No. 620,498. Patented Feb. 28, 1899.

J. A. RENNIE.

MATTING FOR FLOORS.

(Application filed Dec. 20, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig: 1.

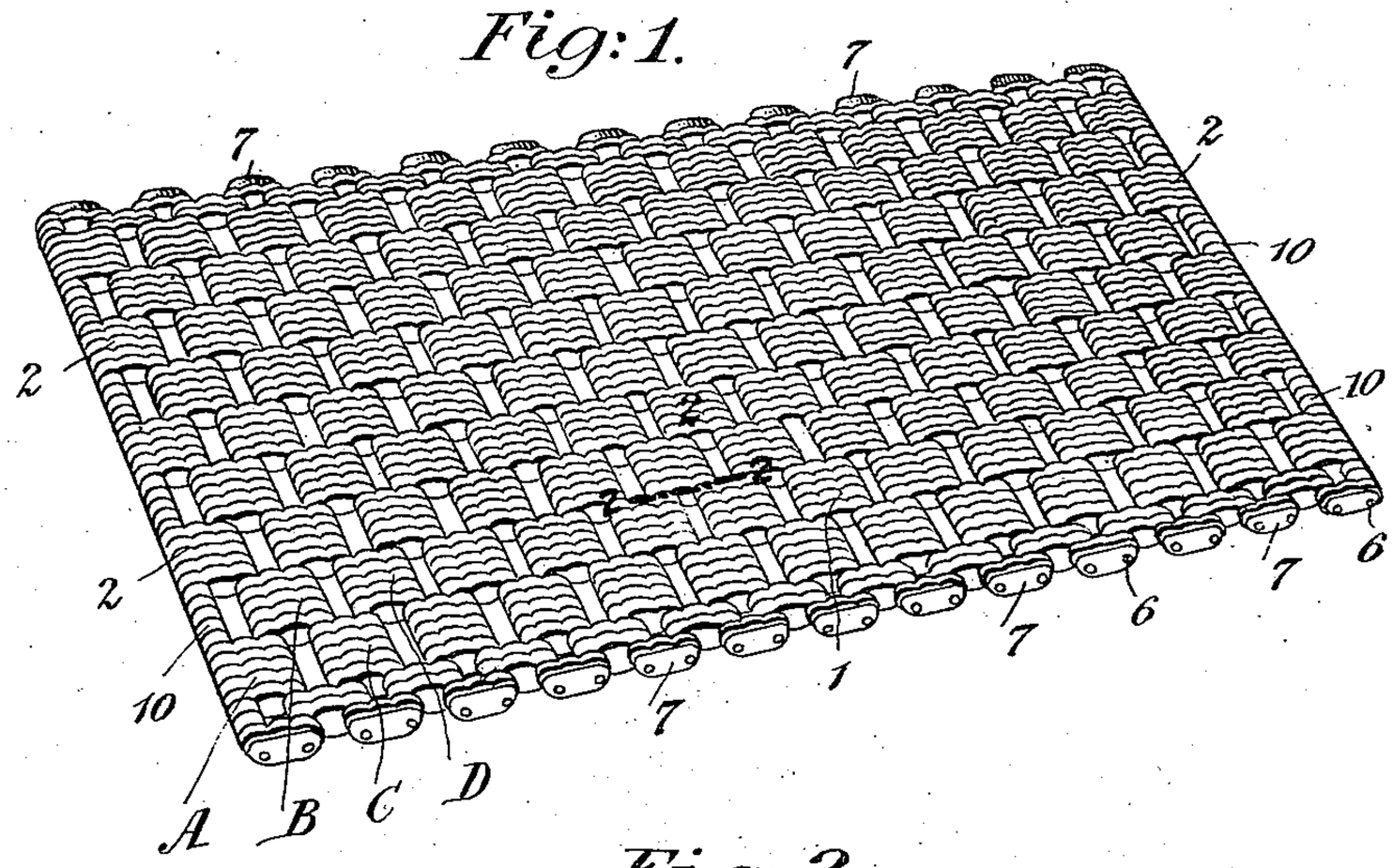


Fig: 2.

