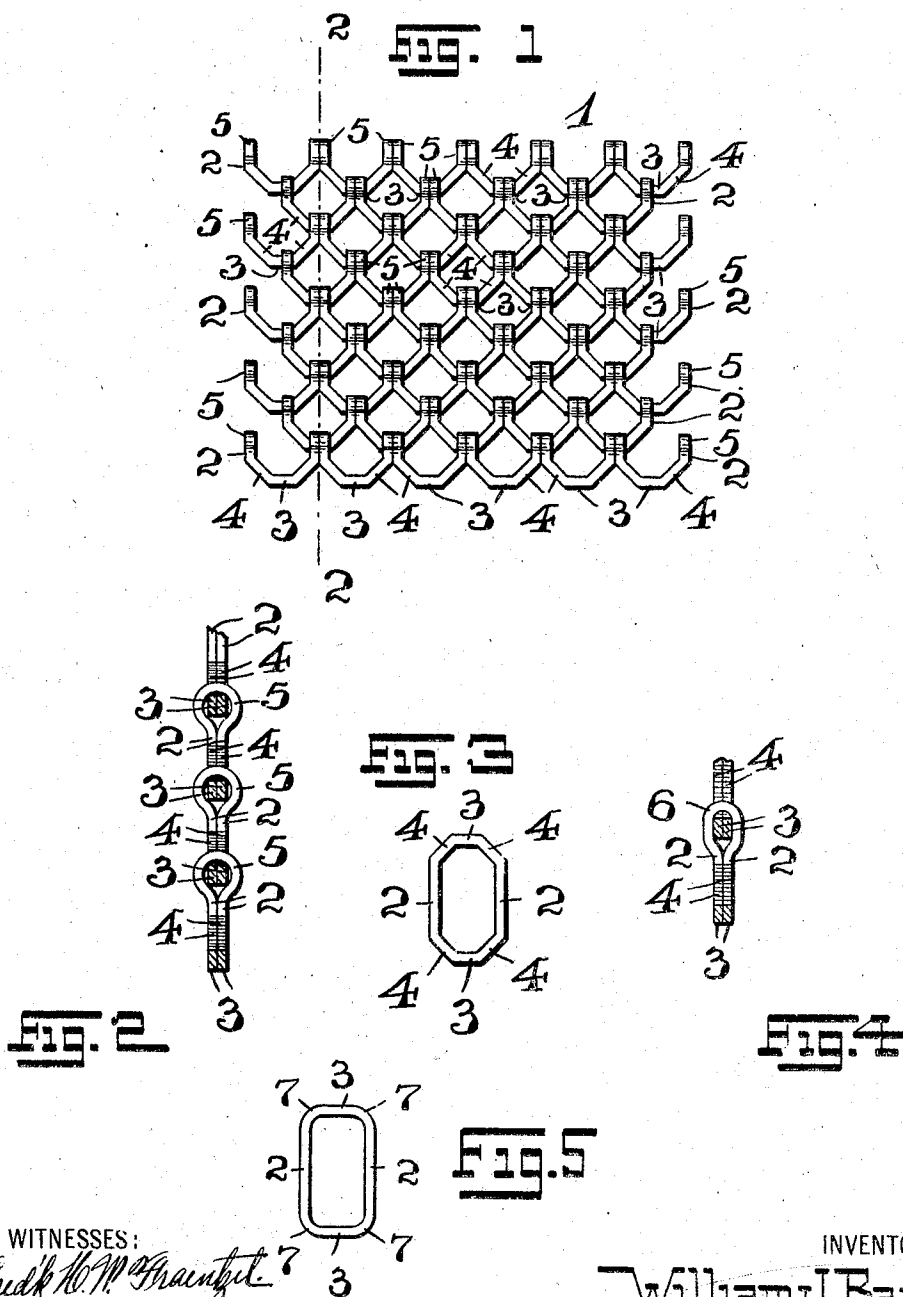


W. J. BAILEY.
LINK MESH.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LINK MESH.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. BAILEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Orange, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Link Meshes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The present invention relates, generally, to an improvement in link-mesh or stock adapted to be used in the manufacture of purses, chatelaine-bags, and the like; and, this invention has for its principal object to provide a strong and durable construction of metallic or other suitable link-mesh or stock which has a smooth inner and outer surface, and which, owing to the peculiar construction and arrangement of the links of which it is formed, is adapted to keep its shape without distortion.

A further object of the present invention is to provide each link with a straight bearing-surface upon which the loops of the adjoining or depending links are secured, whereby the wear caused by the friction of sharp edges of the loops upon a curved bearing surface, which is considerable in old style metallic mesh or stock of this character, is reduced to a minimum and is almost entirely obviated by the construction of links embodying the principles of the present invention; and, furthermore, to provide a novel construction of links having straight bearing-surfaces which provide a better "hang" of one link upon another, and being made with angular side-elements adjacent to the straight bearing-surface, all arranged and cooperating with each other, when a number of links have been flexibly connected to provide a link-mesh, with a view of preventing the usual distortion, and providing a smoother, more pleasing and more uniform appearance.

Other objects of the present invention not at this time more particularly enumerated will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of my present invention.

