

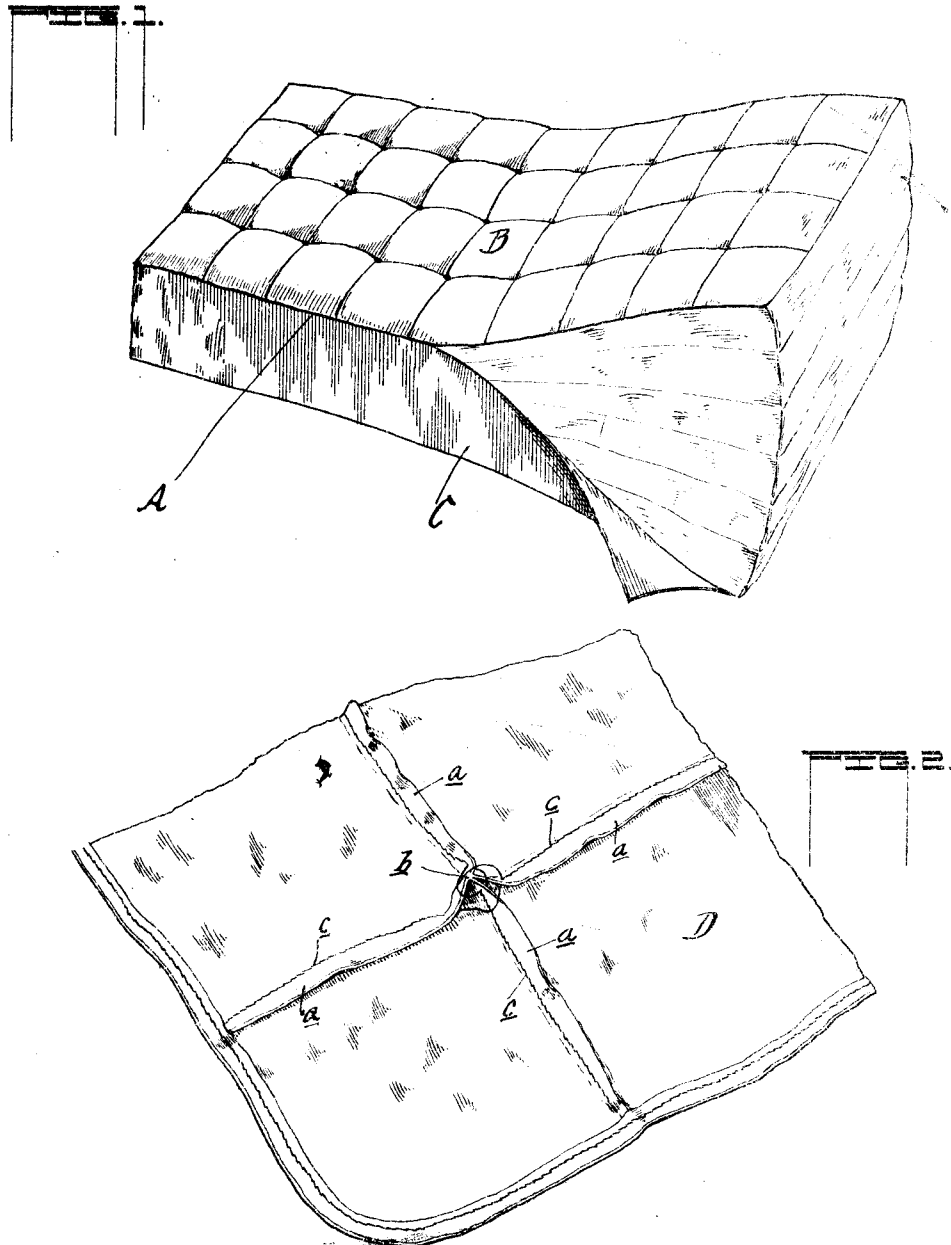
J. L. HEFFNER.

MATTRESS.

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1,029,928.

Patented June 18, 1912.



WITNESSES

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JOHN L. HEFFNER, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

MATTRESS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. HEFFNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peoria, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mattresses, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to mattresses and the like.

More particularly, my invention relates to means for forming a mattress that will not stretch and that when formed with the upper and lower coverings attached and tufted, said material will not be under lateral tension due to any lack of uniformity in the relative positions of the connecting threads between the top and bottom coverings, thereby producing side walls of the mattress that will be even, uniform and regular.

