided with a flange or border, snugly fitting the cellular sheet. The pan P may be made of rubber, tin, papier-mache, or other suitable material, and its border may or may not project above the upper surface of the cellular web.

In figs. 1 and 2, I have shown the cellular web, combined with a snugly-fitting tin pan, the flanges of which project above the upper surface of the cells, so as to afford an additional rigid scraping-surface.

In figs. 3 and 4, a like mat and pan are shown, the flanges of the latter being below the surface of the cells.

I have described the mat constructed in a manner I deem most practicable, but I would observe that the receptacle need not necessarily be provided with a flange. The cellular rubber web may be held to a tin or other plate by means of two or more projecting studs or tenons on the plate, fitting two or more corresponding cells in the web, so that the web cannot be moved off the plate, while the scrapings will remain confined within the cells, provided the rubber web fit tightly on the plate.

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

The combination of a cellular rubber web, substantially as described, with a detachable plate or receptacle, whether the same be flanged or not.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification before two subscribing witnesses.

FREDERICK M. SHEPARD.

Witnesses:

R. H. PEASE, Jr.,

G. W. FROST.