No. 817,043. PATENTED APR. 3, 1906.

E. S. CHENEY.

MOUNT.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 24, 1905.

Fig. 2.

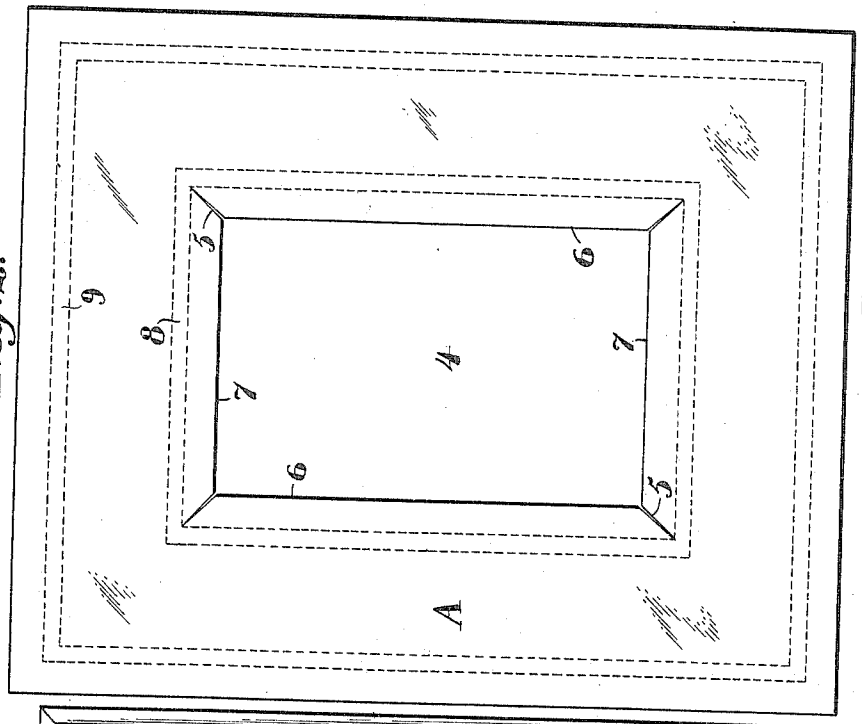


Fig. 4.

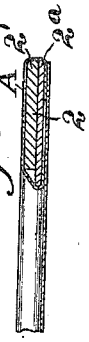


Fig. 1.

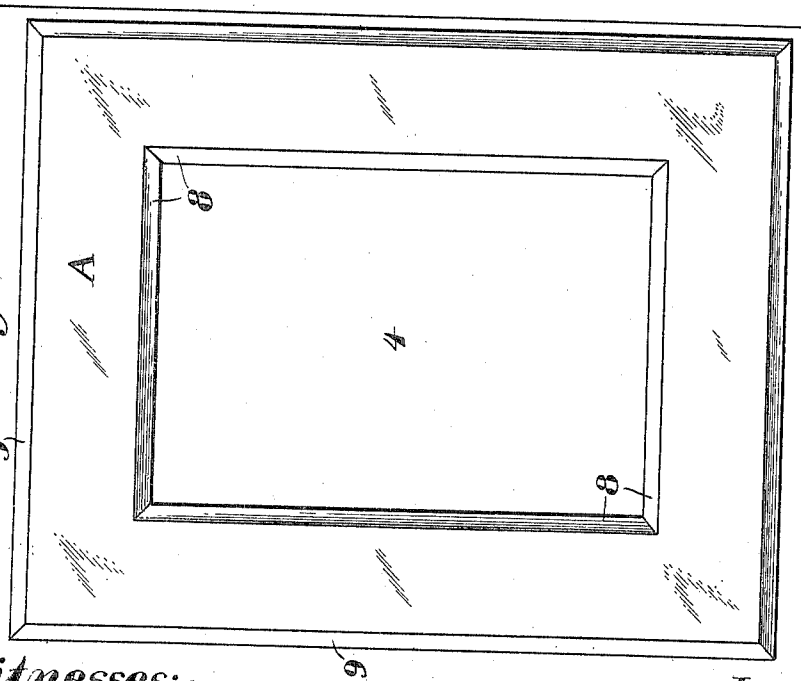
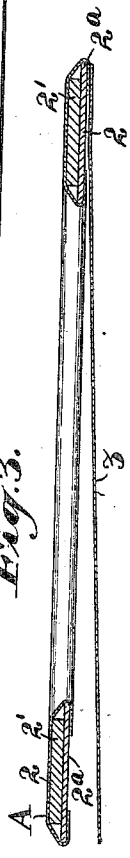


