No. 871,420. PATENTED NOV. 19, 1907.

A. & F. KOHOUT.

FLEXIBLE PARQUETRY.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1907.

Fig. I.

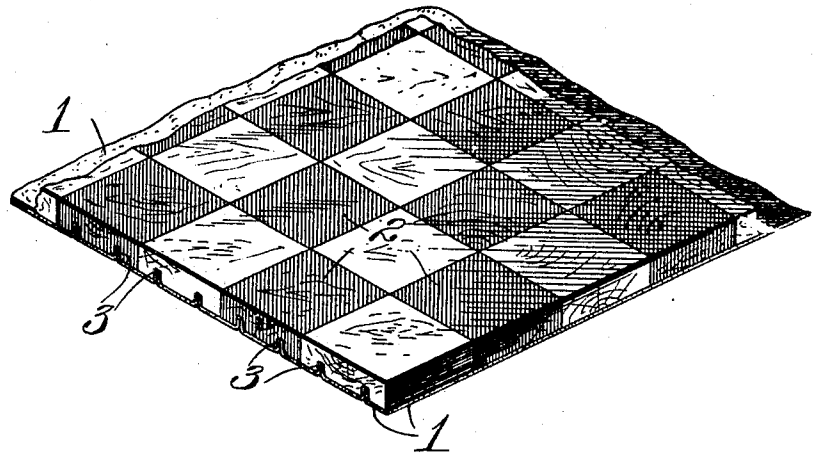


Fig. II.

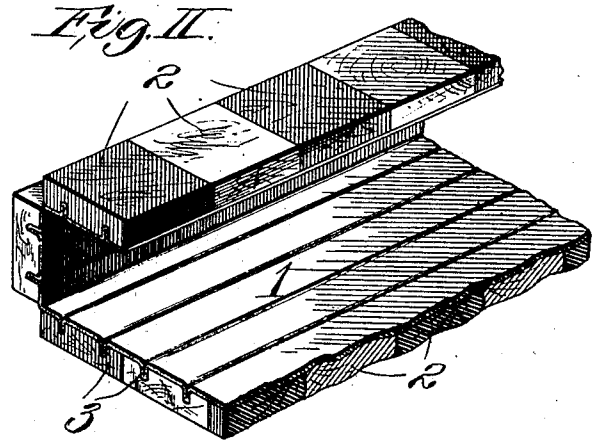
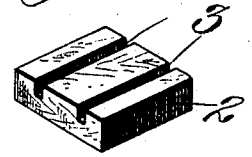


Fig. III.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALOIS KOHOUT AND FREDERICK KOHOUT, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNORS TO HENRY F. VOGEL, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

FLEXIBLE PARQUETRY.

No. 871,420. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 19, 1907.

Application filed February 19, 1907. Serial No. 358,246.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALOIS KOHOUT and FREDERICK KOHOUT, citizens of the United States of America, residing in the city of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flexible Parquetry, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification.

Our invention relates to a flexible parquetry for use upon floors of buildings or other structures, such as railway cars, and also for wainscoting and various other forms of coverings.

Figure I is a perspective view of a fragment of our parquetry. Fig. II is a perspective view of the reverse side of our parquetry in partially rolled condition. Fig. III is a perspective view of one of the blocks of the parquetry in inverted position.

In producing our parquetry we take a sheet 1 of any flexible material, such as fabric, the material used being preferably canvas. This sheet constitutes the backing of the parquetry and on it are laid blocks 2 which are firmly cemented at their lower sides to the backing sheet, and are cemented to each other at parallel edges but are left independent of connection with each other at other edges in order that the entire structure will be of a flexible nature. The blocks 2 are preferably of wood, but they may be of any other suitable material, or of compositions of materials, for instance they may be composed of sawdust and a proper bond from which the blocks are molded, or of wood pulp molded into the shape of blocks. Each of the blocks 2 of the parquetry is provided with one or more grooves 3 at its rear side, the grooves being preferably two in number in each block although they may be of any other desirable number. The grooves in the blocks receive the backing sheet of the parquetry which is firmly inserted or tucked in and embedded in the grooves in the process of making the parquetry by force applied to said backing sheet in any desirable manner, such as by the use of a thin blade or strip of metal to which pressure may be applied. The backing sheet is preferably coated throughout with a suitable cement before the blocks are applied to it and therefore when portions of said sheet are forced into the grooves of the blocks they become cemented therein in addition to the binding action incident to the expansion of these portions of the sheet when the means for forcing them into the grooves is withdrawn.

By inserting and tucking in and embedding portions of the backing sheet in the grooves of the blocks, the blocks are effectually interengaged with and held from separation from the backing sheet and prevented from becoming detached therefrom owing to the portions of the sheet entering into the grooves entirely filling such grooves. The blocks are therefore rendered practically moisture proof to prevent moisture from causing them to become loosened from the backing sheet but should, however, moisture enter into the portions of the sheet which are seated in the grooves of the blocks it acts only to more tightly bind such portions in the grooves, due to the swelling thereof. By virtue of forcing the backing sheet into the grooves of the blocks ribs or seams are created therein and the parquetry can only be rolled in one direction but is materially increased in strength, due to the presence of these ribs or seams.

The parquetry may be readily coated after it is placed in service with a solution of wax, varnish or other substance to render it moisture or germ proof and it is of such construction and nature that it is much less expensive of manufacture than carpet or linoleum. It is also much warmer as a floor covering than the materials mentioned.

Flexible parquetry made in accordance with our invention has the advantage of being readily rolled into bundles, due to the flexibility thereof, when being conveyed from a place of manufacture to the place at which it is to be used or when on sale in stores or conveyed from place to place. It also has the advantage of being readily cut into any size sections by merely severing the backing sheet on a line at which it is desired to make a cut, and it is furthermore an article of the kind to which the invention relates which can be readily manufactured at a factory and conveyed to the place at which it is to be used without the necessity of laying the parquetry blocks individually upon flooring as is commonly done in constructing parquetry floors.

Claims:

1. Parquetry comprising a backing sheet and blocks having grooves at their rear sides and secured to said backing sheet in a common plane so that the backing sheet spans more than two blocks; intermediate portions of the backing sheet being inserted or tucked into the grooves of the blocks.

2. Parquetry comprising a flexible backing sheet and blocks having grooves at their rear sides and secured to said backing sheet in a common plane so that the backing sheet spans more than two blocks; intermediate portions of the backing sheet being inserted or tucked into the grooves of the blocks.

ALOIS KOHOUT.
FREDERICK KOHOUT.

In presence of:
BLANCHE HOGAN,
LILY ROST.