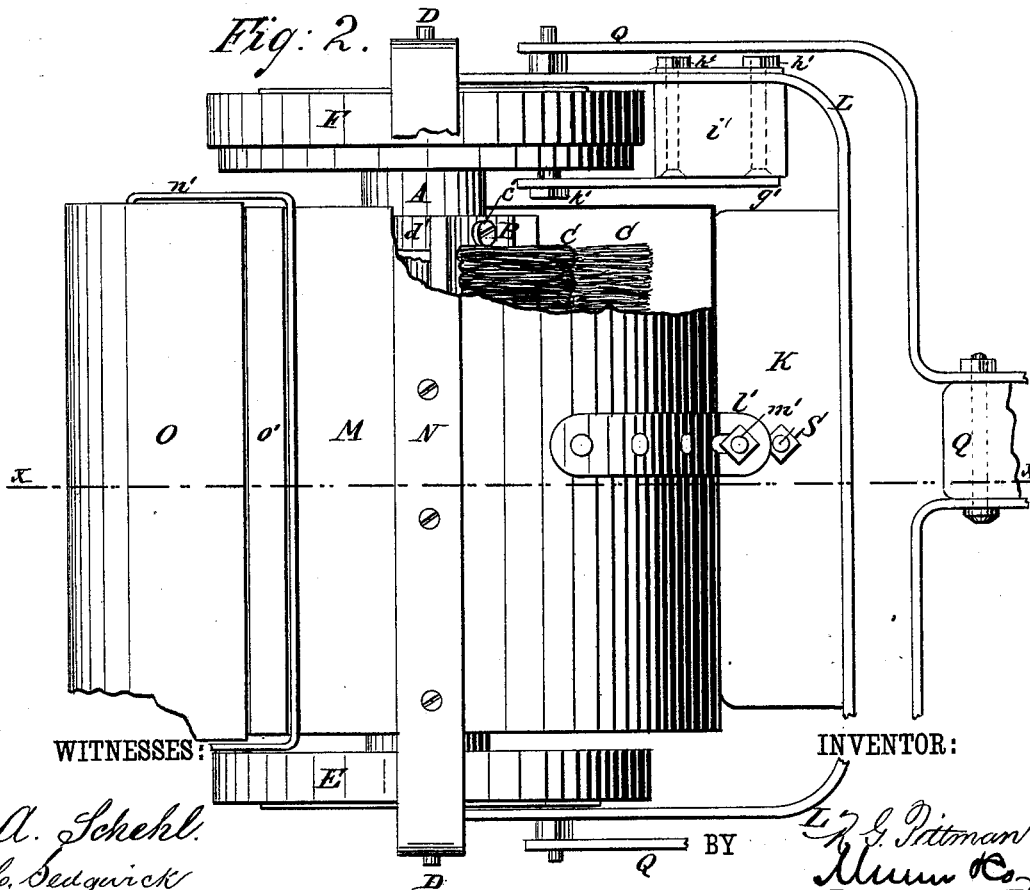
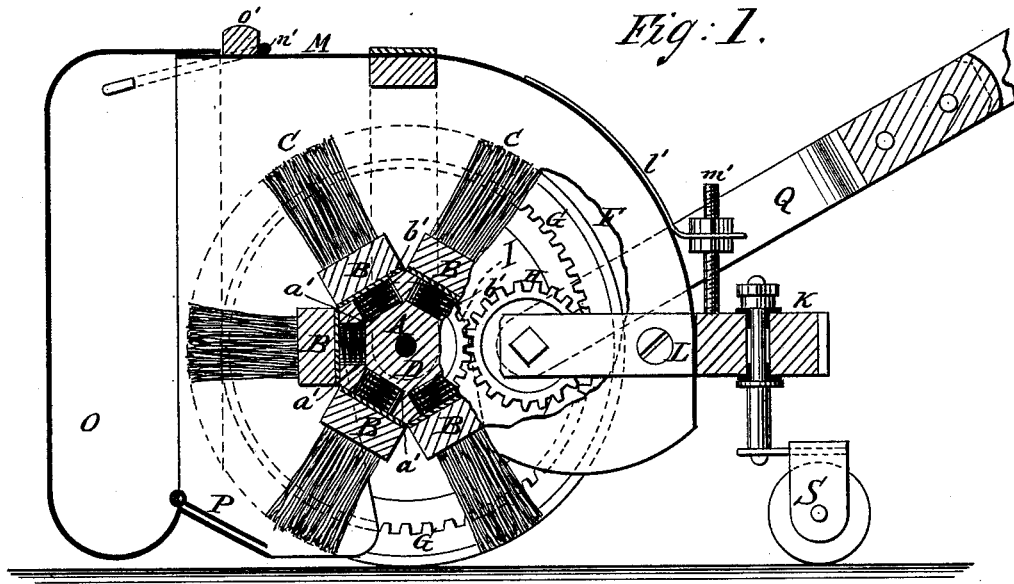


R. G. PITTMAN.
Sweeper.

No. 220,413.

