

W. WESTLAKE.
STOVE-PLATFORM.

No. 177,600.

Patented May 16, 1876.

Fig. 1.

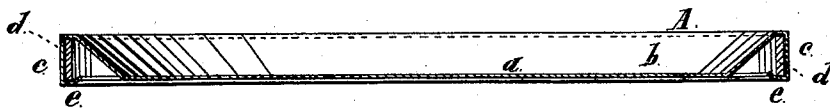
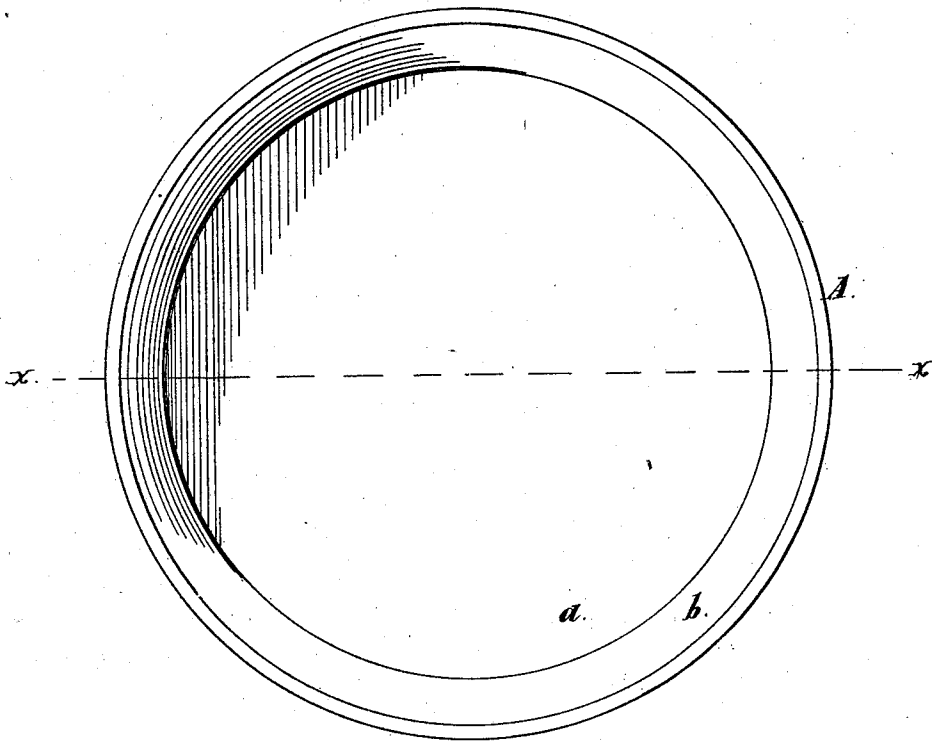


Fig. 2.

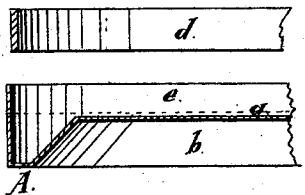


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

Geo. Bond -
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Per

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WESTLAKE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN STOVE-PLATFORMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,600**, dated May 16, 1876; application filed May 1, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WESTLAKE, of the city of Chicago, Cook county, State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Platforms for Stoves, of which the following is a full description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view; Fig. 2, a vertical section at *xx* of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a detail.

It is customary to use sheet-zinc in the manufacture of platforms for stoves; but the nature of the metal is such that it is easily bruised and bent. To support the metal an interior of wood has been used; it answers the purpose well, but involves considerable extra expense.

The object of my invention is to make a platform for stoves of sheet-zinc, which shall have an edge which will not warp or turn up in use; and this I accomplish by providing the platform with a vertical edge about three-eighths of an inch, or one-half of an inch, in width, strengthened and supported by the insertion of a hoop of iron, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the drawings, *A* represents a completed board. The main and central portion *a* is shown flat, though it might be corrugated near the center, if desired. *b* is a beveled edge, extending up from the main portion *a* at a suitable angle until it reaches a point about three-eighths of an inch, or one-half of an inch, above *a*, at which point the metal is turned over and then down, forming an edge, *c*, which is vertical, or nearly so, to *a*. *d* is a metal hoop inserted within the edge *c*, and held in place by turning the zinc over, as represented at *e*. This hoop *d* must be of such size as to resist any pressure to which it is liable to be subjected, and it will support and strengthen the edge of the board so perfectly that it will not warp or spring, and will not be bruised or injured by any ordinary use, it being capable of bearing the entire weight of a person without bending or yielding. The lower and turned-over edge *e* I prefer to make on a plane a little below the main portion *a*

of the board, so that the edge will always rest upon the floor.

I have only shown a round board; but the same construction is adapted to be used with oval boards, and with square and oblong boards having round corners.

In manufacturing it will be found convenient to stamp the metal into the form shown in Fig. 3; then the hoop can be dropped into its place, and the edge *c* turned over to hold it.

It will be seen that the form of the completed board is such that any ashes or coals falling from the stove thereon will be caught and held by reason of the raised portion *b*.

This construction permits the use of very light zinc.

I have shown the part *b* at an angle of about forty-five degrees to *a*. I prefer this form; but the angle might be more or less—indeed, might be almost a right angle, except for the difficulty in manufacturing, and the fact that it will be much more difficult to keep the board clean.

The central portion *a* of the board is designed to be in contact, or nearly so, with the floor, so that the legs of the stove can stand directly thereon without having any additional support.

I am aware that zinc boards have been made of a single piece of zinc, circular or oval in form, the edge being strengthened by a piece of wire; but such boards will warp or spring in use, and the outer edge thereof will not, at all times, be in close contact with the floor. I do not claim, broadly, a zinc board having its edge stiffened in any possible manner; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

A platform for stoves, consisting of the central sheet *a*, raised portion *b*, and edge *c*, all made from a single piece of sheet metal, in combination with the hoop *d*, substantially as described.

WILLIAM WESTLAKE.

Witnesses:

E. A. WEST,
O. W. BOND.