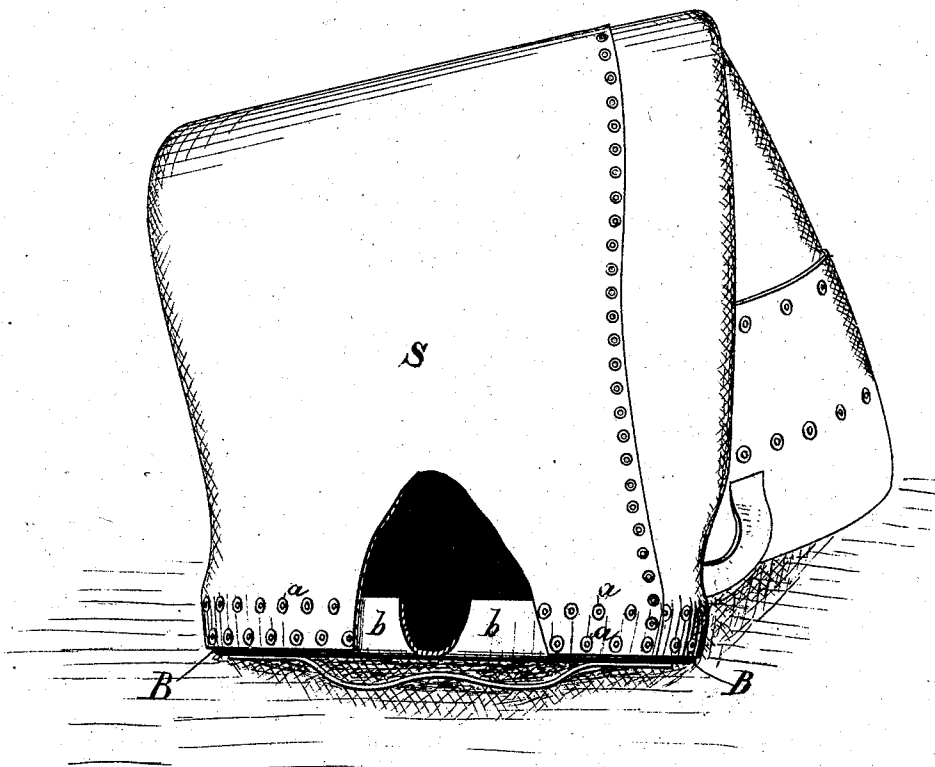


P. S. THOMSON.

MAIL-BAG.

No. 171,250.

Patented Dec. 21, 1875.



Witnesses:
Gren. Lewis
[Signature]

Inventor
Polydore S. Thomson,
By *[Signature]* & *[Signature]*,
His Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

POLYDORE S. THOMSON, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN MAIL-BAGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,250**, dated December 21, 1875; application filed November 17, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, POLYDORE S. THOMSON, of Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Mail-Bags; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which my invention is represented by a perspective view, a portion of the wall of the bag having been broken away to reveal the interior construction.

The object of the invention is to improve the construction of leather mail-bags, so as to cause them to retain their form more perfectly, and to prevent them from wearing away at the edge around the bottom, by being drawn along over the ground when filled. To this end the invention consists in a mail-bag having its bottom formed with a turned-up flange around its edge, which flange fits into or around the lower edge of the sides of the bag, and is secured thereto by two or more rows of headed rivets, that protect the outside of the bag from injury.

In the drawing, B is the bottom of the bag, made in substantially circular form, and provided with a turned-up flange, *b*, around its edge, as shown, said flange being, preferably, from an inch and a half to two inches and a half in width. S is the bag, into or over the end of which the bottom B is closely fitted, and to which it is secured by means of two or more rows of metal rivets, *a a*, headed on the outside, or on both sides.

The leather at the flange *b* is thus of double thickness, and the two thicknesses, secured together along their upper edge and also along their lower edge, form a stout, strong, but sufficiently flexible rim at the bottom of the bag, which keeps the bag in shape whether filled or empty; and the heads of the two rows of rivets effectually protect the outside of said rim from injury when the bag is dragged along the ground.

A narrow rim secured together by a single row of rivets will not answer the purpose, as it will turn under and allow the bag to get out of shape, and the unprotected leather to drag on the ground. Three rows of rivets will answer the purpose, but practically no better than two rows, although more expensive.

With two rows of such rivets as are ordinarily used in mail-bags, and a flange wide enough to give each row a good hold upon the leather without being too near the edges thereof, every essential condition is fulfilled.

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

A mail-bag having a bottom with turned up circumferential flange, and having sides overlapping said flange, and secured thereto by two or more rows of metal-headed rivets, substantially as described.

POLYDORE S. THOMSON.

Witnesses:

E. C. WEAVER,
F. McKENNY.