M. B. LLOYD.

METHOD OF PRODUCING WOVEN REED ARTICLES.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 17, 1917.

1,298,233.

Patented Mar. 25, 1919.

Fig. 1

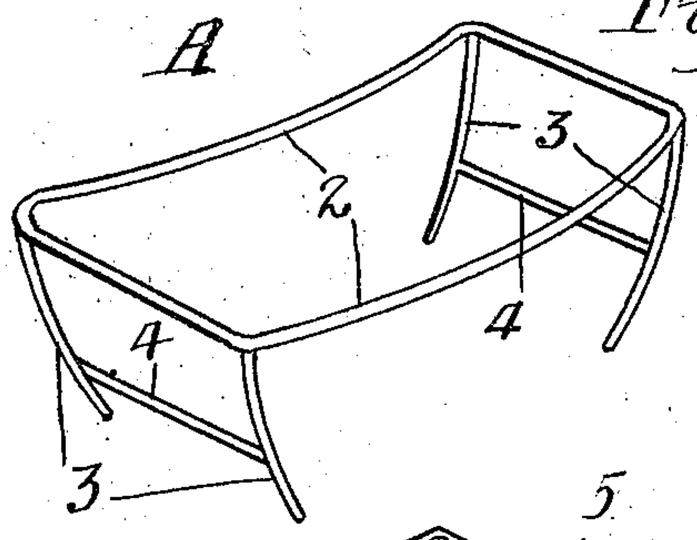
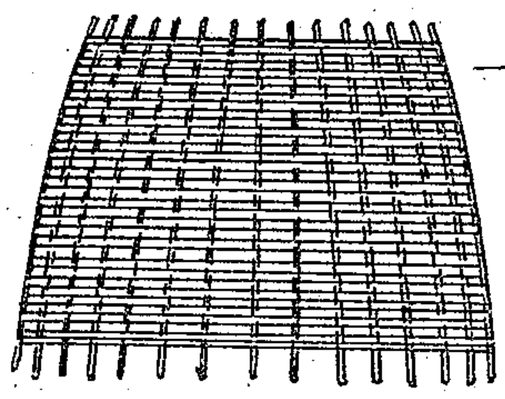


