(No Model.)

W. GLOVER.

BALE COVERING.

No. 417,782. Patented Dec. 24, 1889.

Fig. 1.

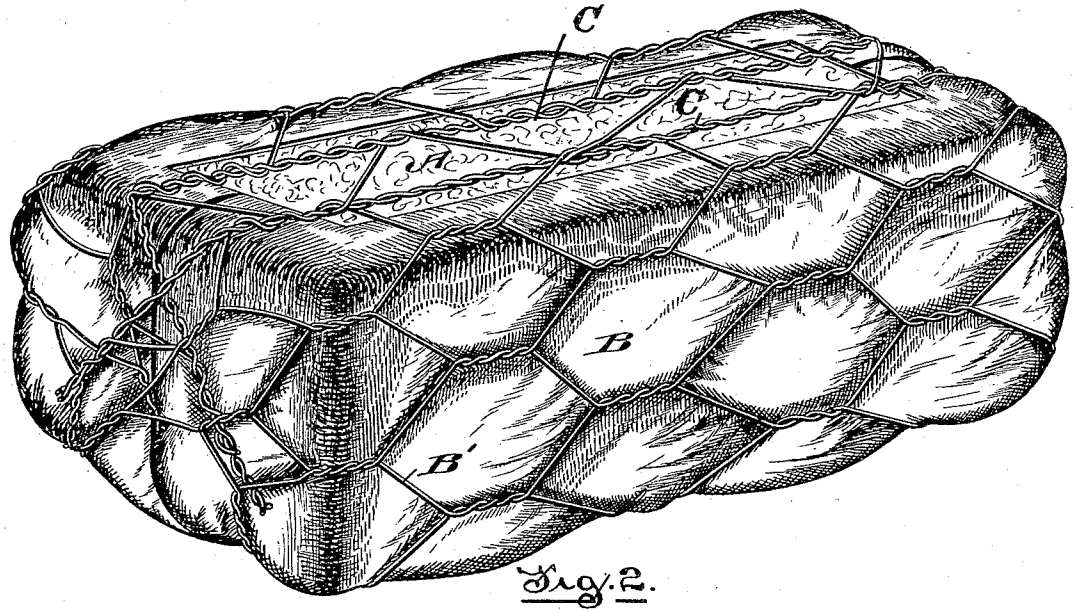
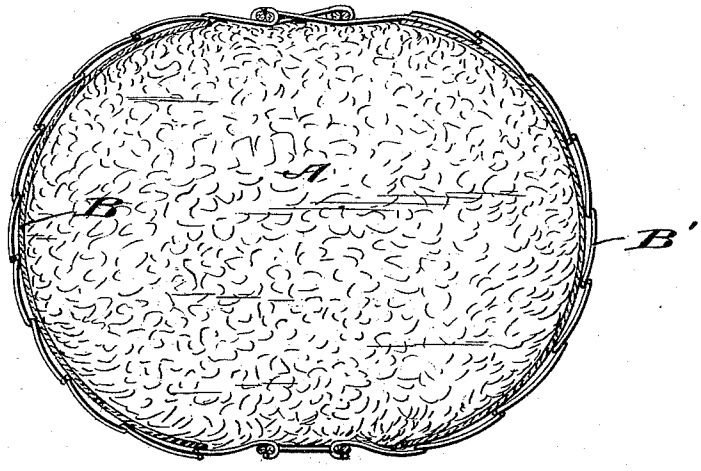


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILSON GLOVER, OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA.

BALE-COVERING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 417,782, dated December 24, 1889.

Application filed December 17, 1888. Serial No. 293,810. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILSON GLOVER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenville, in the county of Greenville and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bale-Coverings; and I do 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.

My invention relates to an improved method of covering cotton-bales and securing the same from damage.

Heretofore in the baling of cotton for transportation it has been customary to cover the compressed package or bale with a coarse fabric made of jute or similar material which is lapped and sewed with twine, the tying of the bale being effected by bands of metal or ropes.

