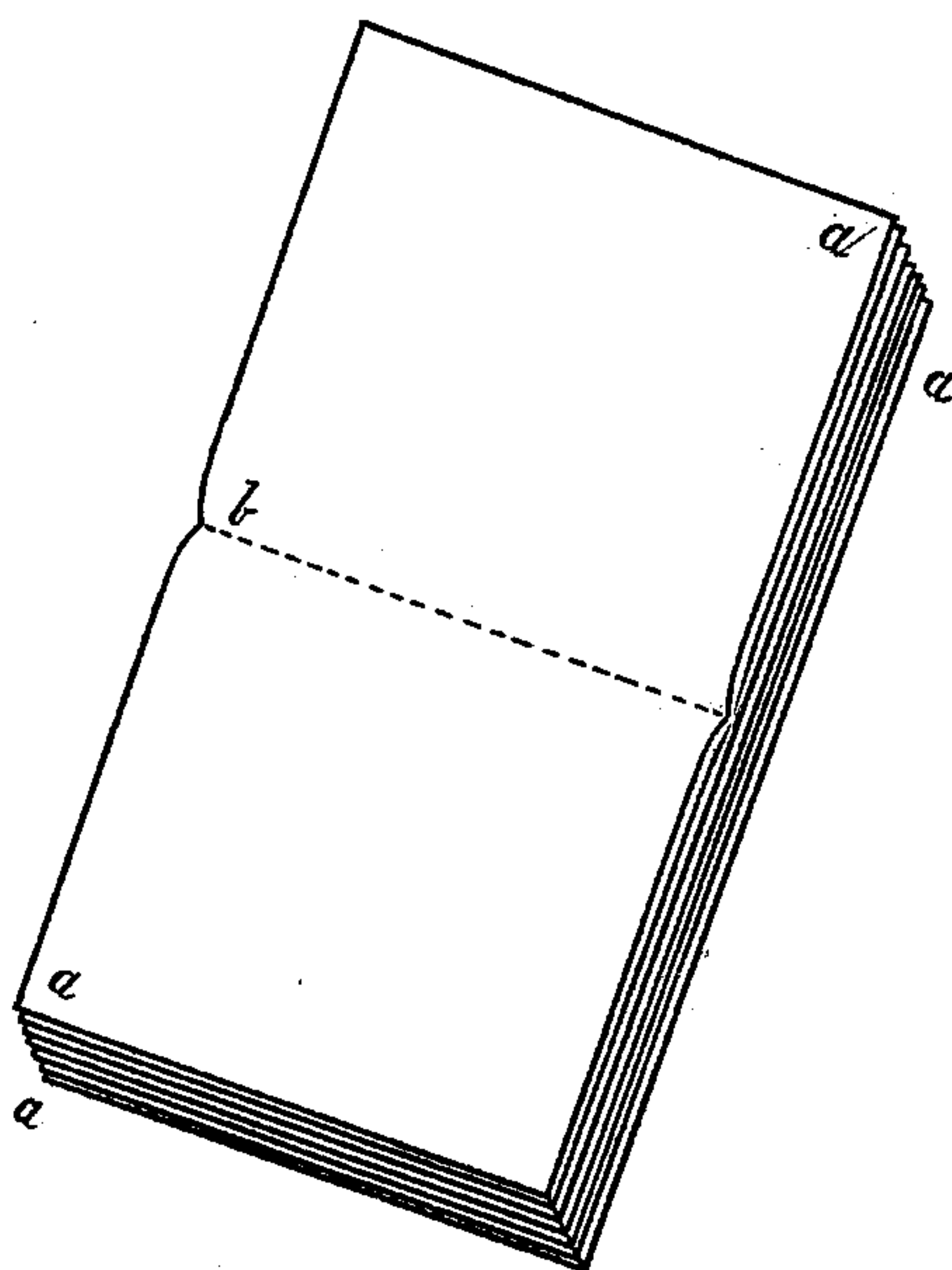


J. A. SPERRY.
Stair-Pad Carpet-Lining, &c.

No. 220,440.

Patented Oct. 7, 1879.



Witnesses:

G. R. Barnard
Charles H. H. H. H.

Inventor:

James A. Sperry
per J. B. Hyde atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES A. SPERRY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO ELIZABETH A. SPERRY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN STAIR-PADS, CARPET-LININGS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,440**, dated October 7, 1879; application filed November 22, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES A. SPERRY, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stair-Pads, Carpet-Linings, &c., of which the following is my specification.

My improvements relate to that class of battened fabrics which are employed under carpets and serve to soften the tread of the feet and reduce the wear and tear, besides adding to the comfort of parties walking over them.

My improvements also apply to thicker battened substances, used to cushion the tread upon stairways, and in a greater or less degree are also adapted to cushions generally.

In the manufacture of carpet-linings and other similar goods it is usual to protect the fibrous surfaces against friction and wear by a coating of paper fastened by some interposing adhesive substance, which renders the finished goods necessarily rigid and stiff, and liable to be broken through by being trod upon, admitting dust to the bat and injuring it for use; also, in the manufacture of stair-pads and cushions from bats it is usual to cover those thicker fabrics with paper, and sometimes with woven cloth.

My improvements consist in coating the fibrous bats, of whatever thickness or for whatever purpose, with a peculiar compound, which itself alone forms a wearing-surface that is tenacious, elastic, and noiseless to the tread, dispensing entirely with the use of either paper or cloth in the manufacture or use. At the same time the coating I employ is impervious to moisture or water, and affords a smooth surface that resists abrasion, and, causing the carpet to yield easily to the pressure of the foot without friction from the lining, increases the durability of both carpet and lining.

The bats I form from cotton or other vege-

table fiber, and in one or more layers or slivers, by a carding or other proper machine for the purpose, and to such thickness as its designed use or application requires. After completing the bat I apply the composition in a fluid state by brushes or proper rollers, and by hand or machinery, as is found most economical, particularly according to the quantity turned off in a given time.

The composition which I use for this purpose is made by dissolving paraffine and gutta-percha, preferring bisulphide of carbon as my solvent; or, as an alternative or equivalent for the gutta-percha, I can substitute gum-shellac, using high spirits or naphtha as a solvent therefor.

The solution I mix according to the article desired, to form a thick or thin and smooth cuticle, particularly for the thickness of the bat and strength required.

When the coating is complete, I in most cases (particularly with carpet-lining and stair-pads) stitch or quilt the fabric through and through at proper intervals, to insure safety in handling, rolling, removing, relaying, &c., as against tearing the side surfaces apart.

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

1. A stair-pad and carpet-lining formed from vegetable fiber, and provided with a cuticle formed from paraffine and gutta-percha, substantially as specified.

2. A stair-pad and carpet-lining formed from vegetable fiber, and coated with a mixture of paraffine and gutta-percha, and stitched through and through, substantially as described.

JAMES A. SPERRY.

Witnesses:

J. B. HYDE,
E. M. SPERRY.