A. C. HAYDEN.

MAT.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 11, 1918.

1,285,155. Patented Nov. 19, 1918.

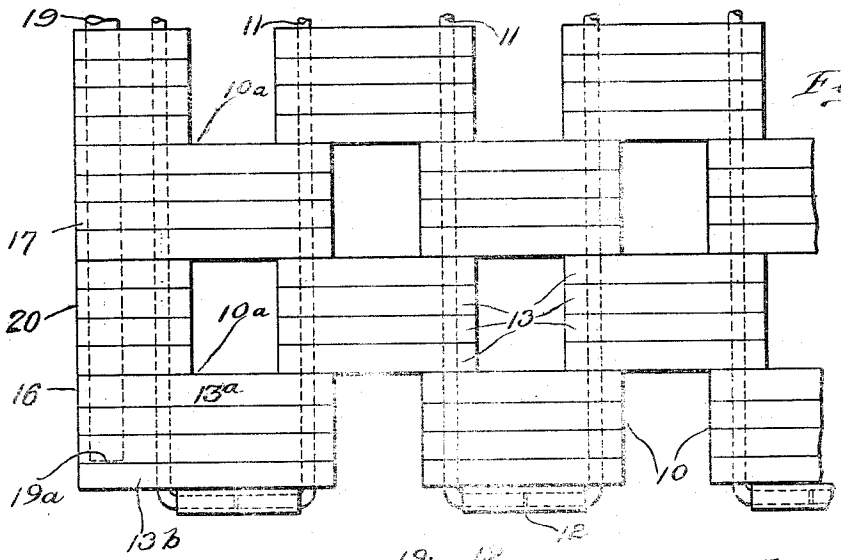


Fig. 1.

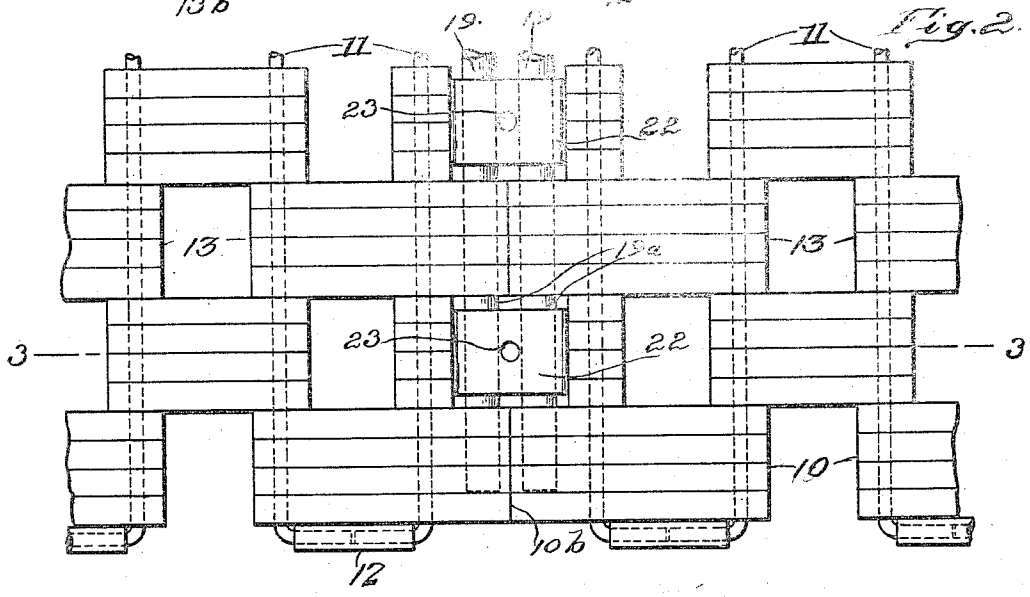


Fig. 2.

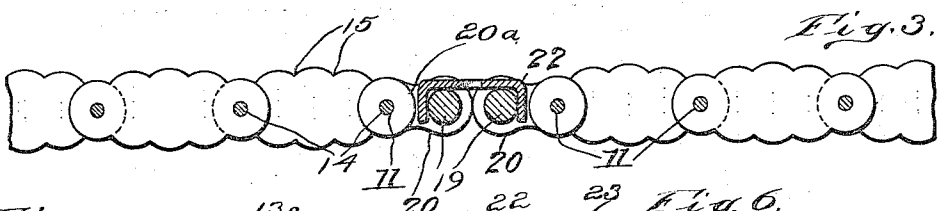


Fig. 3.

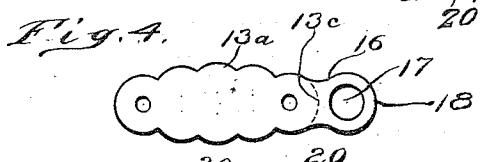


Fig. 4.

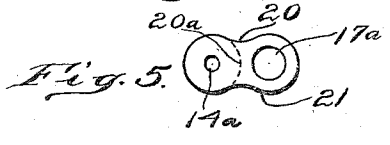


Fig. 5.

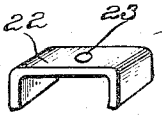


Fig. 6.

Inventor:
Arthur C. Hayden
by Clyde L. Rogers
his att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR C. HAYDEN, OF BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO HAYDEN & CLEMONS, INC., OF BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

MAT.

1,285,155. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 19, 1918.

Application filed April 11, 1918. Serial No. 227,983.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR C. HAYDEN, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Brockton, county of Plymouth, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Mats, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like characters on the drawings representing like parts in each of the several views.

