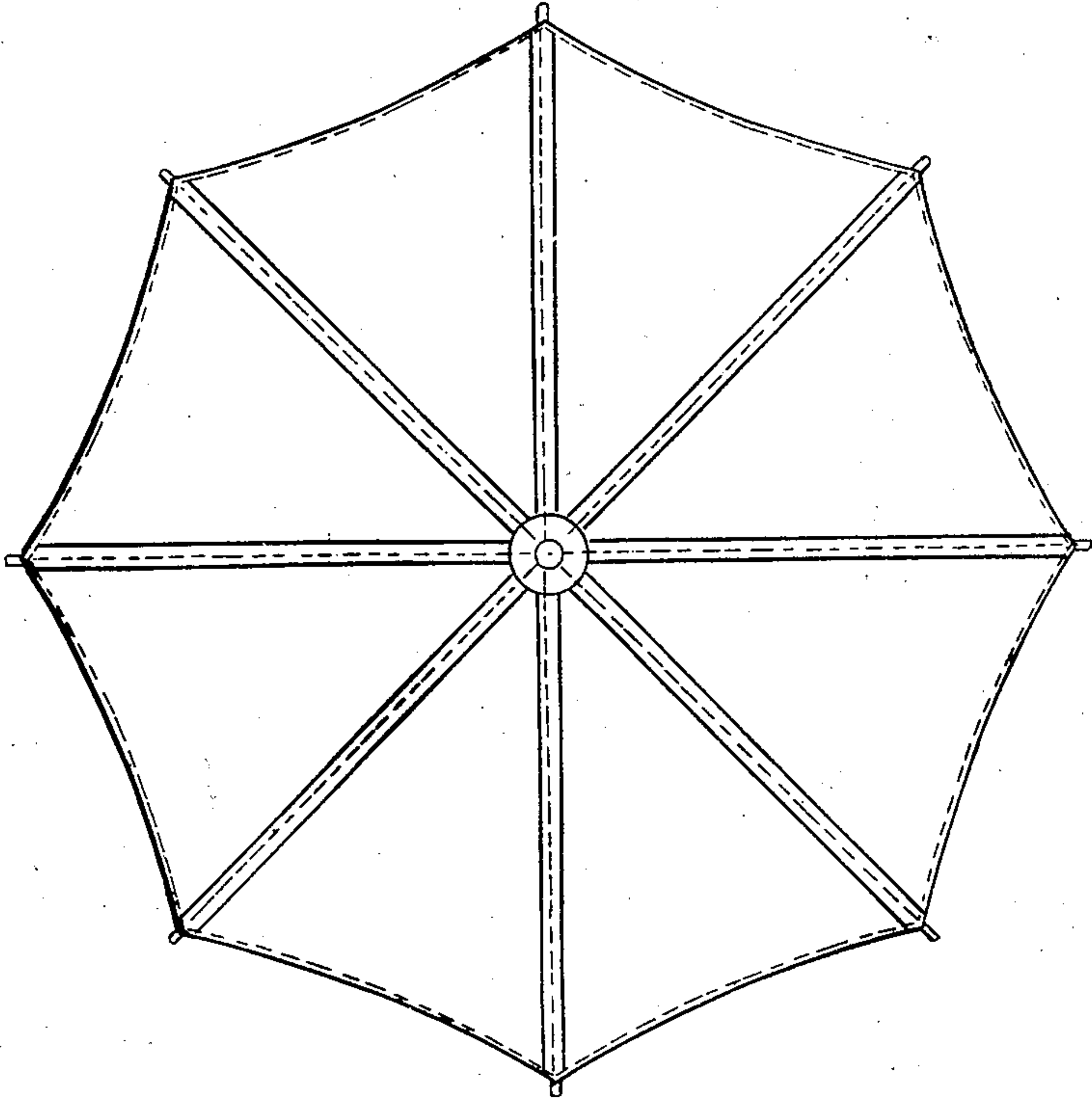


Geo. Stearns & Co.
Chicago, Ill.

Witness,

J. H. Walker
Per J. H. Walker
9th



No. 60,597.

J. H. Walker.
Umbrella.

Patented, Dec. 18, 1866.

United States Patent Office.

IMPROVEMENT IN INDIA-RUBBER-COVERED UMBRELLAS.

JAMES H. WALKER, OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY.

Letters Patent No. 60,597, dated December 18, 1866.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. WALKER, of Bergen, in the county of Hudson, and State of New Jersey, have invented, made, and applied to use, a certain new and useful Improvement in India-Rubber Umbrellas; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing making part of this specification, wherein I have shown a plan view of my said improvement.

Umbrellas heretofore made have not been water-proof; in heavy rains, the water beats through the woven fabric composing such umbrella, and the same becomes saturated, and the water runs from the same for a long while after being stood aside to dry. Besides this, the rain washes out the coloring matter, leaving the fabric of a faded appearance, and the alternate wetting and drying soon rots the covering; besides this, the steel ribs, stretchers, and wires, are quickly rusted out, in consequence of the dampness to which they are exposed. Efforts have been made to remedy these difficulties by the use of a covering of sheet rubber, but the same has to be of a quality that will stretch to the shape of the umbrella when open; the rubber is heavy, expensive, easily torn, and not of an attractive or acceptable appearance. The nature of my said invention consists in a covering for umbrellas formed of a woven fabric, rendered water-proof by a coating of India rubber, which also aids in uniting the sections of said fabric composing the covering. This umbrella covering is a new article of manufacture, and overcomes all the objections before enumerated. I take silk, or any other strong woven fabric not too heavy, and of the desired color; I coat the same with India rubber, by any of the known methods, and cut it out in sections of the proper size and shape, and unite those edges by means of India-rubber cement. Sewing may also be resorted to, and the India rubber is to be cured or vulcanized, to prevent its sticking, surface to surface, when the umbrella is rolled up. The mode of manufacturing the India-rubber fabric and curing the same is similar to that employed in making flat sheets of India-rubber cloth, and does not require any farther description, the same being well known, and I remark that the water-proof fabric may be cured or vulcanized in the flat sheets, or, if desired, after the edges of the sections have been united by cement. The cover thus formed is to be applied as usual to the umbrella frame, and is an effectual water-proof covering, that protects the person when in use, retains scarcely any water, hence will not continue to run when closed, and will dry quickly, and completely protects the frame from injury by rust.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The India-rubber umbrella covering, formed in the manner specified, as a new article of manufacture.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my signature this 9th day of April, A. D. 1866.

JAS. H. WALKER.

Witnesses:

GEO. D. WALKER,

CHAS. H. SMITH.