

(No Model.)

R. S. JENNINGS.  
Cover for Cotton and other Bales.

No. 239,795.

Patented April 5, 1881.

Fig. 1.

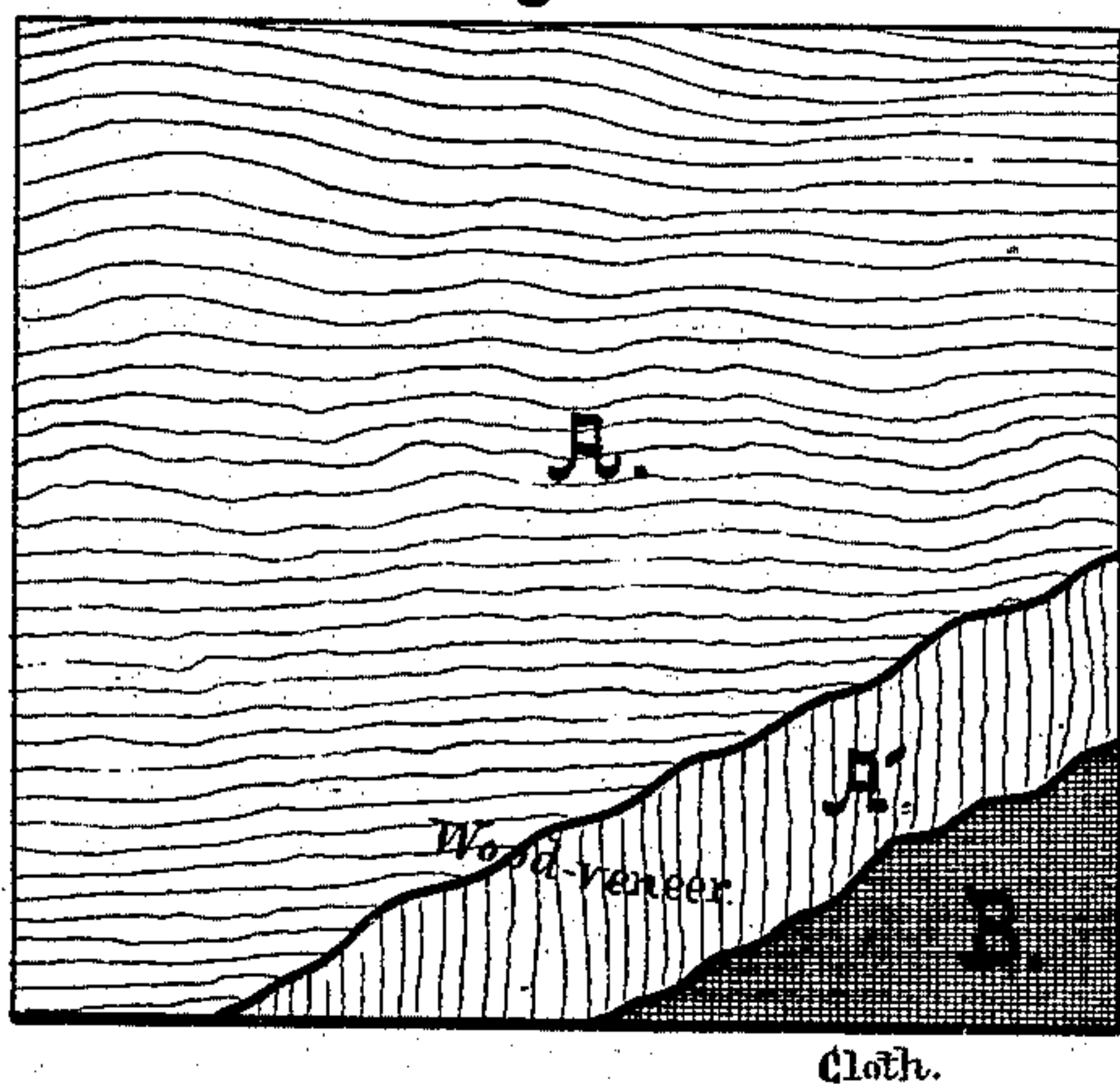


Fig. 2.

