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15. BRUSHING, SCROBBING,
& GENERAL CLEANING.
216

Draftsm.

J. W. CLELAND.
FLOOR COVERING.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 10, 1900.

807,742.

Patented Dec. 20, 1904.

Fig. 1.

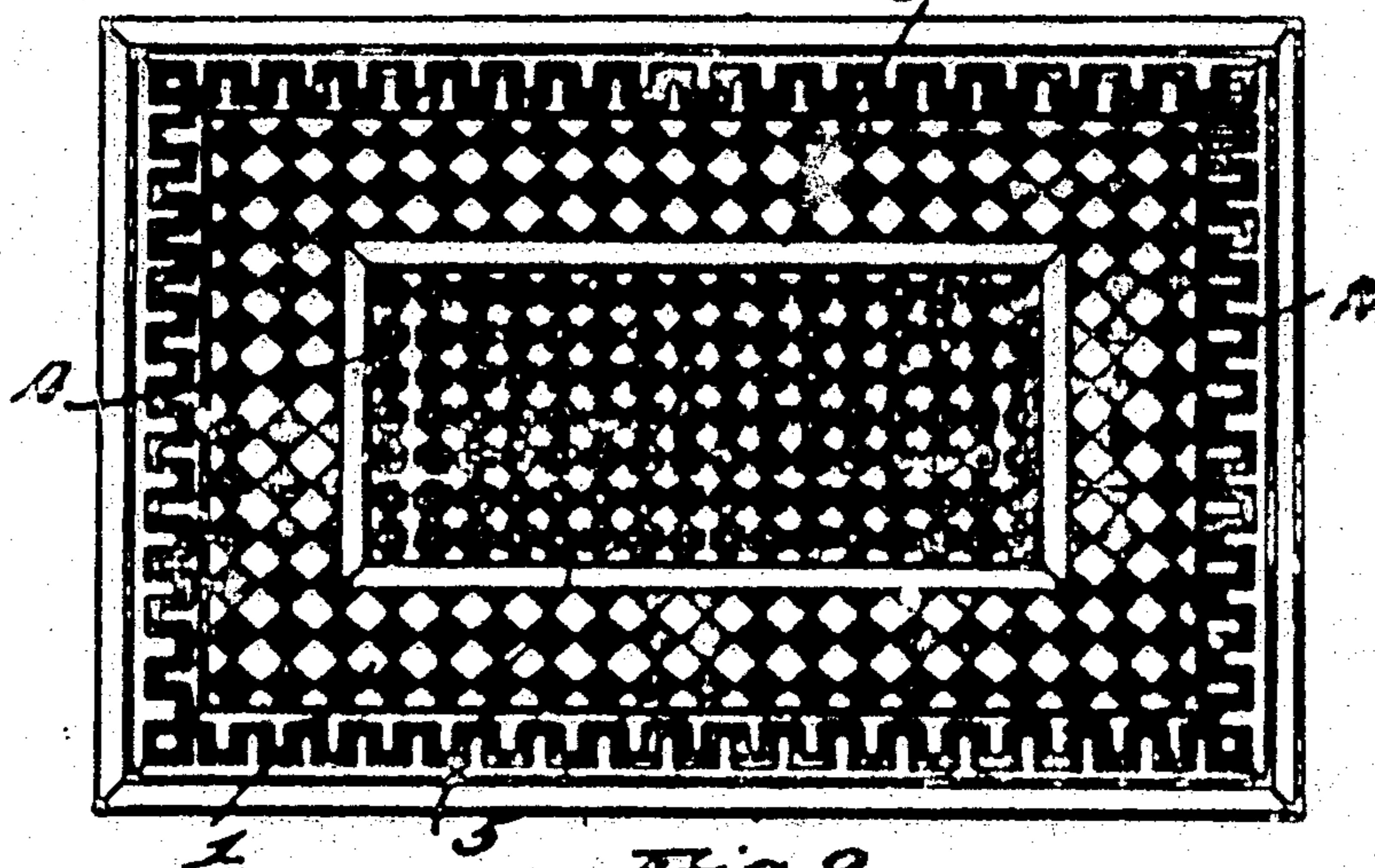


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

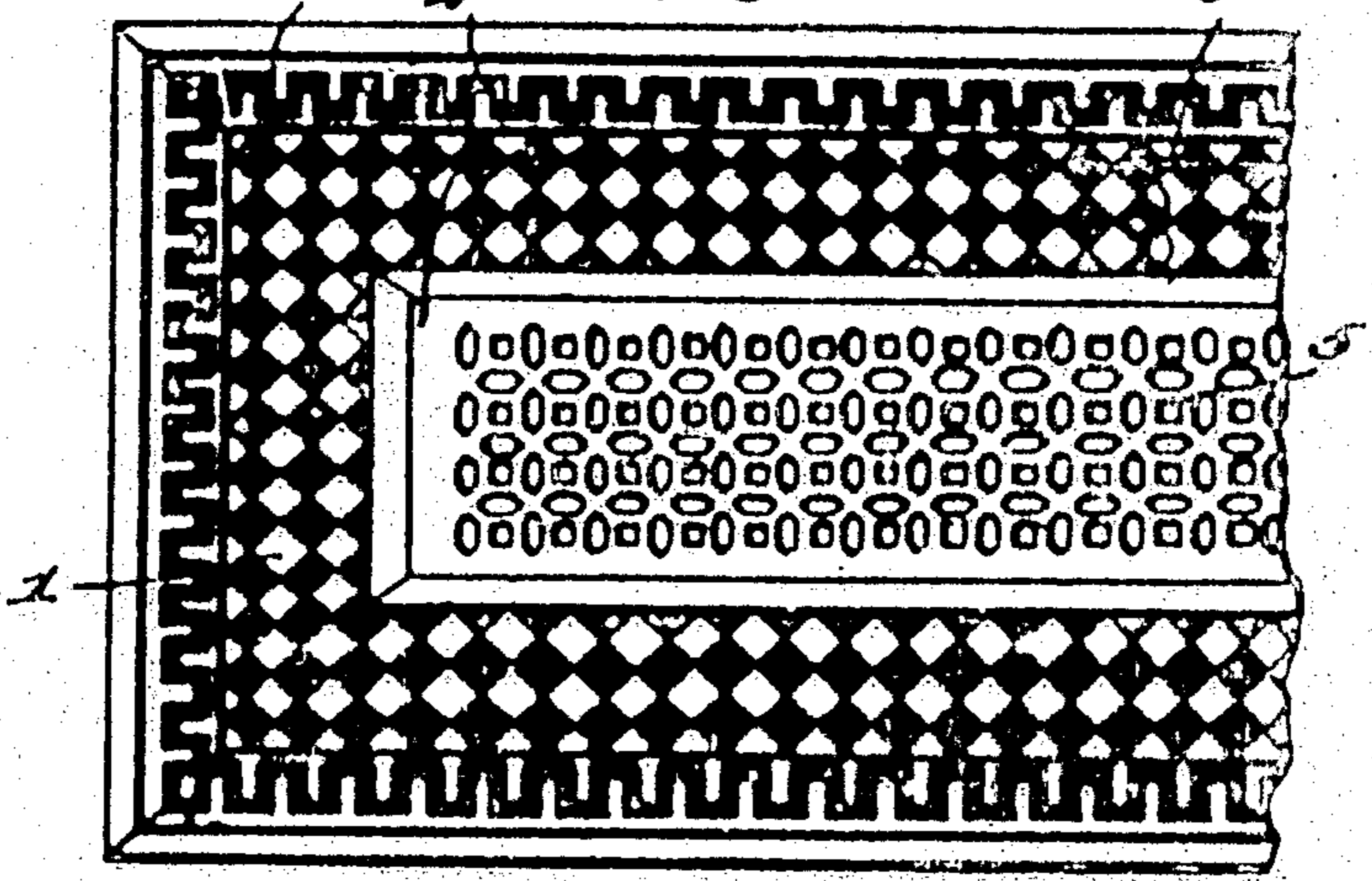


Fig. 4.



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FLOOR-COVERING.

No. 907,742.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 29, 1903.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. CLELAND, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Floor-Coverings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to floor coverings, and particularly mats and other coverings of rubber of the type ordinarily termed rubber flooring or tiling.

The invention contemplates an improvement in a rubber tiling or flooring of the sheet and individual block type, in which the mat when laid, forms a solid sheet of material having a tile finish or inlaid tile surface, or of the mosaic or block type, i. e., constructed of sheets, blocks or sections joined in any suitable manner to produce a desired form, pattern or type of covering or tread surface.

The invention is not limited in its application to either of the specified types of tiling, and is designed to provide a covering of this character having removable gratings or sections formed with perforations in which dirt and dust deposited on the surface may collect until the regular time for cleaning, thus preventing the dirt, otherwise lying on the surface, from being tracked over the mat and adapting the latter to be kept in a presentable condition at all times, the construction being such that upon the removal of the grating or perforated section or sections of the mat or covering may be quickly, thoroughly and conveniently cleaned.

In the accompanying drawings;—Figure 1 is a top plan view of a mat embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross section of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a portion of a slightly different type of mat, showing a modification in the formation of the cells of the grating. Fig. 4 is a cross section of the same.