This invention relates to link mats for use in passageways, in front of doors, etc., wherein the links are strung or threaded in alternating relation on a series of transverse rods, and wherein the individual links are each built up to the requisite width by a series of died out pieces of material such as sole leather. A prime object of the invention is to provide a mat of this type wherein the ends of the mat present a finished attractive appearance and are equipped with means adapted to hold the stack or line of material pieces at the end including the end links, in correct alinement and relative position, so that any tendency to distortion or kicking up of individual portions of the mat edge is prevented. In accordance with my invention the means employed for holding the line of material pieces at the ends of the mat in correct alinement and assemblage is also adapted and arranged to be employed for securing a plurality of mat sections together end to end so as to make a runner of any desired length. The means in question is also capable of being removed from the mat edge, with an accompanying severance of the forward projecting ends of the end links in a manner so as to still leave the mat complete and presentable for use. The foregoing and other objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following detailed description, and the distinctive features of novelty will be pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view showing a portion of a mat constructed in accordance with my invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the manner of employing the present improvements for joining the ends of two mat sections together to form a runner;

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is an elevation of one of the special links at the end of the mat;

Fig. 5 is an elevation showing one of the filling pieces employed at the ends of the mat; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective of a coupling element adapted for use for securing mat sections together in accordance with my invention.

The link mat to which the present invention is applied, is herein illustratively shown as composed of a series of links 10 assembled on cross tie rods 11 in alternating relation, the ends of the tie rods being brought together and secured by a suitable coupling 12 forming no part of the present invention. Each link in the present type of mat is built up of a series of died out pieces 13 of material such as sole leather, four of these pieces being shown as making up each link, though this number is likewise merely illustrative. The cross tie rods 11 are passed through holes 14 of a size to fit such rods, and the opposite sides of the links are preferably corrugated as is usual, as seen at 15.

In accordance with my invention the links 10^a at the end of the mat, have the pieces 13^a thereof formed with an outward extension 16 with a relatively large hole 17 therethrough near the extremity thereof, the extremity itself being preferably rounded off as shown at 18 to present a finished apearance to the mat edge. All of the pieces composing the links at the end of the mat are thus formed except the ones at the outer sides of the outermost links, which as indicated at 13^b have a similar extension but without the hole 17. A stout rod 19 is passed through the passage formed by the holes 17 at the end of the mat, this rod being of a size to snugly fit through said holes. This rod terminates in the next to the outermost link member 13^a at each side of the mat as seen at 19^a and it is thus held from endwise displacement, and the holes covered by the solid extension of the outermost link members 13^b which it will be understood are rigidly held as a part of the link units 10^a, by the cross tie rods 11. For filling in the spaces between the links 10^a at the end of the mat I provide special filling pieces 20 having inner portions with holes 14^a for threading on the endmost tie rod, and with outward extensions 21 corresponding and conforming to the extensions

16 and with like holes 17ª therethrough to receive the rod 19. Thus the rods 19 at the ends of the mat are completely covered and incased, and the ends of the mat are given a finished, attractive appearance, with no metal parts exposed, and with a continuous edge relatively extended lengthwise. One prime object in employing the rods 19 is to provide means whereby mat sections may be easily, yet reliably secured together to form a continuous runner of any required length, and as easily taken apart when required. For this purpose the intermediate filler pieces 20 at the end of the mat are cut away approximately as shown by the dotted line 20ª so as to leave the rods 19 exposed at this point as indicated at 19ª. For engaging these exposed rod portions I provide U-shaped metallic clips 22, of a length so that as the ends of two mat sections are brought into abutting relation as seen at 10ᵇ, said clips may be pressed down over the exposed portions 19ª of adjacent rods 19 to engage the same, preferably with some little spring pressure and thus holding the mat sections securely together, yet with a capability of being easily taken apart by merely prying off the holding clips 22. To facilitate thus removing the clips 22 when required I preferably provide the same with a hole 23 in the top thereof adapted to receive the end of a rod or prong which may be used to lift the clips off the rods. In cases when the ends of the mat sections as thus produced may become more or less disintegrated or otherwise unpresentable, the end link members 13ª may also be cut off as shown by the dotted line 13ᶜ, and with said members and the filler members 20 thus treated, and the rod 19 removed, the end of the mat still presents a complete integrate edge for further service. The rods 19 applied as described, thus not only serve an important function in stiffening and holding in alinement the end edges of the mat sections, preventing any relative curling or kicking up of portions thereof, but these rods also serve a further function in their capability for use in connecting the mat sections together to form a continuous runner, being completely inclosed and protected except as required for receiving the holding clips 22 when mat sections are to be joined together. I am aware that the invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and I therefore desire the present embodiment to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A link mat, composed of a series of built up links assembled in alternating relation on a series of tie rods, the end links having extensions beyond the endmost tie rod with a passage through said extensions, and a reinforcing rod fitted in said passage for the purpose stated.

2. A link mat, composed of a series of built up links assembled in alternating relation on a series of tie rods, the end links having extensions beyond the endmost tie rod with a passage through said extensions, and a reinforcing rod fitted in said passage, and filling pieces fitted on the endmost tie rod and with extensions conforming to said link extensions and with said reinforcing rod fitted therethrough.

3. A link mat, composed of a series of built up links assembled in alternating relation on a series of tie rods, the end links having extensions beyond the endmost tie rod with a passage relatively larger than said tie rods through said extensions, a reinforcing rod fitted in said passage, and clips constructed and arranged to engage with said reinforcing rods of adjacent mat sections to lock them together as a continuous runner.

4. A link mat, composed of a series of built up links assembled in alternating relation on a series of tie rods, the end links having extensions beyond the endmost tie rods, a relatively heavy reinforcing rod passed through said extensions, the outer member of each link at the sides of the mat covering the ends of said rod, and U-clips adapted to be pressed frictionally over said reinforcing rods of adjacent mat sections to hold them assembled as a continuous runner.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

ARTHUR C. HAYDEN.