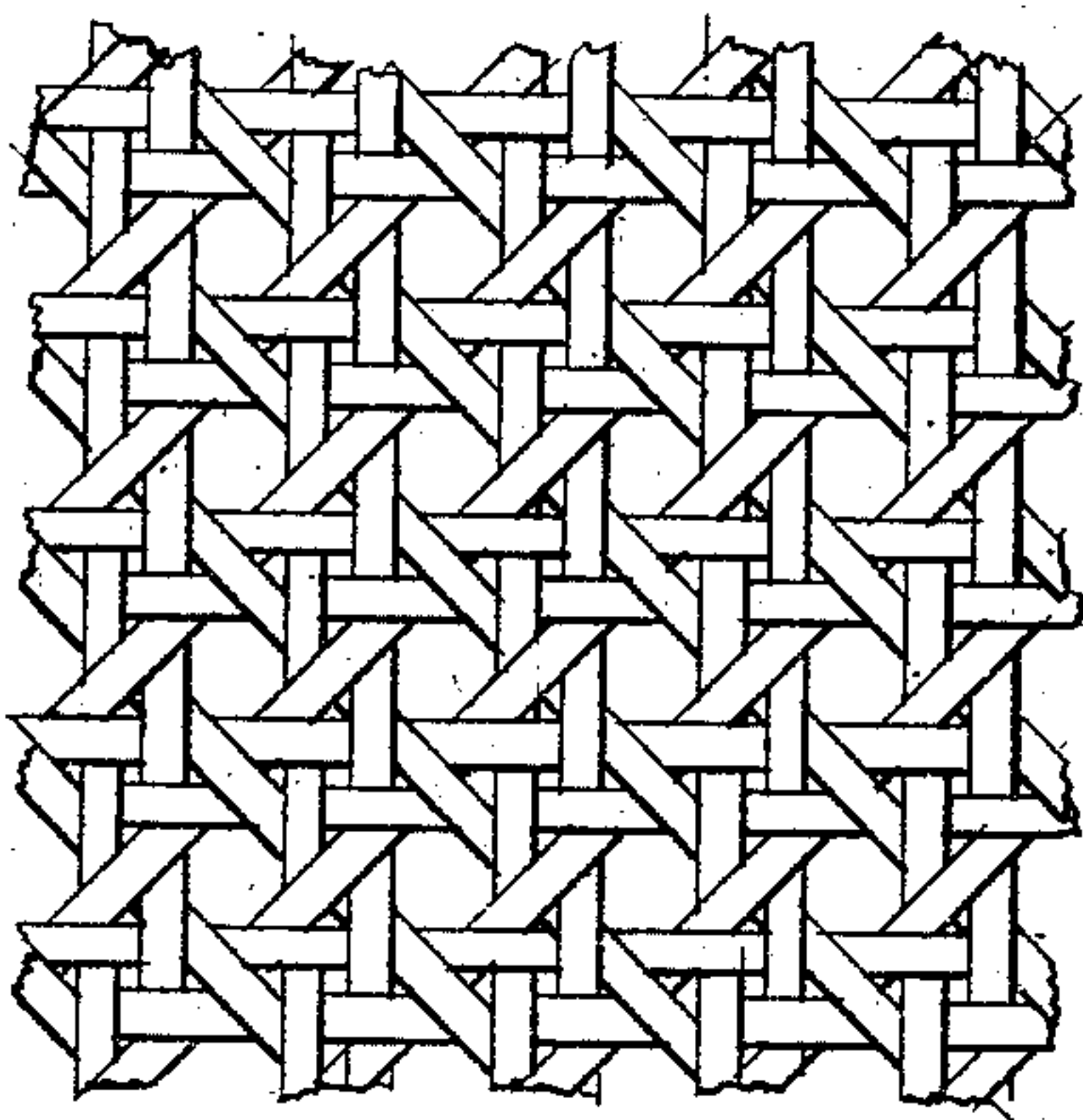


B.F. Wright,

Chair Seat.

No. 104,243.

Patented June 14, 1870.



Witnesses

Charles Brew - - -

George W. Ellis - - -

Benj. F. Wright - - -

Inventor.

United States Patent Office.

BENJAMIN F. WRIGHT, OF CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 104,243, dated June 14, 1870.

IMPROVED CHAIR-SEAT.

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, BENJAMIN F. WRIGHT, of Charlestown, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Seats for Chairs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

It is well known that a very common, if not universal method of bottoming or furnishing seats to chairs, not made entirely of wood or upholstered, is to employ narrow strips of cane or bamboo, which are interwoven or crossed so as to leave narrow spaces between the several strips, thus forming a tolerably strong and somewhat elastic seat. The principal objection to this seat is, however, the fact that it is not durable. The cane is apt to crack and break, and in a comparatively short time the seat is entirely worthless, and the chair containing it must be resealed or thrown away.

The nature of my invention consists in providing a substitute for the seat formed of cane above referred to, which shall possess all the good qualities of cane, such as flexibility, elasticity, and strength, to an equal if not superior extent, and at the same time be greatly superior to it in the very desirable respect of durability. I use for this purpose rawhide of any animal of any suitable thickness, but I would recommend a thickness of one thirty-second of an inch. The hide, of course, must be so far cured as to be free from any danger of decomposition, and from all offensive odor. The hide may also be slightly tanned, and will still be useful for the purposes of my invention, but it must not be curried, as it will then be useless for my purposes.

To adapt the hide or uncurried leather to the purposes for which I design it, I apply it in the following mode:

I strip up rawhide or uncurried leather in narrow strips of about one-eighth of an inch in width. These strips I interweave, or cross in the same way as strips of cane are now applied to bottoms of chairs, so as to present the same general appearance, that is to say, a checker work of small open spaces of about one-eighth of an inch over the bottom of the chair, separated

from each other by the successive strips of hide. The mode of applying these strips is that ordinarily used in applying cane to the bottom of chairs, and as it is an art very well known, will not require any particular description.

Bottoms of chairs made as above have all the strength, elasticity, and flexibility possessed by cane, and can also be as easily applied. They are also cheaper than cane at the present prices, and, in particular, and this I consider the principal, although by no means the only merit of my invention, I claim for chair-bottoms constructed according to my invention, very much superior durability over cane, or any substance now in use for the same purpose, except metal, so far as I am informed. These bottoms can be colored for any desired color, or, if thought desirable, can be made to receive a polish.

I have described the application of my invention to chair-bottoms, but I do not intend to confine myself to chair-bottoms only in its application, as the same thing as above described may be applied in the method above shown, or analogous methods to the seats or bottoms of lounges, to bedsteads, and for other similar uses. Neither do I intend to confine myself to any particular pattern or kind of weaving of the strips above referred to. They may be interwoven or arranged in any pattern that may be thought desirable, but I recommend the pattern and mode of interweaving commonly employed in cane-seats, as illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

I do not desire or intend to claim any particular mode of applying my invention to a chair, or to any particular mode of cutting the strips above referred to; but

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

A seat or bottom for a chair, lounge, or bedstead, formed of strips of rawhide or uncurried leather, substantially as above described.

BENJ. F. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM T. GRAY,
CHARLES C. DREW.