(No Model.)

D. J. MARSTON.

WOOD FLOORING.

No. 308,184. Patented Nov. 18, 1884.

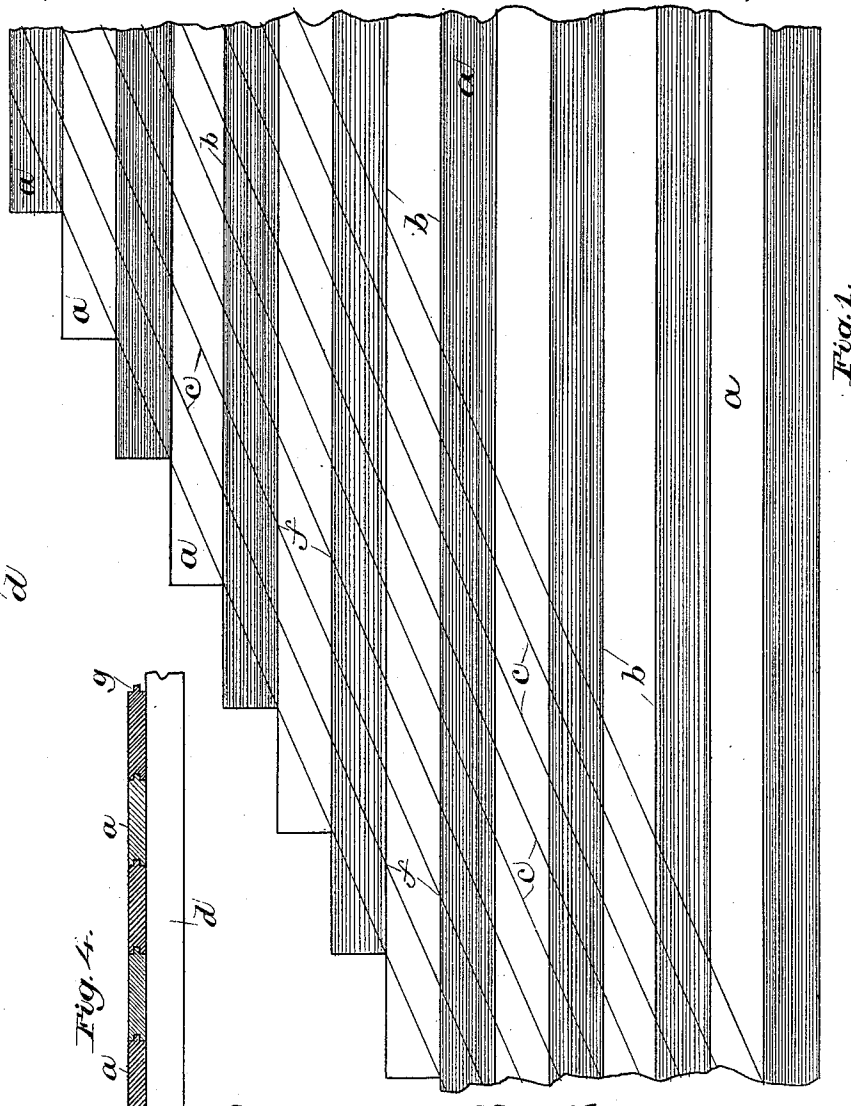

Fig. 1.

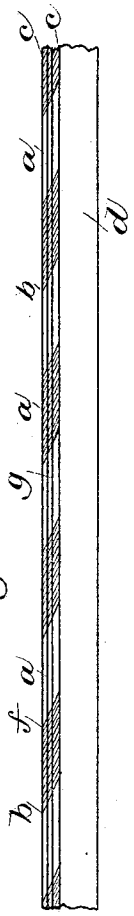

Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

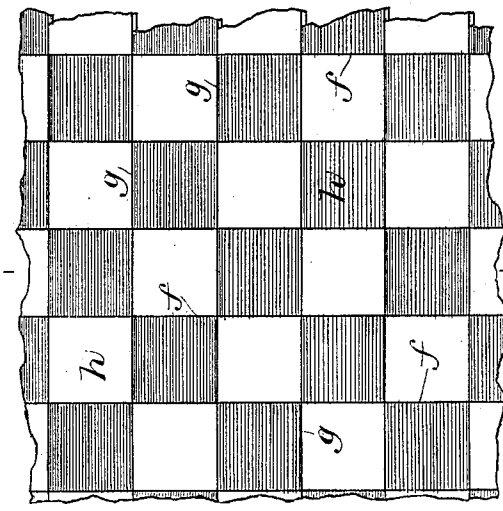

Fig. 3.

Witnesses
Eugene Humphrey
K. H. Letteney.