Fig. 3



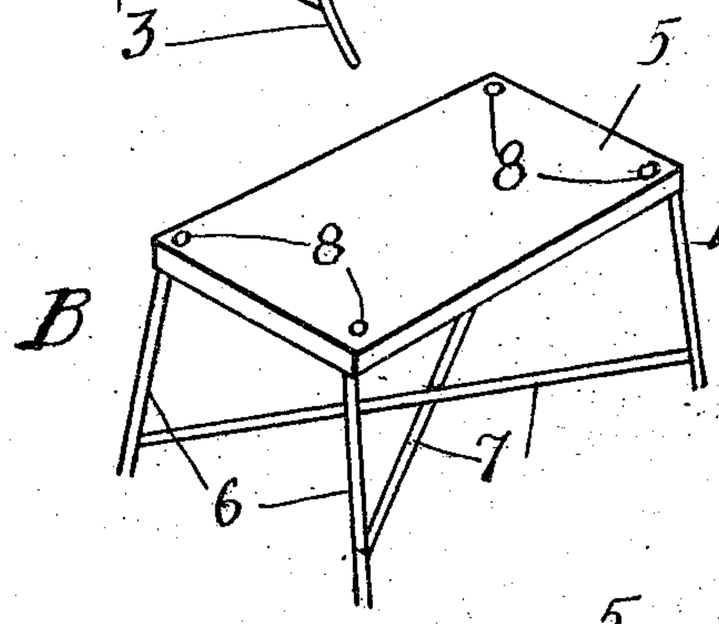


Fig. 2

Fig. 4

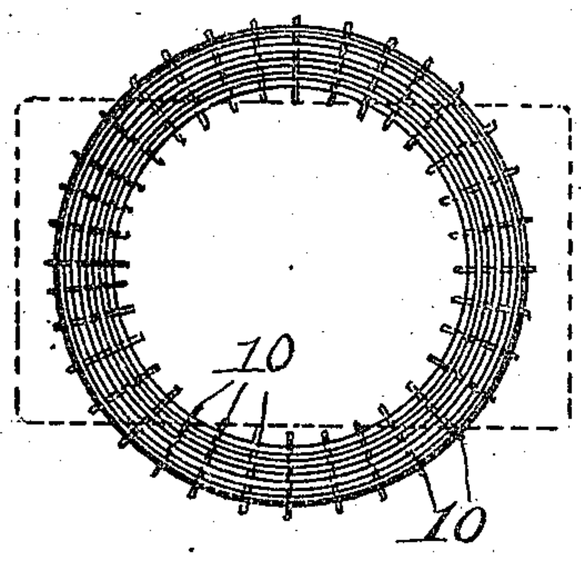


Fig. 6

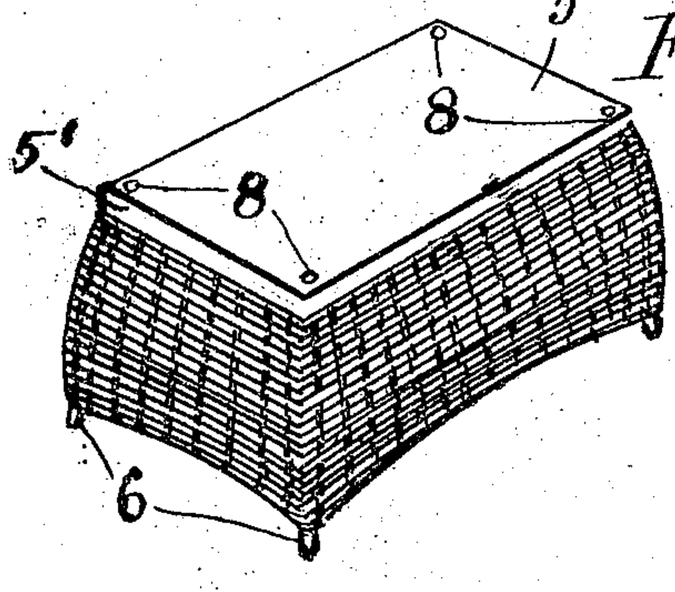


Fig. 5

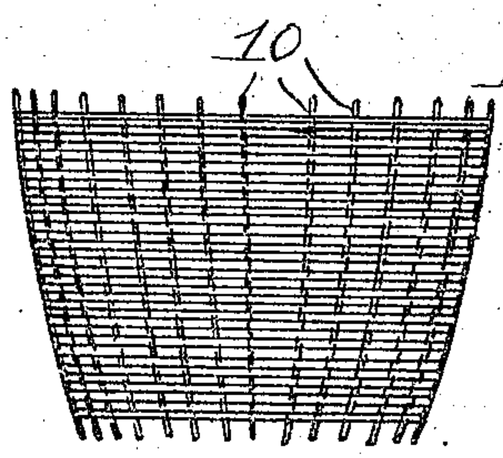


Fig. 7

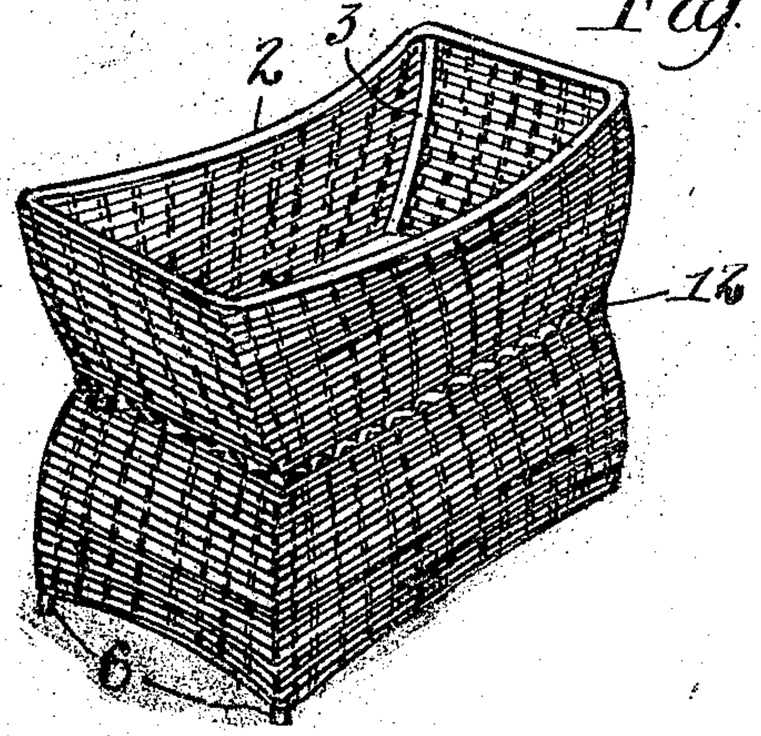
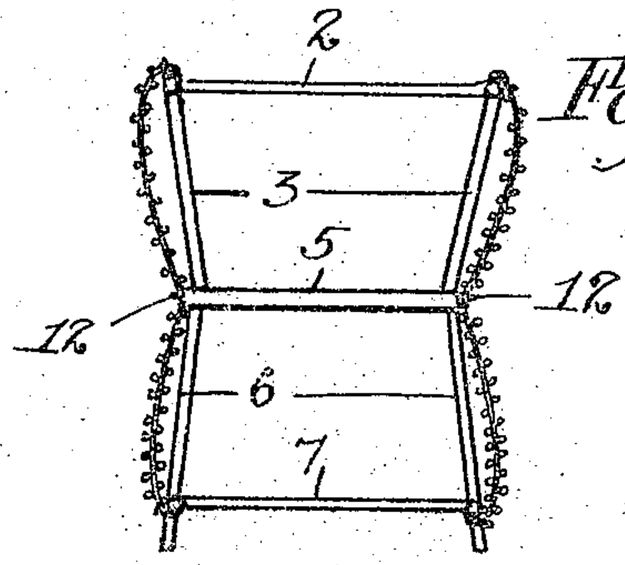


Fig. 8



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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METHOD OF PRODUCING WOVEN-REED ARTICLES.

1,298,233. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 25, 1919.

Application filed July 17, 1917. Serial No. 181,056.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARSHALL B. LLOYD, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Menominee, Michigan, have invented a certain new, useful, and Improved Method of Producing Woven-Reed Articles, of which the following is a specification.

Until recent date in the production of reed articles it has been the universal practice to weave the reed fabric into the form or shape ultimately desired. If the article be one which has a frame it has been the universal practice to weave the fabric directly upon and thereby secure it to the article frame.

Applicant proceeds upon an entirely new principle and weaves the fabric in a shape convenient for the weaving operation and then if necessary, re-shapes or re-forms the woven reed fabric to the desired shape or form. For those articles which have a frame the fabric is woven independent of the frame and then secured thereto. This novel method is not claimed broadly here since it is the subject matter of other applications of which applicant's application, Serial No. 109,714 is an example and by reference to which a thorough understanding of the method of operating and the advantages to be gained will be better understood. Suffice it here to state that by this method freedom of action is secured which greatly simplifies, cheapens and often improves reed articles.

The general object of the present invention is further to simplify, cheapen and facilitate the manufacture of certain reed articles under the method before referred to. Further objects of the invention are to eliminate waste; to provide a method whereby articles of difficult shape can be produced rapidly even by unskilled workers; and generally to reduce the hitherto highly, individualistic weaving of each reed fabric to a factory method of weaving and assembling in the most convenient or acceptable manner.

My invention consists generally in the steps, acts and sequence thereof whereby the above named objects, together with others which will appear hereinafter are attainable and my invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings which illustrate steps in the production of an article under the present invention.

In said drawings—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of the upper portion of a reed article frame.

Fig. 2, is a perspective view of the lower portion of a reed article frame.

Fig. 3, is a side elevation of a woven reed fabric for use in covering the upper and lower frame portions.

Fig. 4, is a plan view of the fabric shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5, is a side elevation of the fabric of Figs. 3 and 4, but in inverted position.

Fig. 6, is a perspective view illustrating one of the fabrics applied to the lower frame portion.