With the various objects of my present invention in view, the said invention consists

in the novel link-mesh or stock hereinafter set forth; and, furthermore, this invention consists in the novel arrangements and combinations of the various parts thereof, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, all of which will be hereinafter more fully described and then finally embodied in the claims which are appended to and which form an essential part of this specification.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a face view of the novel construction of link-mesh or stock embodying the principles of my present invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail vertical section of the same, said section being taken on line 2—2 in said Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a face view of a blank or link before the same is bent double, to be assembled with other doubled links to form the novel link-mesh or stock. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail vertical section, similar to that shown in Fig. 2, but illustrating a slightly different form of loop-construction. Fig. 5 is a view of another different form of link.

Similar characters of reference are employed in all of the said hereinabove described views, to illustrate corresponding parts.

Referring now to the said drawings, the reference-character 1 indicates the complete link-mesh or stock made according to and embodying the principles of the present invention, and consisting of any suitable number of flexibly connected link-elements, each element comprising an elongated link or member preferably made from any suitable metal. Each link or member is made with a pair of straight sides 2, and at its opposite ends, each link or member is provided with the straight parts 3 forming a suitable bearing-portion for the purposes presently more fully set forth. The sides 2 of said link or member adjoining said bearing-portions 3, are preferably made with inclined or angularly disposed portions or members 4, said members 4 extending in opposite directions from the end-portions of said sides 2 and being connected with said bearing-portions 3. The said inclined portions 4 are preferably straight, as shown in Fig. 3, but curved members or portions 7 may be employed, as indicated in Fig. 5 of the drawings. The said link-member, thus formed, is doubled upon itself, being bent centrally across the two

side-members 2, so that the inclined or angular portions 4 and the said bearing-portions 3 will register with each other, so as to provide a doubled link-shaped element.

5 The bent-portions of each link-member or element are formed into loops or eyes 5. In assembling a number of such link-members or elements to provide a flexible link-mesh, the said loops or eyes 5 of each link or element are arranged over the registering bearing-portions 3 of the next two adjoining link-members or elements, being preferably journaled thereon, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings. The said bearing-portions 3 of each link-member are adapted to support the loops 5 of the next two adjacent link-members, the latter being arranged in rows, so that the loops 5 of the link-members in one row engage or straddle the bearing-portions 3 of adjoining link-members in the row above, and so on. Any number of link-members or elements and any number of rows of the same may be connected to produce a metallic mesh or stock made up of such single link-members or elements. The inclined portions 4 of the said link-members or elements keep the loops 5 of adjoining link-members or elements from becoming unseated from the bearing-portion 3, whereby a smooth and pleasing appearance of said mesh or stock is maintained, so that the connected links will not kink and the opportunity for distortion of the link-mesh or fabric is greatly minimized, and a strong but flexibly interlocked mesh or stock is provided.

Different forms may be given to the loops 5; as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 said loops are circular in form, while the loops 6 shown in Fig. 4 are of an elongated or approximately rectangular configuration.

It will, of course, be understood that the link-members or elements may be made in any variety of shapes in cross-section, either flat, as shown, curved, polygonal, or otherwise.

I claim:—

1. A link-mesh or stock comprising interlocking link-members, each link member having opposite loops and a straight bearing portion connected with said loops and adapted to receive and hold the loops of adjoining link members.

2. A link-mesh or stock comprising link-members doubled upon themselves, the bent portions of each link-member forming loops, and straight bearing-portions connected with each link-member adapted to receive and hold the loops of adjoining link-members.

3. A link-mesh or stock comprising link-members, straight bearing-portions at each end of said link-members, said link-members being doubled upon themselves so that said straight bearing-portions register with each

other, and the bent portions of said link-members forming loops, said loops straddling adjacent link-members upon the bearing-portions thereof, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

4. A link-mesh or stock comprising interlocking link-members, loops connected with each link-member, straight bearing-portions connected with each link-member, and inclined portions extending from said straight bearing-portions to the sides of said link-member, said straight bearing-portions being adapted to receive and hold loops of adjoining link-members, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

5. A link-mesh of stock comprising link-members doubled upon themselves, the bent portions of each link-member forming loops, straight bearing-portions connected with each link-member, and inclined portions extending from said straight bearing-portions to the sides of said link-member, said straight bearing-portions being adapted to receive and hold loops of adjoining link-members, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

6. A link-mesh or stock comprising link-members, straight bearing-portions at each end of said link-members, inclined portions extending from said straight bearing-portions to the sides of said link-members, said link-members being doubled upon themselves so that said straight bearing-portions and said inclined portions register one with another, and the bent portions of said link-members forming loops, said loops straddling adjacent link-members upon the bearing-portions thereof and between the inclined portions thereof, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

7. A metallic mesh or stock comprising horizontal rows of link-members, each link-member being originally a centrally open piece of metal, formed with a straight bearing-portion at each end of said link-member, inclined portions extending from said straight bearing-portions to the sides of said link-member, said link-member being doubled upon itself so that said straight bearing-portions and said inclined portions register with each other, and the bent portions of said link-members forming loops, said loops of the link-members in one horizontal row coupling or joining upon the straight bearing-portions of two adjoining link-members in the horizontal row next above, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony, that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of January, 1909.

WILLIAM J. BAILEY.

Witnesses:

FREDK. H. W. FRAENTZEL,
FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL.