

936,520.

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WICKERWORK.  
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Fig. 1.

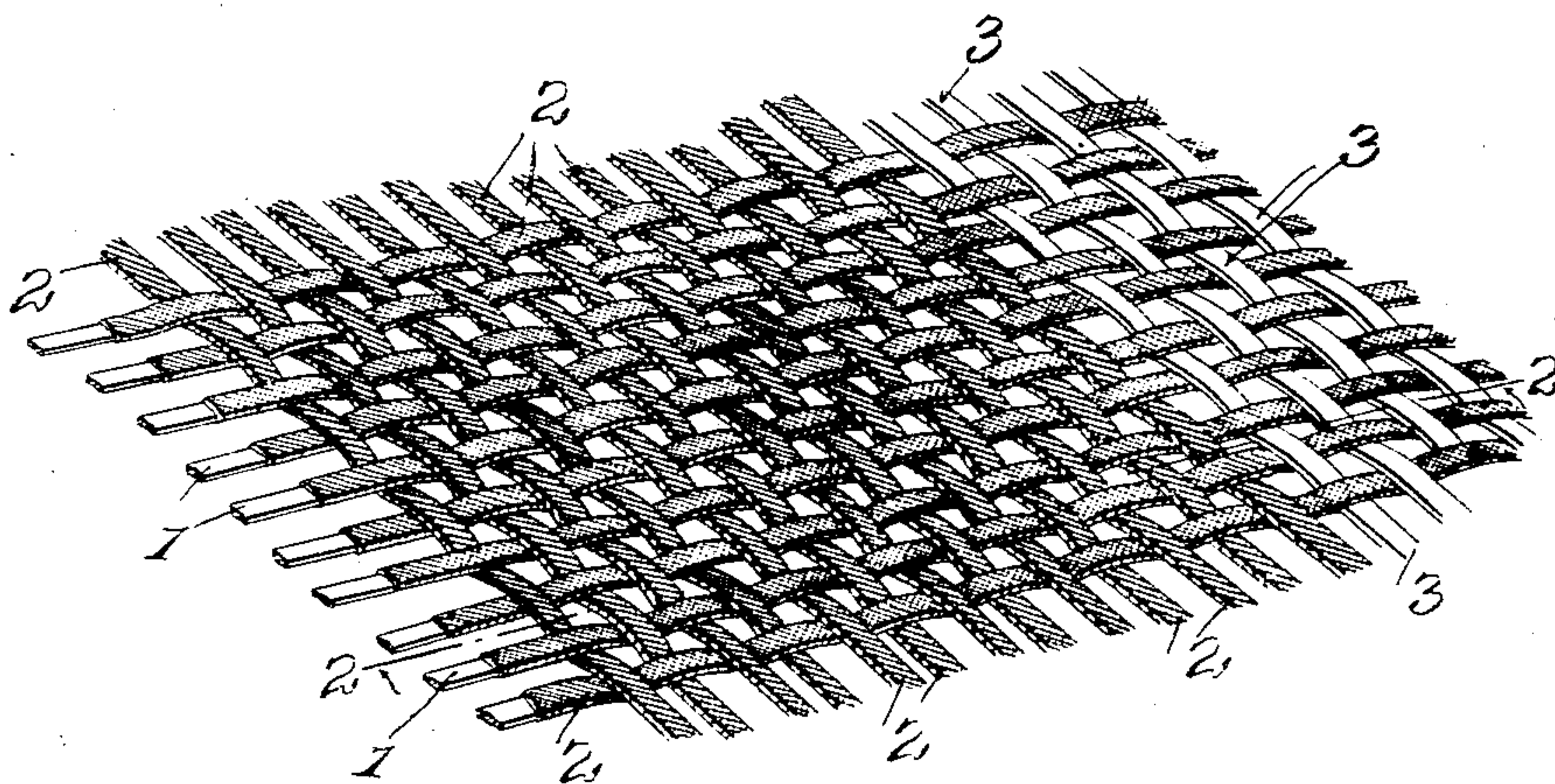
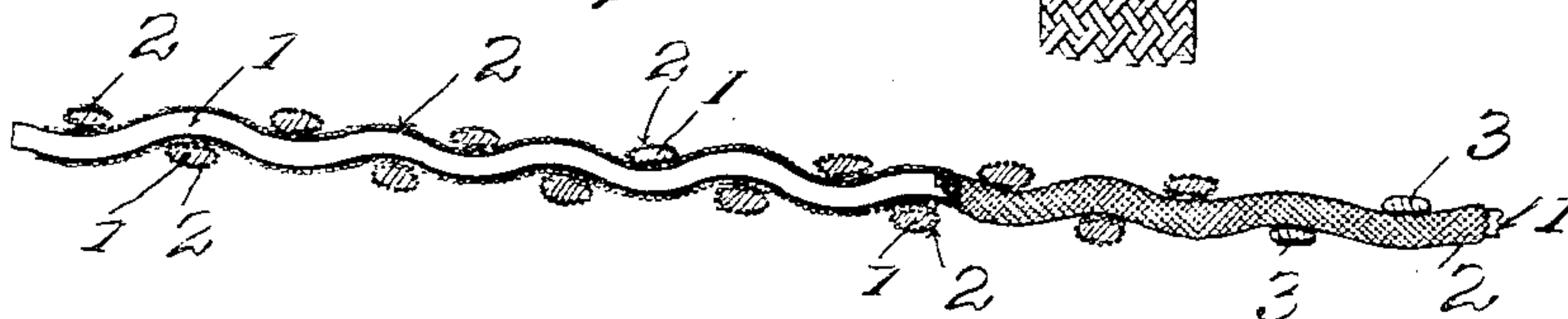