Inventor
Dudley J. Marston
per Poster & Hutchinson
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DUDLEY J. MARSTON, OF SALISBURY, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ALBERT W. TODD, OF SAME PLACE.

WOOD FLOORING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 308,184, dated November 18, 1884.

Application filed July 24, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DUDLEY J. MARSTON, of Salisbury, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wood Flooring, which will, in connection with the accompanying drawings, be hereinafter fully described, and specifically defined in the appended claims.

This invention has for its object an improvement in wood flooring; and it will, in connection with the accompanying drawings, be hereinafter more particularly and fully described and claimed.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view showing the method of arranging the constituent bars of wood from which I produce my flooring, portions thereof being broken away for want of space. Fig. 2 is an edge elevation of one of the flooring-strips as cut from the parts shown in Fig. 1, and shown as resting on the under flooring. Fig. 3 is a plan view of my flooring, the same being shown as partly broken away. Fig. 4 is a vertical section taken as on line A A, Fig. 3, and showing my flooring as resting upon the under flooring.

In said Fig. 1, *a a* represent strips or bars of wood which are of a thickness, as measured transversely to lines *b*, to give the desired area, when cut obliquely to said lines, as will be described, and whose width, measured vertically, as in Fig. 1, is equal to the length of the oblique faces cut on each strip, as will be described. These strips are, for economizing material, arranged in a stair-step position, as shown in Fig. 1, and, being all of equal length, will be thus stair-stepped at each end, but with sides which are parallel, such stair-step arrangement of bars *a* being so proportioned or adjusted that lines *c*, when cut coincident with said steps, will be at an angle of about thirty degrees to lines *b*. When said strips *a* are so arranged, they are, by aid of suitable clamping and compressing devices and the application of glue at the meeting faces at *b*, solidly united together, and after being thoroughly dried the body is sawed into strips, subdivided on lines *c*, as stated. In Fig. 2 one of these strips is shown in edge view, the lines *b* being oblique to the upper and lower plane of the strip. After these strips are thus sawed from the united body, and are duly smoothed, they are at their respective edges tongued and grooved, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, and may then, when cut in suitable lengths, be glued together, forming squares, or may be laid the entire length of floors.

It will be obvious that by employing light and dark woods alternately as strips *a*, as indicated in Figs. 1, 2, and then arranging the same alternately when assembled, as indicated in Fig. 3, (where lines *f* indicate the intersection of lines *b c*, Fig. 1,) a contrasting checked pattern may without increased expense be produced.

I am well aware that it is old, common, and well known to arrange wood in alternating colors or kinds, either in strips, squares, or other figures, and hence I make no claim thereto; my invention consisting in a flooring material of wood wherein the line of fiber is oblique to the plane of the floor, and the meeting faces of the glued joints of the assembled strips are also oplique to the plane of the floor, as shown in Fig. 2, as by such arrangement of the parts the wearing endurance of the wood is much greater than if the direction of the fiber of the wood was coincident with the plane of the floor, and the strength of the glue joints is much greater than could be obtained if the fiber of the wood was at right angles to the plane of the floor, and besides each square or block of my flooring is held in place by the overhang of the adjacent square, and each is supported by the underlying portion of the adjacent block upon the other side, thereby interlocking each block with those adjacent to it, as well as affording a greater area or extent of glue joint at lines *b* than if the same were vertical; and by having strips *a* of the proper width they will, when tongued, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, have a width equal to the distance between lines *b*, when measured on lines *c*, thus rendering squares *h* equal-sided, as lines *f*, Fig. 3, represent the intersection of lines *b*, while lines *g* represent the joint at the edges of strips *a* after the same are tongued and grooved.

I claim as my invention—

1. The herein-described improvement in wood flooring, the same consisting in squares

or sheets of wood so cut that the fiber thereof is at an oblique angle relatively to the plane of the floor, substantially as specified.

2. Wood flooring constructed in squares or sections, each one of which is upon one side partly underlaid and supported by the adjacent square or section, while upon the opposite side it is overlaid and interlocked by the square or section adjacent upon that side, substantially as specified.

3. The herein-described method of forming flooring, the same consisting in gluing together at the wider faces thereof strips of wood, then cutting the same into strips upon lines oblique to the line of such glue joints, whereby when such latter strips are laid as a floor the direction of the line of fiber and of the glue joints are oblique to the plane of the floor, substantially as specified.

4. The herein-described method of forming flooring in alternating squares of woods of different colors, the same consisting in gluing together at the wider faces thereof strips of wood of different colors, then cutting the same into strips upon lines oblique to the line of such glue joints, and then arranging such strips in the floor with contrasting-colored squares opposite each other, substantially as specified.

DUDLEY J. MARSTON.

Witnesses:
GEORGE H. BRIGGS,
FRANK R. WHITCHER.