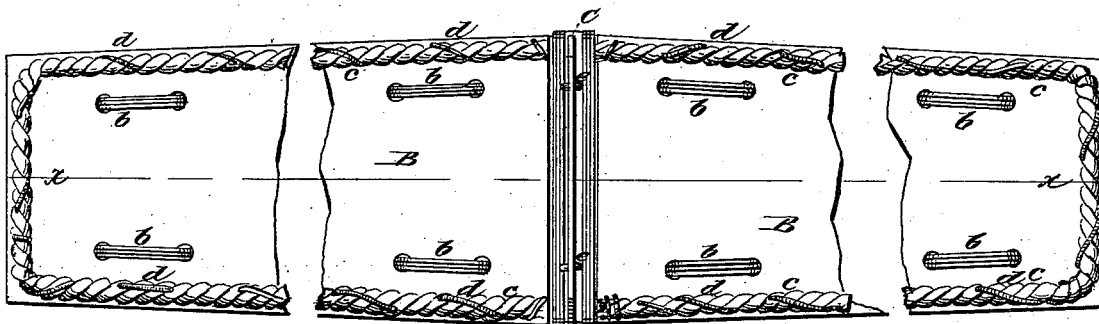


J. L. PERKINS & G. O. BAKER,  
Oil-Press Mat.

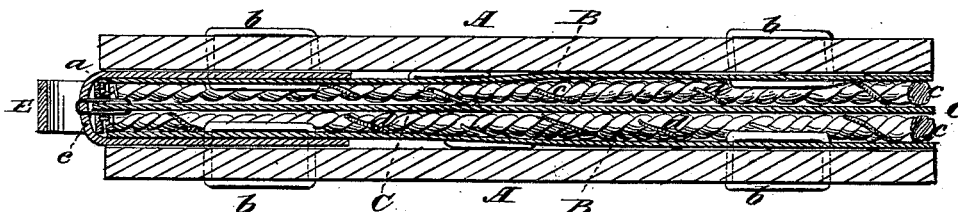
No. 212,974.

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*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:

*Francis Mc Ardle.*  
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INVENTOR:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH L. PERKINS AND GEORGE O. BAKER, OF SELMA, ALABAMA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-PRESS MATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **212,974**, dated March 4, 1879; application filed December 17, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOSEPH L. PERKINS and GEORGE O. BAKER, of Selma, in the county of Dallas and State of Alabama, have invented new and Improved Oil-Press Mats, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to provide a mat for cotton-seed-oil presses and other similar purposes, simple and economical in construction and effective in operation.

It consists of two plates of wood adapted to fit the press-box, connected together by a canvas hinge, and having their faces covered by sheet metal, and separated by a hinged metal leaf, and other details of construction, hereinafter specifically described, the whole combining to form a cheap and durable mat, capable of withstanding the heaviest pressure and the most rapid strokes of the press.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows our improved mat open, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the mat closed on line *x x*.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A A are wooden plates, broader at one end than the other, and connected together at their broader ends by a canvas hinge, *a*. B B are sheet-metal plates laid on the faces of wooden plates A A, and holding the ends of the canvas hinge between them and the wooden plates. These metal plates are secured to the wooden ones by wire lacings *b*, passed through holes in the two plates A B, and those near the broader ends likewise holding the ends of the hinge in place.

Around the edges of the faces of the plates are placed, on the sides and free ends, hair cords *c c*, forming rims, which are held in their places by wire lacings *d*.

C is a sheet-metal leaf of the same shape as the wooden plates, placed between the two, and secured at the broader end to the canvas hinge *a* by wire hinges *e e*.

At the hinged end of the plates is a leather or canvas handle, E, connected therewith by passing it around the hinge, splitting it, so as to pass over the hinged end of the leaf C, and then riveting the ends together. This leaves a loop outside the hinge when the plates are folded, as in Fig. 2, by means of which the mat is drawn out from the press-box.

The operation of our improvement is as follows: The bag containing the meal is placed on the face of one of the plates B so as to lie within the rim formed by the hair rope *c*. Then the leaf C is folded down upon it. Another bag is now adjusted to lie on the other plate B in the same position, and the two are folded together, the bags being separated by the leaf C. The mat is then placed in the press-box and subjected to pressure, in the usual manner.

It will be found that a mat made in this way withstands a heavier pressure and a greater number of strokes from the pump per minute than any mat now in use, and in addition to this advantage it enables two bags to be pressed in the same mat; but the leaf may be renewed if it should be desired to press but one mat at a time.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The plates B B, laced to the inner faces of the wooden plates A A, and holding the edges of hinges *a*, as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of the three hinged plates B B C and the hair cords *c*, extending all around the sides and free ends of the inner faces of the plates B, as and for the purpose specified.

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Witnesses:

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