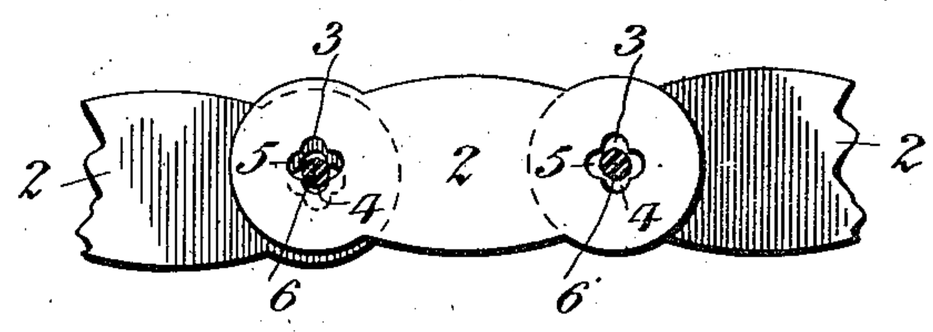


Fig: 3.

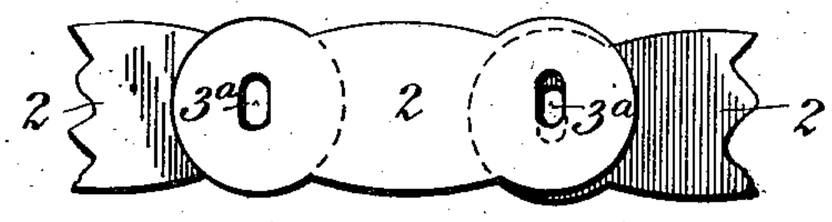


Fig: 4.

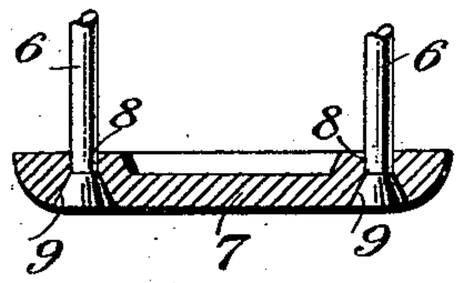


Fig: 5.

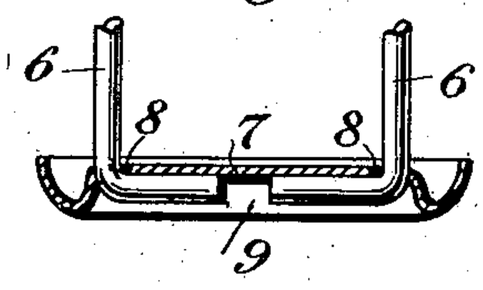
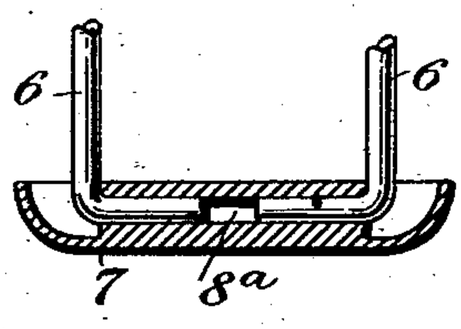


Fig: 6.



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MATTING FOR FLOORS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 620,498, dated February 28, 1899.

Application filed December 20, 1898. Serial No. 699,824. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ALEXANDER RENNIE, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mattings for Floors, &c., of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain improvements in matting, the same being composed of a plurality of juxtaposed pieces, which latter may be made of leather or analogous material and arranged in rows, each piece being provided with perforations at or near its ends to receive therein fastening devices, by which latter said pieces when in assembled position are held against displacement; and the object of my invention is to produce in a simple and inexpensive manner a matting of this character which shall be exceptionally durable and which may be readily and compactly folded or rolled for transportation.

My invention further provides substantial and convenient end pieces for the matting, wherein the wires are held and made practically invisible, thus giving to the matting a perfectly smooth edge which will prevent any possibility of the entanglement therewith of ladies' skirts.