Fig. 3.



Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## WICKERWORK.

936,520.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 12, 1909.

Application filed January 22, 1909. Serial No. 473,670.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN M. CALEF, citizen of the United States, residing at Ashland, in the county of Jackson and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wickerwork, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to wicker work and has for its object to provide a reinforced construction of ratan, willow or other pliant material wherein the strands or withes are woven, shaped and designed for various uses as for instance in the manufacture of wicker furniture and baskets.

The invention essentially comprises a piece or strip of thin metal provided with a woven or braided covering of ratan, willow or other pliant material of which an article is to be constructed, and adapted to be interwoven with the ordinary strands of such material at points where the strain is greatest and to reinforce the wicker construction in every possible manner to promote its durability.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a section of wicker construction in which the strips of metal are shown as being wrapped with small strands of material and interwoven with ordinary strands of such material; Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and, Fig. 3 is a detail view illustrating the braided covering of the metal strips.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates a piece of wire or thin strip of metal constituting the core or body of the reinforcing material, and 2 designates a covering of any suitable material which may be woven, braided or wrapped about the core 1.

This covering when used in wicker construction would ordinarily consist of thin strands of ratan or willow, the same being braided,

wrapped or otherwise applied to the core 1 to resemble and conform in general appearance with the ordinary strands of material 3 comprising the main portion of the wicker construction.

The wire or metal strip 1 constituting the core, and its covering comprising the strands of material 2 may vary in size and cross sectional formation to best adapt the reinforcing material to the character of wicker under construction, and to secure a uniform appearance of the woven strands of a completed article.

By way of illustration, one of the several advantages obtained by a reinforced construction of wicker work, such as before described, may be gleaned by reference to an ordinary wicker chair. In articles of this character the cross strands of material of which the hollow arms are constructed are frequently broken down or entirely severed by continued strain and usage, which if properly reinforced when constructed, could not occur.

With the present invention it is designed to have the reinforcing strands interwoven with the ordinary strands of the wicker work at suitable locations to withstand the strain placed upon such parts without deterioration or breakage.

As will be understood the invention is applicable for use in all character of wicker work or other woven material, wherein a reinforced construction is needed or desirable; and which in the formation of certain articles may be interwoven in designs owing to its slightly differing appearance from the ordinary strands of material.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be apparent that a reinforcing material or construction is provided which will add materially to the durability of an article constructed of woven material, and which may be cheaply manufactured and used without appreciable increase in the cost of articles in which it is used.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. A new article of manufacture consist-

ing of wicker work having interwoven elements and metal strips interwoven with said elements, each strip being inclosed within a covering of interwoven wicker work.

- 5 2. A new article of manufacture comprising wicker work formed of interwoven wicker strips, and reinforcing strips interwoven with said wicker strips, each composed of a tubular flattened covering of in-

terwoven wicker work and an interior metal 10 core inclosed within said covering.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDWIN M. CALEF. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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