F. ALCAN.

BACKING FOR TILES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 10, 1910.

984,637. Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

Fig. 1.

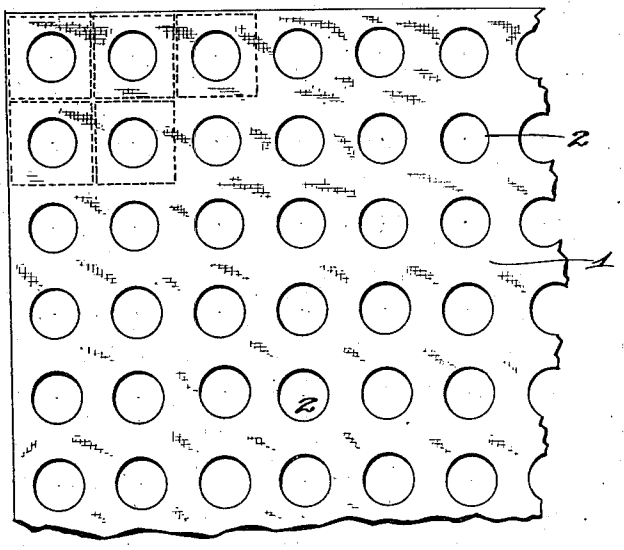


Fig. 2.

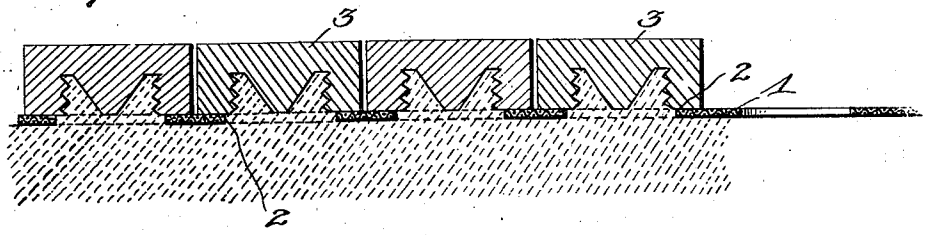
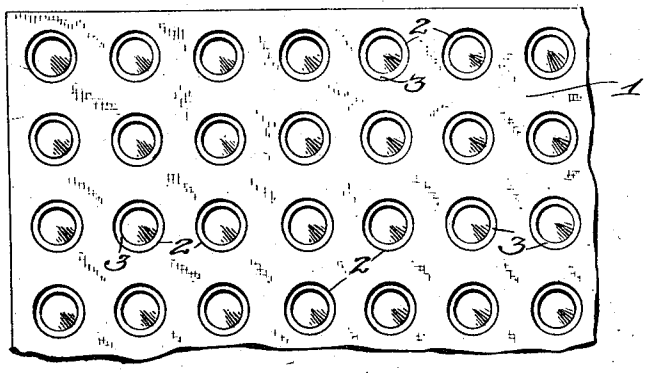


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FELIX ALCAN, OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

BACKING FOR TILES.

984,637. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

Application filed January 10, 1910. Serial No. 537,303.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FELIX ALCAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Scranton, in the county of Lackawanna and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Backing for Tiles; 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.

This invention relates to improvements in backings for tiles.

One object of the invention is to provide means whereby the tiles are secured together on their back or under sides so that the outer surfaces of the tiles and the design formed thereby may be seen by the tile setter.

Another object is to provide a backing of this character which will prevent the passage of the grouting between the tiles and which is particularly adapted for use in connection with the improved form of tiles shown and described in my pending application for patent, Serial Number 531,987, filed December 8, 1909.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved tile backing; Fig. 2 is a sectional view through a section of tiling showing the application and manner of using my improved backing; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the under side of the backing with the tiles secured to the opposite side thereof.

My improved backing 1 is formed from a suitable fabric in which is arranged at regular intervals, a series of apertures or perforations 2, which may be of any suitable shape but which are here shown and are preferably of circular form. The backing material 1 which I preferably employ consists of a specially prepared fabric, one or both sides of which are glazed, and to one side of the fabric is secured the tiles, the latter being permanently held in place on the backing by insoluble glue. The tiles when thus secured to the backing have their outer or face surfaces uppermost, so that any designs represented by the tiles may be readily seen by the tile setter.

When using the backing in connection with the form of tile shown in the first three figures of the drawings of my pending application hereinbefore referred to, the tiles 3 are arranged over the apertures or perforations 2 in the backing with the recessed portion of the under side of the tile over the apertures 2 in the backing, said apertures being somewhat larger than the recesses in the tiles to permit the cement to flow readily into the tile sockets. In the present instance, the tiles 3 are shown to be of rectangular shape instead of circular as shown in the application referred to. When the tiles have thus been arranged on and secured to the backing, the latter is placed upon the cement bed or grouting and upon the application of proper pressure to the tiles, the cement will be forced upwardly through the apertures in the backing and into the recesses formed in the tiles, thereby securely locking the tiles and the backing in position through said apertures while the intermediate strips between the several apertures serve to prevent the entrance of the cement into the spaces between the tiles.

It will thus be seen that in addition to the objects and advantages of my improved backing as hereinbefore set forth that said backing also prevents the passage of the cement grouting upwardly between the tiles. The advantage of securing the tiles in place without the necessity of using the common form of grouting between the same will be readily apparent as it is a well known fact that in setting tiles in the usual manner that the cement between the tiles causes the latter, especially when of the white or light colors, to present a more or less dirty appearance from the dust occasioned by the wearing of the cement grouting between the tiles. If desired, sufficient space may be left between the tiles, so that in connection with color work, a suitable filling corresponding to the colors of the tiles may be placed between the same from the upper side thereof.

In arranging the tiles on my improved backing, the latter may be formed in strips or pieces of much larger size than is possible in the usual arrangement of the tiles on paper wherein the latter is secured to the outer surfaces of the tiles, thus hiding the design which cannot be seen until after the paper has been washed off, whereupon it frequently occurs that the design has been misplaced or disarranged to such an extent as

to require the resetting of a great many of the tiles. In the use of my improved backing, the same may be provided in sizes as large as can be handled and the tiles laid or set without danger of misplacing and from which the backing is not removed, but remains permanently in place between the tiles and the grouting, except where the latter is pressed up through the apertures in the backing and into the recesses in the tiles, whereby the latter are anchored in position.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention, as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. In combination with a plurality of tiles, each having a socket in its under face, of a backing sheet therefor, comprising a flexible water-proof fabric having apertures therein to register with the sockets in the tile, and with imperforate portions arranged between the apertures to cover the joints between the tile, substantially as specified.

2. The combination with a plurality of tiles, each having a socket in its under face, of a backing sheet therefor comprising a water proof flexible fabric having apertures larger than the sockets in the tile and with imperforate portions arranged to cover the joints between the tile.

3. The combination with a plurality of tiles spaced from each other each having a socket in its under side and a binding medium for securing the same in position, of a backing sheet therefor, said backing sheet having a plurality of apertures therein arranged to aline with the openings of the sockets to allow the entrance of the binding medium to the sockets in the tiles and intermediate strips to prevent the entrance of said binding medium to the spaces between the tiles.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FELIX ALCAN.

Witnesses:

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