For convenience, I will hereinafter term the covering a "mat", although it will be understood that such term is to be construed as contemplating any style of rubber tile floor covering.

1 in the drawing designates the body of the mat, which may have any desired surface finish, and may be provided or not with a

suitable border 2. The solid body may be formed of a single sheet of material having a tile surface finish produced in any desired way, or be constructed of a series of individual tile blocks or sections, cemented down or otherwise held in place, as shown. The mat is provided with a central receiving space or recess 3 to receive a grating or removable central section or sections 4, provided with a plurality of perforations, 5. This grating is preferably of the same thickness as the mat and in any event desirably lies flush with the upper surface of the solid body, and may differ in configuration and softness therefrom as desired. The perforations 5 receive a large proportion of the dirt and dust deposited upon the mat and usually tracked across the surface of the same, adapting the mat to always present a neat appearance. At the regular time the grating may be removed, thus allowing the dirt and dust to be quickly and conveniently dislodged and the mat thoroughly cleaned.

By making the grating or removable section or sections of a different or contrasting appearance or finish from the body of the mat, a mat of exceedingly attractive or pleasing appearance may be provided.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

A rubber mat or floor covering comprising a body portion composed of a series of blocks or tiles cemented together, and having an open space arranged centrally in said body portion, provided with a straight vertical surrounding wall, a grating section having a straight vertical surrounding wall removably fitted in the open space with its surrounding wall contacting with the surrounding wall of said open space and having its upper and lower surfaces flush with the upper and lower surfaces of the body portion, said grating section having receiving perforations and said grating and said body portion each having a surrounding border, substantially as specified.

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

JAMES W. CLELAND.

Witnesses:

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WM. E. MILLARD.