Patented Oct. 7, 1879.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REDDIN G. PITTMAN, OF ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SWEEPERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,413**, dated October 7, 1879; application filed July 2, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REDDIN GRISHAM PITTMAN, of Rocky Mount, in the county of Edgecombe and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Sweeper, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of the device on line *xx*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a plan of the device, with parts broken away to show the interior.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish a device for sweeping streets, lawns, walks, floors, and carpets thoroughly and expeditiously without raising any dust.

The invention consists in certain novel combinations, which will first be particularly described in connection with the drawings, and then clearly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, A is the drum, provided midway of its length with sockets *a'*, in which are placed the spiral springs *b'*.

B are strips of wood or other material, each holding several rows of brushes, C, that are longitudinally secured on the drum, over the springs *b'*, by the screws *c'* at each end.

The ends of the screws are, preferably, set in metallic bands *d'*, which add stability and durability to the parts.

On turning out the screws *c'* the springs *b'* operate to press the brushes outward, and will continue to do so, if desirable, until the brushes are entirely worn out.

As the brushes are, perhaps, the most costly part of the device, the advantage of an arrangement that will permit them to be used up in effective work must be obvious to all.

Longitudinally through the drum passes the axle D, on each end of which is a wheel, preferably furnished with a rubber tire. The wheels E and F revolve loosely on the axle, while the wheel F (the driving-wheel) has attached to its inner face the annular internal gear-wheel G, that gears with the wheel H, which, in turn, engages with the gear-wheel I, that is fixed on the end of the drum A. Then it will be seen that, as the driving-wheel is made to revolve, it causes the drum to revolve in an opposite direction.

The stern-block K is securely held in posi-

tion by the straps L, that are bent around the ends of the device outside of the large wheels, and held onto the axle by nuts. Inside of the strap L that is nearest the driving-wheel is a strap or arm, *g'*, which is held firmly on the other side of the driving-wheel and parallel with L by the bolts *h'*, that pass through both L and *g'* and the block *i'*, that holds them the required distance apart. The pin *k'*, projecting at right angles from this strap *g'*, serves as the axle for the gear-wheel H.

The slotted ends of the cover M are set over and about the ends of the drum, and the yoke N, which is riveted or otherwise fastened along the top of the cover, has its ends punched and bent down and sprung over the ends of the axle, in order to hold the cover down in position. Attached to the cover is also an ear, *v'*, having a slotted end, bent off at about a right angle, which fits over an upright post or stem, *m'*, that projects upward from the stern-block. On this post *m'* is a pair of nuts, one above and the other below the end of the ear, and by their means the rear and forward ends of the cover are raised and lowered at will, so as to regulate the position of the apron.

The dust-pan O is suspended in front by throwing the wire loop *n'* over the cleat or bar *o'* on top of the cover, and in the bottom of this pan is hinged a plate of sheet metal, P, which is called the "apron." When in operation this apron nearly touches the floor, and up this incline the brushes throw or whip the dust, &c. As the lower end of the dust-pan comes near the floor, should any substance of small size come under it the apron allows it to pass under; but should there be any obstruction of a half-inch in diameter or larger, the dust-pan itself will rise up and pass over it.

The handle Q is simply to guide and operate the machine. It is secured on pins that project from the straps L, and can be taken off by springing its arms open.

Projecting downward from the center of the stern-block is the caster S, on which the machine can be turned around in a small space.

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

1. The within-described sweeper, consisting of drum A, provided with sockets *a'*, spiral

springs *b'*, and metallic bands *d'*, strips B, provided with brushes C and screws *c'*, axle D, wheel E, driving-wheel F, provided with internal annular gear G, gear-wheels H and I, stern-block K, straps L, strap *g'*, provided with pin *k'*, bolts *h'*, block *i'*, cover M, provided with yoke N, cleat or bar *o'*, and ear *l'*, dust-pan O, provided with loop *n'* and apron P, stem or post *m'*, caster S, and handle Q, constructed and arranged substantially as herein shown and described.

2. In a sweeper, the combination of the stern-block K, straps L and *g'*, pin *k'*, bolts *h'*, block

i', cover M, yoke N, bar *o'*, ear *l'*, dust-pan O, provided with loop *n'* and apron P, post *m'*, and caster S, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. In the combination of a sweeper, the cover M, provided with yoke N, bar *o'*, and ear *l'*, dust-pan O, loop *n'*, and apron P, substantially as herein shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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