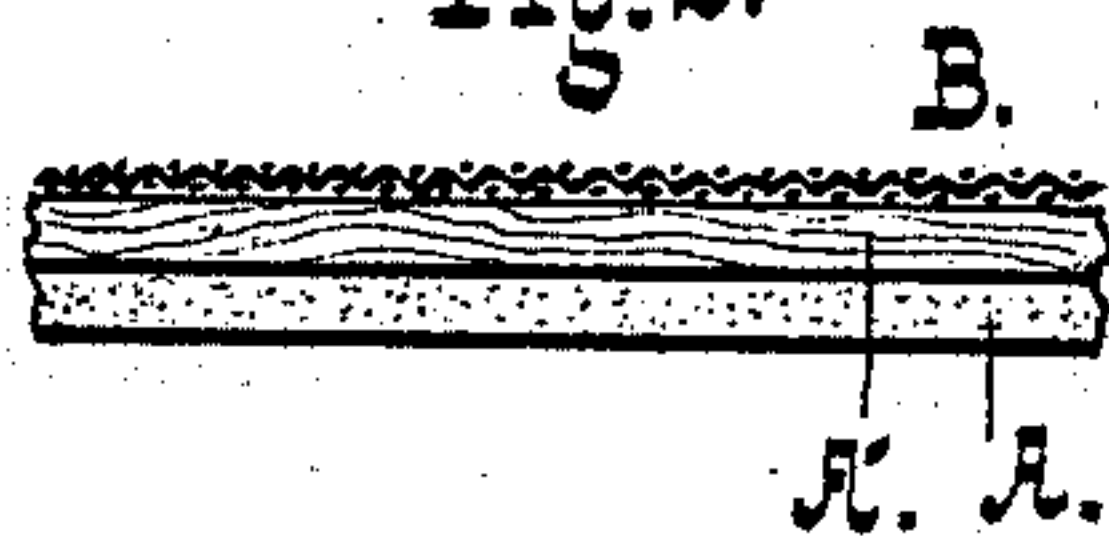
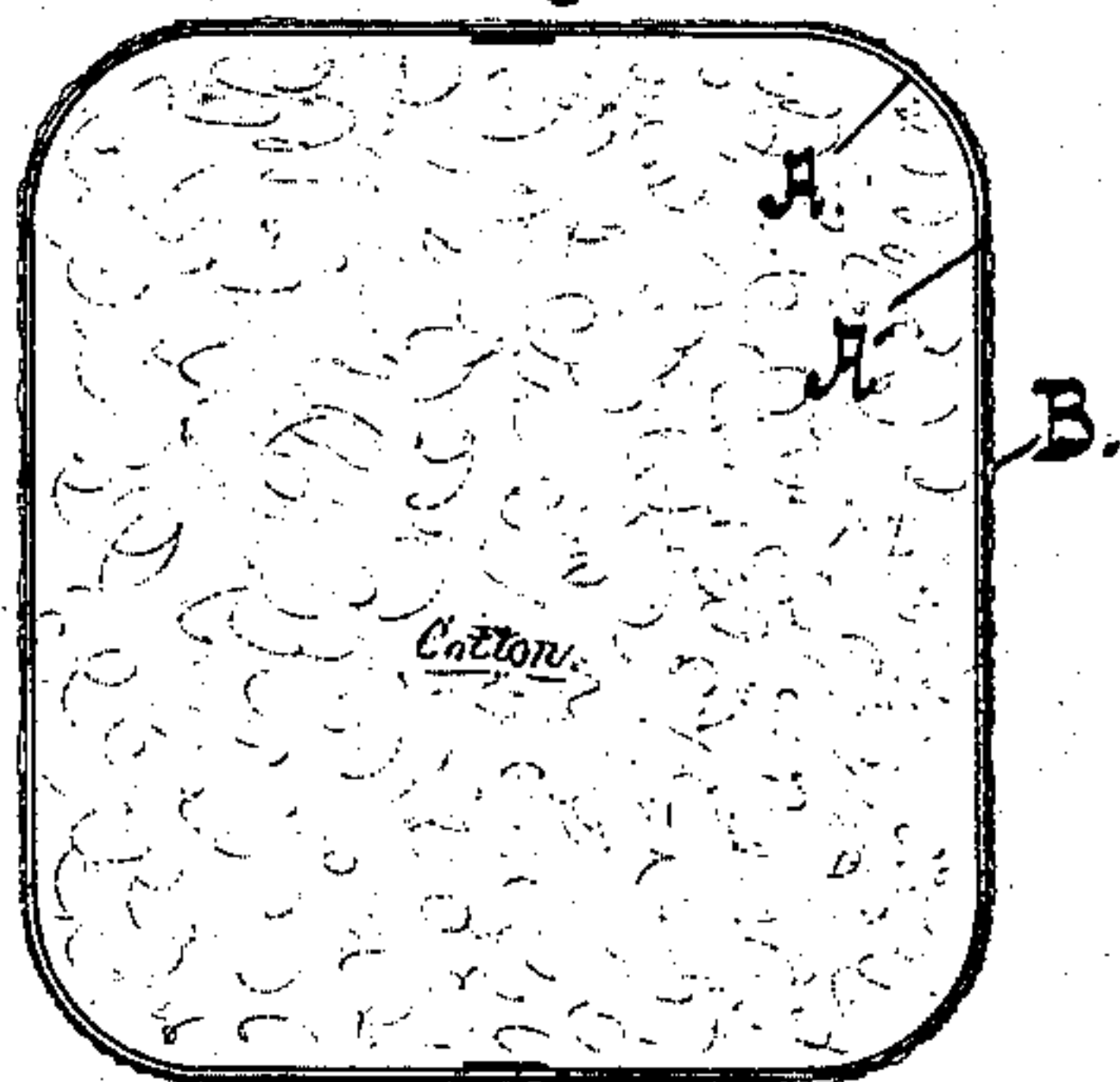