My invention consists in the particular formation of the top and bottom covers of a mattress with a series of folds extending the length and width of the same, each fold being stitched its entire length except at crossing points where the stitches are interrupted to provide fullness to be drawn down into the body of the mattress in tufting. The fullness left in the covering permits the top surface to be formed in biscuit, diamond or other irregularities of surface, but the stitching prevents the mattress from stretching.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a mattress partially completed; Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing a section of a covering for the mattress either for the top or bottom.

In the drawings, A refers generally to a mattress, B to the top covering thereof, the lower covering conforming exactly thereto.

C represents the side walls or side covering for the mattress.

When completed, the mattress is designed to be in box shape and tufted as shown.

Referring particularly to Fig. 2, I will designate the section of mattress covering as D which covering in the form shown is adapted for both the bottom and the top of the mattress. In forming the covering, I have designed to so dispose the material that when the filler is interposed between the top, bottom and side walls of the mattress, the biscuit (or diamond shaped, if desired) formation resulting from tufting will be provided for in the material without hav-

ing to stretch and produce untied or insecure folds as results in ordinary tufting, which consists merely in passing a looped thread from one covering to the other and drawing the top and bottom walls down into the filler. Again referring to Fig. 2 *a* refers to transverse folds that cross at the center point *b*. *c* are transverse stitched seams describing a gradual curve from one centering point *b* to another, gradually digressing from the edge of folds *a* from each centering point *b* to the middle portion of the seam with an interruption of the stitches at each side of the centering point. Such interruption of the stitches before reaching the centering points and the gradual approach of the stitches to the outer edge of the folds allows for a looseness or surplus of material to be taken up and drawn down into the filler in tufting, thus giving a natural curved contour or biscuit formation to the surface of the mattress.

The top and bottom covering of the mattress are exact duplicates with seams and centering points exactly matching, so that when the filler is in the mattress and in tufting the needle is passed from centering point *b* on either the bottom or top covering, it will be passed to its matching centering point on the other side, thus producing an absolute uniformity of the tufting threads which will produce a perfectly square form.

The advantage resulting from the conformity of centering points of the respective top and bottom coverings, as distinguished from the uncertain and irregular passing of the tufting thread from one inclosing side to the other of a mattress, is that in such irregular tufting unequal strains are exerted on the inclosed material, which results in drawing the material irregularly in and out at the edges of the mattress, thereby producing an irregular surface, which needs to be corrected by take up stitches through the side walls of the mattress to the top and bottom coverings.

In forming a mattress by my method, no take up stitch is absolutely necessary; however it may be added as simply a supplement edge stiffener.

In carrying out the tufting operation, the substantially straight line position of transverse stitching is not changed, as it is the fullness or looseness at the centering points that is drawn down into the filler, and substantially no strain is exerted at the inter-

mediate stitched points near said centering points. Therefore if the tufting should break, the relation of the stitches is such that any tendency of the mattress to stretch is resisted, whereas in ordinary tufting the mattress would spread.

By employing my methods of providing surplus material at the tufting points and shaping the material by means of the particular manner of stitching the folds and matching the top and bottom coverings so as to produce corresponding centering points, I am able to produce a mattress that will not stretch and that will permanently keep its box form.

I desire it understood that in tufting I may produce the biscuit, diamond or other forms upon the surface, also I do not desire to limit myself to the exact details of forming the top and bottom coverings but claim broadly all structures that fall legitimately within the principle disclosed.

What I claim is:

1. In a mattress, top and bottom coverings folded at intervals longitudinally and transversely intermediate its sides and ends, each fold being stitched to the covering its entire length except short interruptions in the

stitches at the crossing points sufficient to provide a fullness adapted to be drawn down into the filler of the mattress.

2. In a mattress, top and bottom coverings folded at intervals longitudinally and transversely, said folds being sewed together with short interruptions in the stitches at the centering points sufficient to provide a fullness adapted to be drawn down into the filler of the mattress, said folds being stitched on a gradually curved line, gradually digressing from the edge of the fold from the centering points to the intermediate point between said centers.

3. In a mattress, a top and bottom covering provided with a plurality of transverse and longitudinal folds intermediate its sides and ends stitched their entire lengths except short interruptions at the crossing points to provide tufting centers, said tufting centers being adapted in both coverings to match exactly, side walls, and a suitable filler.

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

JOHN L. HEFFNER.

Witnesses:

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W. V. TEEFT.