Jan. 14, 1930. R. F. RUTHERFORD ET AL 1,743,487

MATTRESS TUFT

Filed June 25, 1928

Fig. 1.

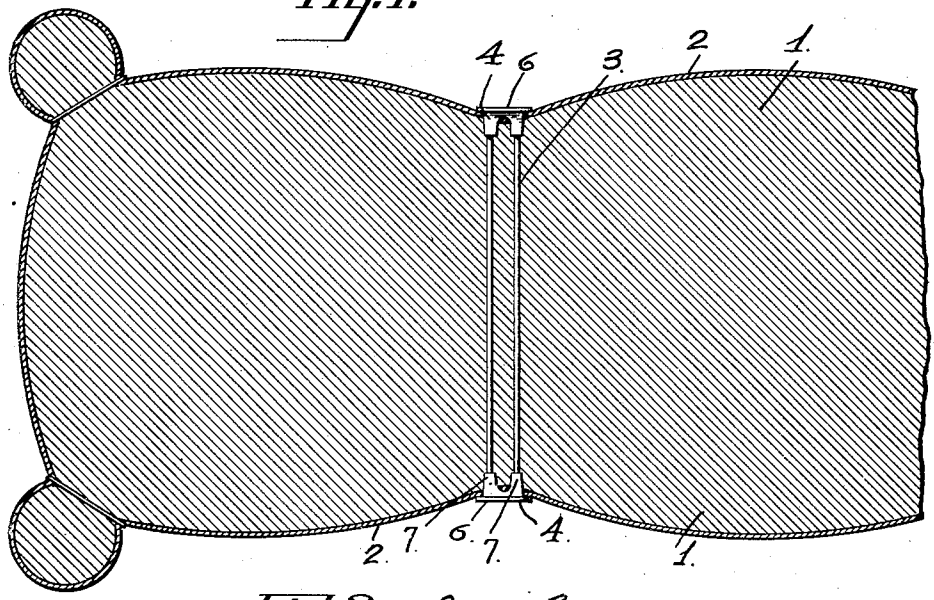



Fig. 2.

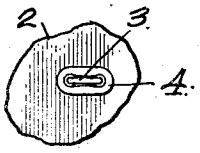



Fig. 3.

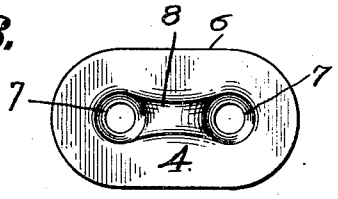
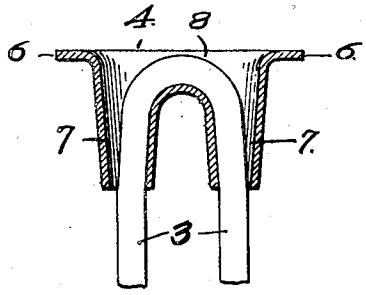



Fig. 4.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## MATTRESS TUFT

Application filed June 25, 1928. Serial No. 287,968.

Our invention relates to improvements in a tufting device for mattresses and the like wherein tufting loops are applied through gromets engaging the ticking of a mattress to prevent injury to the ticking and to prevent loss or displacement of the tufts.

The primary object of our invention is to provide an improved tufting means for mattresses and the like.

Another object is to provide an improved device which effectually protects the ticking and the ends of the tufting loops.

A further object is to provide an improved tufting device whereby the tufting loops are effectually engaged and permanently retained.

Another object is to provide an improved tufting device of the character described which is applied directly upon the ticking of a mattress to receive and retain the tufting loops.

A still further object is to provide an improved device of simple construction which can be efficiently and economically applied.

We accomplish these and other objects by means of the improved device disclosed in the drawings forming a part of the present application wherein like characters of reference are used to designate similar parts throughout the specification and drawings and in which—

Fig. 1 is a broken sectional view of a portion of a mattress showing the manner in which our invention is applied;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a tufting gromet as applied upon the mattress;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a tufting gromet drawn upon an enlarged scale; and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical section of a gromet showing the manner in which the tufting loop is engaged and protected.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 is used to designate in general a mattress provided with the usual cover or ticking 2. Tufting loops 3 of the ordinary character are applied through the mattress at intervals in the usual manner.

In the ordinary practice, tufts are inserted through the ends of the loops 3 to prevent the ends of the loops from tearing through the ticking in a well known manner. Such tufts collect dust and dirt, and when the mattress has become somewhat packed down in service, the tufts frequently slip out from the ends of the loops and permit the loops to tear through the ticking.

In our present invention, we provide tufting members designated in general by the numeral 4 which are inserted into engagement with the ticking 2 and arranged to receive the strands of the loops 3 and permanently retained in operative engagement by said loops 3. The members 4 consist of a flange portion 6 having a pair of substantially parallel sleeve portions 7 extending from one side of the flange and opening therethrough and forming a double gromet. A groove 8 is formed in the flange portion 6 between the sleeve openings to form a recess adapted to receive the end of a loop 3 below the plane of the outer surface of the flange 6. The members 4 are preferably stamped from suitable sheet metal, and the sleeve portions 7 are spaced sufficiently to receive the needles of the usual tufting machine and to span a substantial quantity of the mattress ticking and stuffing thereby preventing lateral movement relative to the stuffing.

In operation, tufting members 4 are applied at opposite points upon the upper and lower surfaces of the mattress. The needles of the ordinary tufting machine are operated through the spaced parallel sleeve portions 7 to form the usual tufting loop 3, said loop being tied in the well known manner and drawn tight through the mattress when the mattress is allowed to expand after the loop is applied. The ends of the loops 3 are received within the grooves 8 of the members 4 upon opposite sides of the mattress, thereby holding the members 4 in firm engagement with the surfaces of the mattress, said grooves serving to recede the loop from the surface of the flange 6 and protect the loop from wear. As the loops 3 are applied directly through the sleeve portions 7 of the members 4, said members 4 are permanently retained in position and cannot become lost. The double gromet structure effectually pro-

tects the ticking so that the loops cannot cut through the ticking engaged within the ends of the loops.

While we have illustrated and described our invention in its preferred embodiment only, the device is of course subject to modification, and we desire to avail ourselves of such modifications as may fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A mattress tuft comprises a double gromet consisting on an outer flange portion and a pair of parallel sleeve portions engaging the ticking of a mattress and arranged to receive the strands of a tufting loop, said flange portion being grooved between the openings into the sleeve portions to recede the loop inwardly from the surface of the flange.

2. A mattress tuft comprising the combination with a mattress and the ticking thereof, of double gromets inserted through the ticking at opposite points upon the upper and lower surfaces of the mattress to receive tufting loops applied through the mattress, said gromets having grooves arranged to receive the ends of the loops.

In witness whereof, we hereunto set our signatures.

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WILLIAM HOOD.