

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEFFERSON H. JENINGS, OF OQUAWKA, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SEWER-CLEANERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 142,238, dated August 26, 1873; application filed July 28, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEFFERSON H. JENINGS, of Oquawka, in the county of Henderson and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sewer-Cleaners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a sewer-cleaner, composed of a man-trap, a mud-trap, and a crane, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional view, and Fig. 2 is a bottom view, of the mud-trap.

A represents a man-trap, built of brick, in the shape of a square box, at a street-corner where deposits of mud, &c., are liable to be made, or at the intersection of two sewers.

In the drawing, a man-trap for only one sewer is represented, by the two apertures *a* and *b*. The aperture *a* has a slide, B, attached, and is intended to designate where the water is supposed to flow in, and the aperture *b* designates the exit of the water.

The slide B is for the double purpose of shutting off the water when the mud-trap is raised, and for the purpose of flushing the sewer by the backwater, so that when the mud-trap is replaced the sewer will be thoroughly washed by the increased flow. C represents the mud-trap, which is also made in the shape of a square box, and of such size as to pass down through the man-trap A. When in use the mud-trap C is at the bottom of the man-trap, the bottom of the same being on a level with the bottom of the sewer. The mud-trap is to be made of cast-iron, and provided with two hinged doors, D D, forming the bottom, and these doors are held closed by means of keys or cains *e e*, attached to crank-levers *d d*. In the corners of the mud-trap C are suitable eyes or hooks for the attachment of

rods *f f*, which are to be attached to the lifting-rope *h* of the crane E. In the doors D D are rings *i i*, for the purpose of lifting the same in position when the load is dumped. The mud-trap being below the level of the sewer, all heavy particles in the water will be precipitated, and can be removed and the trap returned in a few minutes. The crane E is constructed in the ordinary way, and is mounted on a wagon, the central cord *h* on the same being for the purpose of raising and lowering the mud-trap. The outside cord *k*, which, in a full-sized machine, should work on pulleys, is for the double purpose of swinging the crane, and for pulling up the bottom D D of the mud-trap after the load is dropped into a cart.

To work this machine three men are required—No. 1 to drive the hoisting-machine, No. 2 on the street, and No. 3 to drive the cart to haul off the mud. For instance, No. 1 drives in position; No. 2 shuts off the water by pushing down the slide B in the side of the man-trap, and makes fast the hoist to the mud-trap; No. 1 hoists up; No. 2 swings the crane so as to place the mud-trap over the cart; No. 3 throws around the levers *d d*, and the mud drops in the cart; No. 2 unlooses the outside rope *k* from the belay, and drops the end inside the mud-trap; No. 3 passes the rope through one of the rings *i*, and catches the toggle to the second ring *i*; No. 2 pulls the rope, whereby the bottom D D of the mud-trap is drawn up; No. 3 turns the levers *d d*, whereby the bottom is fastened; No. 2 swings the crane and places the mud-trap over the sewer-opening; No. 1 lowers the mud-trap to the bottom; No. 2 detaches the chains of the hoist, opens the sewer by pulling up the slide B, and the sewer is cleaned and once more in running order.

It is intended that there shall be a mud-trap at each point in the sewer where it may be deemed necessary to insure perfect cleanliness, and a slide to shut off every sewer that may enter where there is a mud-trap. Only one or two hoisting-machines will be necessary.

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

1. In combination with a man-trap for sewers, a removable mud-trap located at or below the level of the sewer or sewers entering said man-trap, for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The man-trap A, provided with a slide, B, at the mouth of each sewer entering the same, and an exit-opening, *b*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

3. The mud-trap C, provided with hinged bottom D D, keys *e e*, and levers *d d*, as and for the purposes herein set forth.

4. The combination of the man-trap A with slide or slides B, mud-trap C with bottom D D, and crane E, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JEFFERSON HARRY JENINGS.

Witnesses:

G. F. W. FROEHLISH,

ELI W. SMITH.

J. H. JENINGS.
Sewer-Cleaners.

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Witnesses
John A. Ellis
E. L. Palmer.

Inventor
Jefferson Harry Jennings
Per
C. H. Watson & Co
Attys