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COVER FOR COTTON AND OTHER BALES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 239,795, dated April 5, 1881.

Application filed January 7, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RALPH S. JENNINGS, of Baltimore city, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Covers for Cotton and other Bales; and I hereby declare the same to be fully, clearly, and exactly described as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a fabric made in accordance with my present invention, portions of the same being broken away to more clearly show its construction. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same on an enlarged scale. Fig. 3 is a sectional view, showing the material as applied for cover for cotton-bales.

My invention relates to veneer fabrics, and has for its object to furnish a material to take the place of burlaps or bagging as a cover or packing for various articles.

More especially is the fabric constituting the subject of my present invention designed as a cover for cotton-bales, for which purpose heretofore a very heavy and comparatively costly bagging has been used. Aside from its cost, this material is objectionable, by reason of its perviousness to dirt, such as the bilge-water on shipboard, or mud in land transportation, and is readily inflammable.

The material which forms the subject of my present invention is not open to those objections, as it is practically incombustible, and not affected by nor pervious to water, and it is cheaper, stronger, and better in every respect than the bagging. In practice I attach together two or more (by preference but two) thicknesses of wood veneer, A A, having the grain in each sheet arranged substantially at right angles to that of the other. These are secured together by any suitable cement, and upon one or both sides (preferably on but one) I cement a sheet of light burlaps, B, which is previously treated with tungstate of soda ( $\text{Na}_2\text{WO}_3$ ) or equivalent salt, whereby it is rendered unflammable. The wood, or at least

the exterior sheet, is similarly treated. The burlaps I employ for the purpose is light and cheap stuff, such as is found in quantities in the hands of paper-stock dealers, and is sold at a very low figure. It is of course by no means essential that the burlaps shall be applied in large sheets, as the desired end is attained when the veneer is substantially completely covered by the textile fabric. Care should be taken, however, that the lines joining the several sheets of burlaps are not parallel with the grain of the wood, so that a crack in the wood cannot register with a seam in the burlaps.

The sheets of burlaps may be sewed together before applying them to the veneer, or the seams may be covered by hoops nailed to the veneer from either side.

In applying the fabric as a cotton-bale cover, a tube is first formed by sewing together the edges of a sheet of the material large enough to envelop the bale, a flap being, by preference, left attached at either end to cover the ends of the bale. The cover being drawn over the bale, the seams at the ends are sewed, and are finally paid over with a suitable waterproof cement, the fabric itself being also coated with a waterproofing material or varnish.

The material may be applied to many uses, which it is not necessary here to mention, but which at once suggest themselves, provided that a cheap, tough, and strong fabric is a desideratum therefor.

What I claim is—

A cotton-bale cover made of composite material, consisting of two sheets of veneer cemented together with the grain crossed, and having a textile fabric cover cemented to its exterior, the whole being applied to the bale in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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