It is well known that the ordinary method of baling cotton and securing the same is defective in several particulars, the jute covering being of such loose texture that it is liable to become torn or cut open and the contents exposed to dirt and loss. Where bales of cotton are shipped on a vessel for transportation, the rough usage they receive in handling them to load and unload the same frequently tears holes in the jute covering and exposes the cotton-lint to injury and the dangerous contingency of fire. Cotton which is baled in the usual way is liable when exposed to rain-storms to absorb considerable water, which it is difficult to estimate the weight of. This absorption of water renders it impossible to ascertain the true weight of a cotton-bale, and it is also a positive injury to the lint. A further waste of cotton often occurs from the incidental cutting of the cover in removing samples of the lint, as when the coarse cover is severed it frequently happens that a considerable amount of the cotton-lint is drawn out and lost.

One object of my invention is to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive method of covering cotton-bales that are compressed in the usual manner, which will obviate the contingency of loss from transportation of cotton-bales by securing the bale-cover from damage or liability to be torn or cut while in transit.

A further object is to furnish a water and fire proof cover to a cotton-bale, that is also enveloped by a substantial net-work of metal, which will effectually protect the inner jacket or cover of the cotton-lint from injury and serve in the place and stead of bands or ropes for keeping the bale compressed in shape.

A further object is to afford a means for extracting a sample from a compressed cotton-bale readily and avoid the liability to waste and injury of the contained cotton-lint that usually results when samples are taken from an ordinary bale.

A further object is to provide a durable reticulated outer cover for a cotton-bale which is further protected by an inner jacket of water and fire proof material, said outer net-work of metal being adapted to have its meeting edges joined by a metal wire, or asbestus strand or rope, so as to form a smooth exterior surface to the bale, obviating such projecting obstructions as are found on ordinary bale-ties, which hinder free sliding and easy handling of the cotton-bale.

With these objects in view my invention consists in certain features of construction and combination of parts that will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

Referring to the drawings making a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cotton-bale provided with my improved reticulated covering. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of Fig. 1.

A represents the contained lint of a bale of cotton, and B a jacket or envelope, of any preferred material, which may be of wood, paper, asbestus, fibrous material, or felting, which has been either saturated with a fire and water proof material, or coated with such a substance in liquid form, as a paint.

The envelope B should be placed in the compressing-engine in the same manner as is the ordinary jute cover, so that it will be available to fold neatly around the pressed lint to form a compact package or bale of proper form, and, if desired, the folded edges may be joined to the fabric or material so as to aid in retaining the bale in shape.

The outer cover B′ is made of wire sufficiently strong to serve in the place and stead of ordinary bale-ties, and with openings between the wires of such size as will admit a sampling-auger to be inserted through them to obtain samples of the cotton underneath. On each end of the bale the wires are secured and connected by weaving them together, or by lacing them with independent wires, as may be found most desirable. If desired, this outer cover B′ may be placed in a compressing-machine along with an inner jacket B, in the usual manner, so that the pressed cotton-lint may be properly enveloped by the two covers at one operation.

When a bale has been pressed and covered, as hereinbefore stated, the edges of one or more sections of the outer cover B may be joined at the meeting edges by an incombustible strand of asbestus fiber, or preferably by flexible wire that is threaded or strung through the meshes of the woven-wire fabric to secure the material in place on the bale.

A distinction should always be made between the wire covering B and ordinary wire-cloth, as the latter is too frail and its meshes too small for the purpose required.

In preparing the meeting edges of the outer jacket for being laced together I usually attach a wire cable thereto, as shown on the drawings and marked C. This cable forms a firm and semi-rigid selvage for the edges of the jacket and of sufficient strength to resist the force necessarily applied to the lacing-wire.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

A cotton-bale covering consisting, substantially, of an inner covering of fire and water proof material and an outer jacket of wires, the latter being woven or otherwise united and arranged at such distances from each other as to provide spaces for the insertion of a sampling-auger, and of such strength as to serve in the place and stead of ties, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILSON GLOVER.

Witnesses:
PAUL WORKMAN,
R. H. PEACOCK.