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:-

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Inventor:

Elston S. Cheney

By Geo. H. Strong. Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ESTON S. CHENEY, OF EAST OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

MOUNT.

No. 817,043. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 3, 1906.

Application filed July 24, 1905. Serial No. 271,021.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ESTON S. CHENEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Oakland, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Mounts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in mounts and mats for photographs and the like.

The object of the present invention is to cheapen the construction of mounts and mats wherein a beveled-edge effect is desired.

In my prior patent, No. 774,414, dated November 8, 1904, I have described and claimed an improved mount designed to take the place of the ordinary cut bevel mount or mat.

I purpose now to produce either an inside or outside bevel effect, or both, without having to do any actual beveling whatever, but simply by providing suitably-spaced straight edge guides over which an appropriate surface sheet is stretched and secured at the edges to or at the back of the undermost guide.

The invention consists of the parts and the construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed, having reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a finished mount. Fig. 2 is a plan view of a surface sheet. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of a mount, showing backing-sheet detached from one end of mat. Fig. 4 is a section of mount, showing a slightly-modified form of mat construction.

The mat includes, essentially, a surface sheet A and a filler or frame 2, over which this sheet is stretched. If desired, a backing 3 may be provided. The construction of the frame 2 and the method of stretching the sheet A over the frame are the main features. The frame is preferably built up of a plurality of thicknesses of the cheapest cardboard and comprises at least a top sheet and a bottom sheet, (respectively designated as 2′ 2ª;) but there may be as many intermediate sheets as desired, according to the required thickness of the mat. The several sheets of the constructed frame are suitably secured together by glue or other means. All the sheets have a central cut-out portion corresponding to the space in which the picture is to fit; but where an inside bevel effect is wanted the opening in the bottom sheet is less than in the top or in the intermediate sheets, and where an outside bevel effect is wanted the top sheet will be smaller on its outside diameter than the corresponding diameter of the bottom sheet.

Heretofore it has been common to build up a mat of a number of thicknesses and then cut out either by hand or machine a central beveled opening, and also to bevel by cutting the outside edges. It is to overcome this necessity for all cutting of bevels that the present invention is designed. The cutting of a bevel is not only a difficult thing to do well, but it is expensive. I have discovered that by taking two comparatively thin but sufficiently stiff pieces of cheap cardboard and cutting a hole in each, with the hole in one a little larger than the hole in the other, to produce two sheets, as herein designated, respectively, as 2′ 2ª, and cutting the holes so as to form suitable straight unbeveled edges I can produce a most perfect bevel effect by laying a suitably-perforated surface sheet, as A, over the sheet 2′ or the one with the larger hole, and stretching the inner edges of the surface sheet over the inner edges of the two sheets 2′ 2ª when they are laid one on the other. The surface sheet A is of any appropriate design, color, or quality of paper, wood veneer, or the like, so as to be easily bendable. It has a central opening 4 of considerably less area than the desired mat-opening and is slashed diagonally at the corners from the opening side, as at 5, to allow the side and end portions or flaps 6 7 to be turned under and drawn taut over the frame 2. A border portion 8 proximate to the side and end flaps 6 7 extends clear around the opening 4 and corresponds to the beveled part of the finished mat or mount of Fig. 1, and which part in the finished mount or mat is unsupported except at the top and bottom edges, where it is bent over the respective top and bottom layers 2′ 2ª of the frame. This bevel part 8 may be tinted or colored different from the rest of the mat, if desired. The surface sheet is generally secured in position by pasting its outside edges and the edges of the flaps 6 7 to the under side of the piece 2ª. Where an outside bevel effect is wanted, the bottom layer 2ª of the frame is simply made longer and wider than the top layer and such intermediate layers as may be used and the surface sheet bent over the frame, as before described. This outside bevel part 9 of sheet A may also be tinted or colored in contrast to the rest of the mat to heighten the artistic ef-

