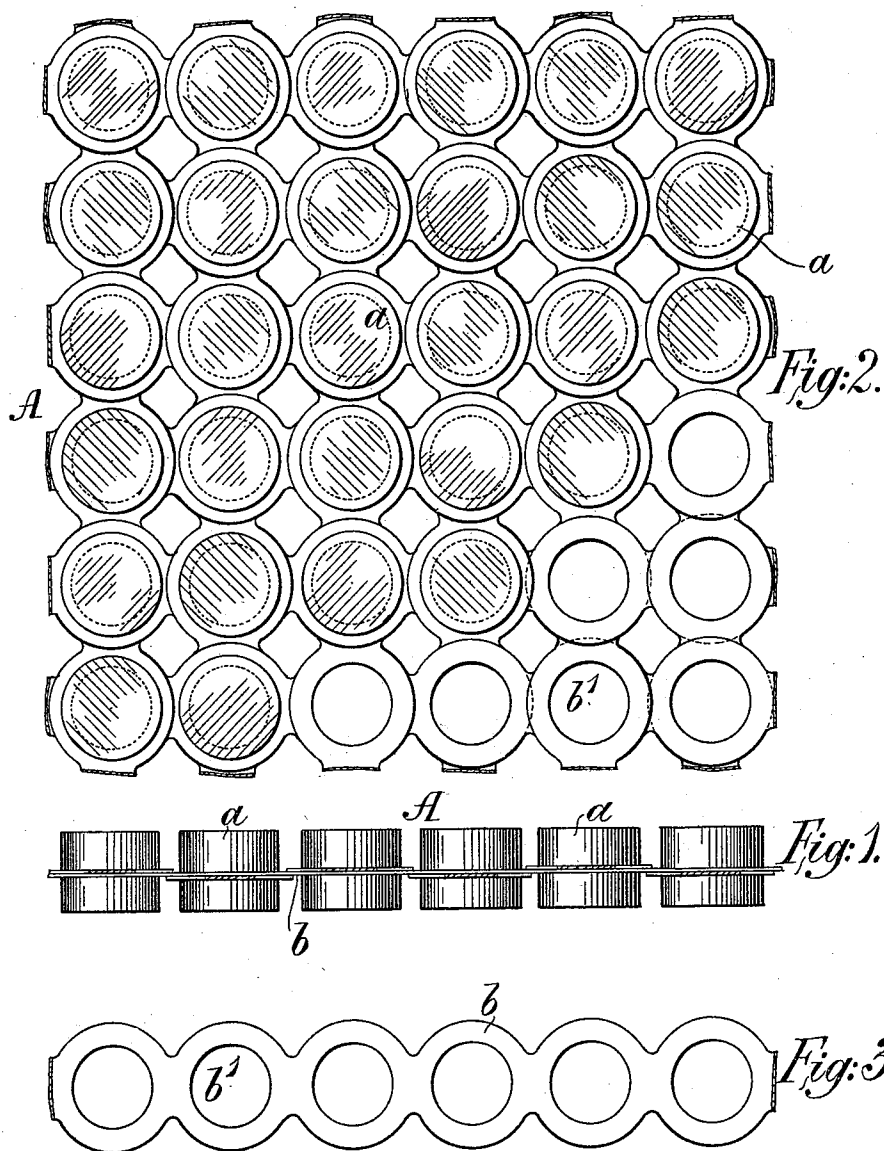


(No Model.)

W. J. ARMITAGE.  
FLOOR MAT.

No. 544,557.

Patented Aug. 13, 1895.



Witnesses:  
Thos. A. Green  
Wm. C. Smith

Inventor:  
William J. Armitage.  
By James L. Norris,  
Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. ARMITAGE, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

## FLOOR-MAT.

**SPECIFICATION** forming part of Letters Patent No. 544,557, dated August 13, 1895.

Application filed May 23, 1895. Serial No. 550,429. (No model.) Patented in England December 31, 1892, No. 24,139.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM JOSEPH ARMITAGE, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at 81 Bramley Road West, Notting Hill, in the county of Middlesex, England, have invented new and useful Improvements in Floor-Mats, (for which I have obtained Letters Patent in Great Britain, No. 24,139, dated December 31, 1892,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention is designed to produce a new and useful form of mat or similar floor-covering from a waste or comparatively-waste material, when such is available, and a holding material of small cost and great strength; but new or specially-made material may be employed.

In carrying out my invention I employ pliable open or trellis work of metal, and into some or all of the apertures in the metal trellis-work (preferably using sheet-zinc strips) I secure or force small lengths or cylindrical portions of india-rubber or analogous compounds, such as short sections of a disused cycle, carriage, or perambulator tire of uniform length, and these sections are held about their middle by metal laths or holding means, either by simple compression or by means of a shallow cut or slit in the rubber, in which the metal lath or wire becomes slightly embedded, thereby forming a locking between the rubber plugs and the metal connections and producing a pliable and flexible sheet of matting. When arranged in this manner in close series, a level surface may be obtained, reversible, as may be desired, to render the wear uniform or to facilitate removal of mud or accumulations of dirt. The omission of sections of india-rubber at intervals from the netting or holding metal laths, or the like, or the leaving of holes or passages in or between the sections, will facilitate passage of dirt or mud to the floor below.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows a side view of a portion of a mat A, (here shown as of sections *a* of rubber, circular in cross-section,) such as might be produced by cutting up a waste or disused tire of a perambulator, and these are locked by compression or otherwise fixing into metal laths. Fig. 2 is a plan view

of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows one of the metal strips in plan view separately.

The plugs or pieces of rubber *a* are held in relative position by means of crossed laths of metal, preferably zinc, each lath being formed, as a strip *b*, with a series of holes *b'*, so that two series of crossed laths are arranged, one set side by side interwoven with the other set similarly arranged, securing adequate flexibility. The pattern or order of arrangement of the pieces of rubber of the section selected may be varied, as well as the form of section, according to circumstances. The metal lath or holding material may also be varied to the use required. In cases of wear or loss of any of the plugs or sections it or their places can be filled by other pieces at once.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a floor-mat composed of a series of perforated interwoven slats, and plugs seated within the perforations of the slats, substantially as described.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a floor-mat composed of a series of interwoven metallic slats having perforations therethrough, the perforations of one slat registering with those of the overlapping slats, and rubber plugs seated within said perforations and projecting from each side of the slats, substantially as described.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a floor-mat consisting of a plurality of interwoven slats having perforations therethrough, the outer edges or peripheries of said slats being made irregular so as to form a plurality of dirt openings in the mat when the slats are placed in position; and rubber plugs seated within the perforations of the slats, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I, the said WILLIAM JOSEPH ARMITAGE, have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of May, 1895.

WILLIAM J. ARMITAGE.

Witnesses:

JAMES WETHERILL,  
ALFRED S. BROOKES.