

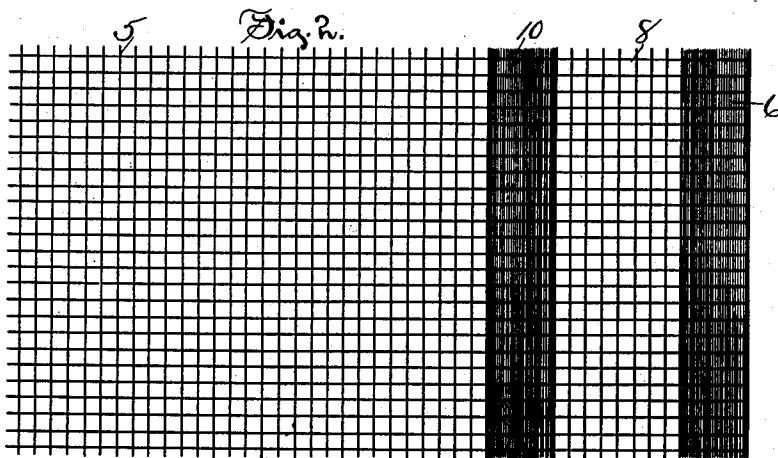
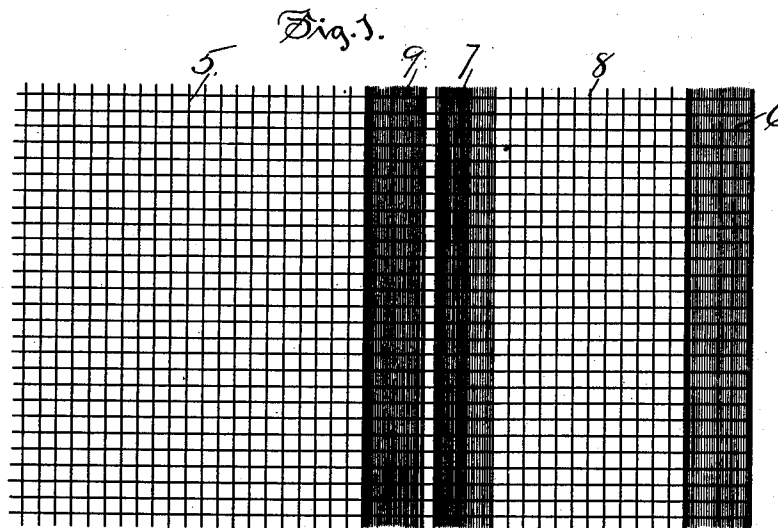
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H. K. SILL

FABRIC

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INVENTOR
Helen K. Sill.
by
Arthur Jenkins,
ATTORNEY.

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HELEN K. SILL, OF ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT.

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My invention relates more especially to that class of fabrics that are used for sheltering growing vegetation, more especially tobacco, and an object of my invention, among others, is to provide a fabric of this kind provided with means that shall enable it to be rapidly put in place whenever it shall have been displaced by extraneous forces, as wind and storm; and a further object of my invention is to provide a fabric of this class with means to limit the extent of tear or rupture caused from extraneous forces, as wind and storm.

Different forms of fabric embodying my invention and in the construction and use of which the objects herein set out, as well as others, may be attained, is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of a piece of fabric embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a face view of a piece of fabric illustrating one adaptation of my invention.

Figure 3 is a view in section through the fabric illustrated in Figure 2.

In the use of fabric especially employed for covering tobacco fields for the purpose of sheltering and shading the tobacco plants, frames are commonly arranged, supported by posts disposed at intervals over the field and the fabric or cloth is attached to wires extending in different directions across the field and supported by said posts, the fabric being secured to said wire as by means of cord. This fabric in use at the present time is provided with selvage edges through which the fastening cords are passed in securing the fabric to the wire frames.