fect. At least two separate sheets or thickness of board are necessary to form the frame 2. Where an inside bevel effect is desired, the hole in one board must be smaller than the hole in the other. If an outside bevel effect is wanted, the top board is shorter and narrower than the bottom one. Each board and the hole in each board may be cut with perfectly straight up-and-down edges. Cutting of this sort is very much cheaper and quicker than cutting on bevels. To cut a perfect bevel requires considerable skill and takes time. When the surface sheet is stretched and secured in the manner described, the bevel portions 8 9 are practically unsupported between the top edge of the top sheet and the bottom edge of the bottom sheet. The effect of beveling is thus produced without any actual beveling whatever. A mount is made by simply securing this mat to a backing-sheet 3 of the same size as the under side of the mat or sheet 2^a. Sometimes the backing-sheet may be simply pasted or hinged at one end or side as they come from the factory, which allows a print or picture of a size larger than the mat-opening to be slipped in between the mat and backing, properly centered, pasted to the backing, and then pasting the mat permanently down on the backing along the previously-unsealed sides. This obviates trimming of the print and produces a true passe-partout effect. On the other hand, the mount may be supplied with the mat firmly secured on all sides to the backing. In this case the picture is trimmed and secured in the beveled depression in the usual manner.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the specific construction as herein shown and described, for such modifications of said specific construction may be made as will fall within the scope of my claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A mat comprising top and bottom unbeveled perforated layers of relatively stiff material, the perforation in one layer being larger than the perforation in the other, and an open-center surface sheet stretched over the top layer and over the inner edges of the two layers, said surface sheet having its edges suitably secured underneath the bottom sheet.

2. A mat comprising a plurality of perforated relatively stiff sheets laid one on the other, the perforation in the lowermost sheet having a smaller diameter than the perforation in the topmost sheet, and a perforated surface sheet having inwardly-projecting side and end flap portions substantially as described, laid over the topmost sheet and having its outside edges suitably anchored, said side and end flap portions being stretched over the inside edges of said first-named sheets and secured beneath the undermost one.

3. A mat comprising top and bottom perforated boards, the perforation in the bottom board being smaller than the perforation in the top board, and a perforated surface sheet stretched across the top board and over the inside edges of the two boards and beneath the bottom board and secured thereto, the portion of said surface sheet forming the walls of the mat-opening presenting a bevel appearance.

4. A mat comprising top and bottom perforated boards, the perforation in the bottom board being smaller than the perforation in the top board, and a perforated surface sheet stretched across the top board and over the inside edges of the two boards and beneath the bottom board and secured thereto, the portion of said surface sheet forming the walls of the mat-opening presenting a bevel appearance, and said bevel portion being unsupported between the top edge of the top board and the bottom edge of the bottom board.

5. A mat comprising top and bottom perforated boards, the bottom board being longer and wider than the top board, and a perforated surface sheet longer and wider than either of said boards and having its perforations corresponding in shape to but smaller than the perforations in said boards, said surface sheet cut diagonally at its inside corners to form side and end flaps, said surface sheet being stretched across the topmost board and over both the outside and inside edges of both boards and secured underneath the bottom board.

6. A new article of manufacture comprising a mat formed of perforated upper and lower boards, the perforation in the lower board being smaller than the perforation in the top board, a perforated surface sheet stretched over the top board and around the inside edges of the boards and secured therebeneath, and a backing-sheet to which said mat is affixed.

7. A new article of manufacture comprising a mat formed of perforated upper and lower boards, the perforation in the lower board being smaller than the perforation in the top board, a perforated surface sheet stretched over the top board and around the inside edges of the two boards and secured therebeneath, and a backing-sheet hinged to the under side of the mat and adapted to permit the insertion of a print or the like between the backing and mat.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ESTON S. CHENEY.

Witnesses:
S. H. NOURSE,
D. B. RICHARD.