Fig. 7, is a perspective view of the assembled, completed article showing the fabric applied to both the upper and lower portions, and

Fig. 8, is a vertical transverse sectional view passing through the completed article substantially on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

For the purpose of illustrating the present invention I have chosen to depict the manufacture of a baby's bassinet, because this is fairly representative of a class of articles that can be advantageously manufactured under the present invention. This, it should be understood, is by way of illustration and not by way of limitation. The essence of the present invention consists in producing a woven reed article by first producing a plurality of similar or identical fabrics and then associating or combining a plurality of these fabrics to constitute or form the completed article. In those articles that have a frame, the further step of securing the fabrics to or upon the frame is also included and the single illustration of the manufacture of an article having a frame is thought to be sufficient to teach the present invention.

Referring now to the drawings, A represents the upper frame portion of a baby's bassinet and B, the lower portion thereof. The upper frame portion comprises a substantially rectangular upper frame member, 2, from the ends of which depend inwardly extending frame members 3, connected by suitable cross braces 4. The lower frame portion B, comprises in this instance a table-like top member 5, to which are secured suitable legs, 6, which are rigidly connected by cross braces 7. The sizes of the upper and lower frame portions A and B are substantially the same, that is to say, the lower portions of the upper frame members 3, are so positioned as to fit in suitable holes 8, provided therefor in the lower frame mem-

ber 5, and the perimeter of the upper frame member 2, is substantially the same as a line around the lower portions of the legs, 6, of the member B. Both of these frame portions A and B are to be covered upon the sides with reed fabric and to this end I proceed to provide a plurality of similar woven reed fabrics one of which is illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. The fabric in this instance is somewhat cone-shaped having a face which is curved with respect to its vertical axis, to the end that a pleasing curved or bowed effect may be secured in the completed article. This cone-shaped fabric can be produced in any suitable manner, as for example, in conjunction with a form or templet in the manner illustrated in the above mentioned application. It will generally be found most convenient to weave this fabric in circular shape and as the article in this instance is somewhat rectangular in shape I apply pressure to the sides of the fabric causing it to assume a rectangular form somewhat as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 4. The fabric in this condition may be then readily placed over the lower portion B substantially as indicated in Fig. 6. The projecting stake portions 10, of the fabric can be laid down either before or after the fabric is applied to the frame. The fabric is secured to the edges, 5′, of the frame member, 5, and to the legs thereof by any suitable fastening devices, such for example, as brads, tacks, or the like. Having thus produced the lower part of the article, I proceed next to produce the upper part. This I accomplish in the present instance by using another reed fabric of the same size and shape illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, but which is inverted as illustrated in Fig. 5. Pressure is applied to the fabric of Fig. 5, causing it to assume a substantially rectangular shape in which condition it may be readily placed over the upper frame portion A, or in other words, the upper frame portion may be placed within the fabric and the frame then mounted upon the lower frame portion thus completing the article as illustrated in Fig. 7. The lower portion of the upper fabric is also preferably secured to the sides of the lower frame member 5. By laying down the stakes, a finished border is formed as indicated in 12, in Fig. 7. Of course, if desired the fabric may be first secured to the edges 5′ of the lower frame member 5, and then the frame A placed within the fabric. Of course, the upper portion of the upper fabric is secured suitably to the frame members 2 and 3 of the upper frame portion A. In this manner the beautifully shaped symmetrical reed article illustrated may be produced rapidly at low cost by even the most unskilled workmen, whereas under prior practices it would be impossible for any but the most skilled workmen to produce such an article and then only with the expenditure of considerable time and effort.

Inasmuch as this disclosure will readily suggest to others skilled in the art to which this appertains, various methods whereby the substantial objects of the present invention may be attained, I do not wish to be limited to the specific steps shown and described or to the precise sequence thereof except only as may be necessary to express limitations in the hereunto appended claims.

I claim:

1. The herein described method of producing a woven reed article having a relatively small central portion and relatively large top and bottom portions, that consists in providing identical tubular reed fabrics of conical form, and in securing the small end of one conical fabric to the like end of the other conical fabric.

2. The herein described method of producing a woven reed article having a relatively small central portion and relatively large top and bottom portions, that consists in providing upper and lower frame portions of tapering form, inserting the frame members into the fabrics small end first, and then securing the small ends of the frame members together.

In testimony thereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 22nd day of June, 1917, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARSHALL B. LLOYD.

Witnesses:
EARLE LINDSTRUM,
CECIL J. BELONGY.