Wind and storm frequently places severe strains upon this fabric to such extent that it is torn from the frames, such tear commonly taking place just inside the selvage edge, and it is then a difficult matter to again secure the fabric in place, for the reason that there is not enough strength in the body of the fabric to resist the strains, owing to the fact that it is not practical to make the fabric or cloth of sufficient strength to withstand the stress of all storms.

In carrying my invention into effect I do not propose to strengthen the crosswise or filling threads at or near the outer selvage in a manner to interfere with the tearing of the cloth at or near the outer edge, but I propose to so construct the fabric that the tearing shall be localized and confined within certain bounds.

To this end I provide a fabric 5 of any ordinary weave or construction, which fabric may be produced of any desirable width and which is provided at its edge with a selvage 6 in a manner common to fabrics heretofore produced. This selvage 6 will be employed for securing the fabric to the wire frames in the manner as heretofore practiced. When the cloth, by reason of excessive strains, shall become torn, and as is usual at or near this selvage 6, I provide a secondary selvage 7 located at a suitable distance from the outer selvage 6, that portion 8 of the fabric between the two selvages being preferably formed the same as the main body 5 of the fabric. The selvage 7 is preferably located at such distance from the selvage 6 that when the fabric becomes torn between the two selvages, that one 7 may be made use of in place of the selvage 6 to re-attach the fabric to the wire frames, the stretching of the fabric in use usually enabling it to be taken up to this extent.

While a fabric embodying a single selvage 7 at a predetermined distance from the selvage 6 will answer my purpose to a very satisfactory extent, yet in a preferred form I provide two selvages, as shown in Figure 1, the second secondary selvage 9 being located close to the secondary selvage 7, and this may be made use of should the fabric become torn between the two secondary selvages. It is my purpose, however, in the use of these secondary selvages to make a fold or tuck 10, as shown in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawing, to which the cords may be secured for the purpose of attaching the fabric in place whenever such fabric shall become torn between the selvages.

My invention contemplates a secondary selvage, and by this I mean a structure not at the outer edge of the fabric when the goods are new, but which structure, after certain wear and tear, most frequently by stretching and by storm resulting in the loss of the first or edge selvage, will leave this secondary selvage at the approximate edge of the fabric.

It is not practical for obvious reasons, to make the cloth of sufficient strength to resist the stress of all storms, some of which are accompanied by hail and wind that not only tears the cloth but breaks the wires and posts that support them. Recognizing the fact that there are times and conditions under which the cloth is liable to be torn

I do not propose to interfere with the common tearing of the cloth at or near the selvage, as tears at this place are more convenient for mending than at any other place in the fabric. I do, however, propose to localize such tears within certain definite limits of the selvage by providing the secondary selvage or selvages, as hereinbefore described, located at a certain distance from the edge selvage.

I claim—

1. A piece of awning fabric for protecting vegetation and comprising a body, a marginal selvage, a narrow strip adjoining said selvage and of the same texture and strength as the body, and a secondary selvage located between said body and said narrow strip and adjacent the marginal selvage to prevent tearing of the narrow strip from extending into the body, said narrow strip localizing tearing strains between the two selvages.

2. A piece of awning fabric for protecting vegetation and comprising a body, a plurality of adjacently positioned selvage

strips at the margin of the body, said selvage strips being separated by narrow strips of the same texture and strength as the body, whereby tearing strains are localized to a zone between the selvage strips with the inner selvage strip preventing tearing strains from extending from one side of a selvage strip to the opposite side thereof.

3. A piece of awning fabric for protecting vegetation and comprising a body, a selvage edge of greater tensile strength than said body to serve as a suspension means for said awning, a secondary selvage woven into the body of the fabric in narrowly spaced relation to the selvage edge to serve as a secondary means for suspension of the fabric when the selvage edge becomes useless, and a localizing strip located between said selvages and of substantially the same strength and texture as the body of the fabric to localize tearing strains between said selvages, and the secondary selvage preventing such tearing strains from extending into the body of the fabric.

HELEN K. SILL.