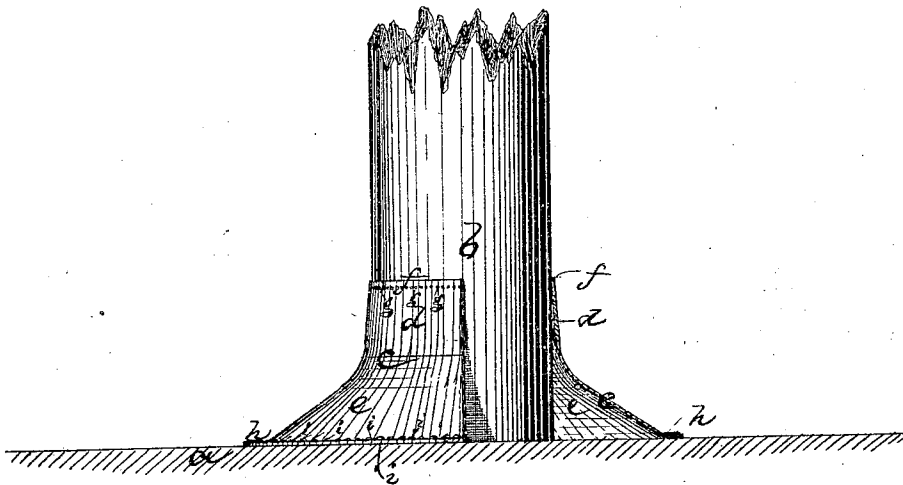


G. PERKINS & J. A. STETSON.

Improvement in Mast-Coats.

No. 132,774.

Patented Nov. 5, 1872.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GILBERT PERKINS, OF LYNNFIELD, AND JAMES A. STETSON, OF GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN MAST-COATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 132,774, dated November 5, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GILBERT PERKINS, of Lynnfield, and JAMES A. STETSON, of Gloucester, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Mast-Coat; and we do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of our invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

The foot of a vessel's mast, where it enters the deck, is generally encompassed by a conical ring of canvas, nailed at its upper edge around the mast, and at its lower edge to the deck, the canvas being covered with paint to render it impervious, this ring, or mast-coat, as it is called, being for the purpose of protecting and rendering impervious the joint between the mast and the deck. Owing, however, to the exposure and early wear of the canvas, and its liability to be broken on account of its lack of elasticity, such mast-coats are but imperfect protectors, and the object of our invention is to provide a mast-coat which shall be both impervious in its structure and elastic to such degree as to prevent its being broken by stepping upon it, or by other means. For this purpose we use an elastic water-proof material, like India rubber or rubber compound, a sheet of which being cut to proper form and drawn around the mast, and having its upper edge nailed to the mast and its outer edge to the deck, forms an impervious joint at the mast and a similar joint at the deck, with

a surface that not only sheds the water, but that will yield at all parts of it, so as to preserve and retain an unbroken water-proof condition under any and all exposure to which it may be subjected. It is in such a mast-coat that our invention consists.

The drawing represents a part of a deck surface and of the mast extending therefrom.

a denotes the deck; *b*, the mast; *c*, the mast-coat. This coat is preferably made of common sheet-rubber compound, and may be formed of a single piece, but preferably of two or more pieces put together in a somewhat conical form, the upper edge *f* being nailed around the mast by a row of nails, *g*, and the outer edge *h* to the deck by a row of nails, *i*. When the ring or band *d* is used, it is drawn over the upper edge of the piece *c*, and the two edges are then united by a suitable cement, or by tacks, as desired. The coat may be made of any suitable form and of any suitable elastic water-proof material, which will admit of its upper edge being tacked to the mast and its outer edge to the deck.

We claim—

A mast-coat made of elastic water-proof material, substantially as described, and adapted to be applied to the mast and deck, as shown and set forth.

GILBERT PERKINS.
JAMES A. STETSON.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS GOULD,
M. W. FROTHINGHAM.