Heretofore in assembling mattings of this character it has been the custom to arrange the said pieces in rows, (ordinarily done by hand,) so that the perforations in the pieces of one row will lie contiguous to and in register with the perforations in the pieces of the next succeeding row, and thereafter inserting wires through said perforations to bind and hold the same in assembled position; but it has been found in practice to be a difficult matter to arrange the perforations in perfect alinement, so as to permit of the free and unobstructed passage of the wires therethrough. Now my invention is designed to overcome this difficulty; and it consists, substantially, in forming the perforations in said pieces in such a manner that the wires may be quickly and easily passed through without any resistance, even though the perforations are not in perfect alinement.

My invention further consists of the novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described, and clearly defined in the appended claims.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a mat embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal section of a small portion thereof, taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a similar view showing a slightly-different form of perforation. Fig. 4 represents a longitudinal section of one of the end pieces referred to with a portion of the wires in position therein. Figs. 5 and 6 represent similar views showing other ways of fastening the wires.

Similar reference letters and numerals indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the matting, shown in this instance as composed of contiguous rows A B C D, and so on, each row being made up of a plurality of small pieces 2, said pieces being provided at or near their ends with perforations, the perforations in the pieces in one row when in assembled position being adapted to lie contiguous to and in register with the perforations in the pieces of the next succeeding row.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, it will be observed that each perforation 3 is formed with vertical and horizontal extensions 4 and 5, respectively, so that in the event of the pieces moving vertically or horizontally or becoming in any other way displaced, so as to bring the perforations in the pieces in one row or any one of them out of register or alinement with the perforation in the pieces or any one of them of the next succeeding row, a sufficient opening will always present itself for the insertion of the wires 6. In Fig. 2 this displacement is clearly shown to the left, where the perforations 3 in the pieces behind are shown as lying slightly below or partially out of vertical alinement with the perforations 3 in the pieces in front.

It will be apparent that the wires when in position within the perforations described will bear against the walls thereof, so as to prevent any undue movement of the pieces 2, but will permit of the latter assuming a perfectly level position while on the floor.

In Fig. 3 I have shown instead of the per-

forations just described oppositely-disposed curved slots or perforations 3^a, whose radii are approximately the distance between the centers of the opposing slots, the curvatures therefore being hardly perceptible. Thus should the pieces move vertically at either end a sufficient opening will always be left for the insertion of the wires. This vertical displacement is shown clearly to the right of of Fig. 3, where the slots in the pieces behind are shown as out of alinement with the slots in the pieces in front.

7 designates end pieces for the mat or matting, said end pieces being preferably composed of metal or other suitable material and arranged along the edges of the matting, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. These end pieces are perforated, as shown at 8, said perforations being splayed or beveled outwardly, so as to provide a depression 9, wherein the ends of the wires are forced to form heads thereon, which are made flush with the face of the end pieces, thus positively preventing a displacement of the said wires.

In Fig. 5 the depression 9 extends along the length of the end piece 7 and the wires 6 pass through the perforation 8 and are bent so as to lie within the said depression, in which construction it will be observed that the depression 9 is sufficiently deep to conceal the wires below the outer face of the end piece 7.

In Fig. 6 the end piece 7 is shown as provided with a longitudinal perforation or bore 8^a, which is arranged upon the inner face thereof, wherein the wires are inserted and entirely concealed from view.

10 designates a plurality of rings provided with perforations, which may be similar to those shown and described with relation to the pieces 2, said rings being placed upon the end rods of the mat between the groups of pieces 2, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. These rings may be made of metal, if desired, in order that more substantial ends may be given to the mat.

It will of course be apparent that the mat may be made up of a plurality of pieces of felt, papier-mâché, metal, &c., or said pieces may be entirely dispensed with and solid blocks of the proper size substituted therefor, which would perhaps be desirable in the event of forming the mat of wood, rubber, cork, or papier-mâché.

What I claim as new is—

1. A mat composed of a plurality of juxtaposed strips, said strips being provided with perforations to receive the securing means and extensions therefrom to facilitate the insertion of the said means, as set forth.

2. In a mat of the character described, a strip having perforations with the extensions to facilitate the insertion of rods through the perforations in case the strips are out of alinement while being assembled, as set forth.

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