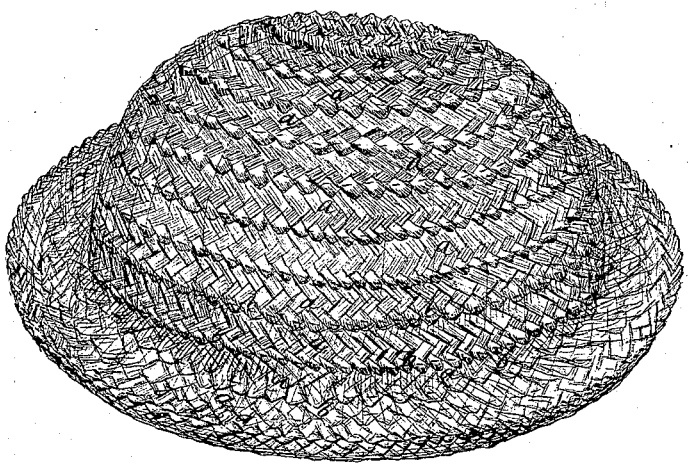
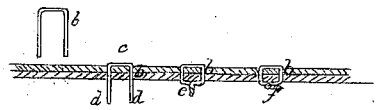
J. Keith,

Hat.

No. 110,921. Patented. Jan. 10. 1871.





Jeremiah Keith
By his Attys.
Crosby, Halsted & Gould

Witnesses. { M. W. Frothingham.
L. H. Latimer.

United States Patent Office.

JEREMIAH KEITH, OF CHARLTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 110,921, dated January 10, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN HATS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEREMIAH KEITH, of Charlton, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented an improvement in securing together Braids of Straw, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

My invention relates to an improvement in the manufacture of straw or palm-leaf goods such as hats and bonnets, (which are made by coiling a long ribbon of braided straw and fastening the adjacent coils together,) with reference to the method of effecting the connection of the parts.

Heretofore the fastening has always been effected by stitching or sewing with thread, the rotting or breaking of which soon destroys or injures the hat or bonnet.

In my improvement I use wire staples for fastenings, driving them through the lapping edges from the outside, bringing the heads tightly against the straw and joining the inner ends or legs of each staple, twisting them together and bending them down against the inner surface of the braid.

My invention consists in a hat or other similar article made of braided straw, palm-leaf, or other coiled material, having the coils fastened together by wire staples, the ends of which are preferably twisted and bent down against the inner surface of the braid.

The drawing represents a hat made in accordance with my invention, and a sectional view showing the manner of applying the staples.

a a represent the coils of braids, brought into respective position, as in the ordinary manufacture of hats, the edges being lapped sufficiently to enable them to be fastened together, leaving but one edge in sight.

As the coil is being formed, and as the parts to be connected are brought together, the staples *b* are driven or drawn in, the two points of each staple passing into the outer braid near and parallel to its edge, and then through the under or lapped braid, it being drawn through so as to bring the head of the staple aganist the outer surface of the outer braid, as seen at *c*, leaving the two ends projecting beyond the inner surface of the inner braid, as seen at *d d*. These two ends are now brought together and twisted, as seen at *e*, and the twist is subsequently driven down against the braid, as seen at *f*.

The braids thus fastened form a very strong material, and the staples never break or become unfastened; nor does one fastening depend for its strength upon the integrity of adjacent ones, as is the case with stitches.

In practice, I design to use a machine that cuts the wire into proper lengths, bends them into staple form, and successively inserts and twists the staples; but all this, as well as the bending of each twist down, may be effected by hand.

I claim—

As new articles of manufacture, hats and similar articles formed of coiled braids or strips fastened together by wire staples, substantially as shown and described.

JEREMIAH KEITH.

Witnesses:

J. B. CROSBY,

FRANCIS GOULD.