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NARROW FABRIC

Joseph W. Stark, New York, N. Y., assignor to General Ribbon Mills, Inc., Catasauqua, Pa., a corporation of Delaware

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The present invention relates to narrow fabrics such as ribbons, strips, tapes, or bands, and more particularly, to such fabrics provided with suit-able ornamentation. In its more specific aspect, 5 the invention is concerned primarily with orna-

mental ribbons for use in tying packages, and for ornamenting wrapped and unwrapped articles although the ribbons may be used generally for any well known purpose.

Heretofore, woven ribbons have been orna-10 mented by introducing a design during the weaving of the ribbon, usually by jacquard apparatus in the process of weaving, or by printing a suitable design upon a surface of the ribbon.

The process of ornamenting ribbons in which 15 jacquard apparatus is utilized is so expensive that the use of such process for the manufacture of ornamental tying ribbons is greatly limited if not prohibitive. One object of the inven-20 tion, therefore, is to obviate the necessity for

utilizing the jacquard method of manufacturing ornamental ribbons.

Woven ribbons carrying ornamentation printed thereon are subject to the disadvantage that it $_{25}$ is very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain a

sharply defined design on the ribbon surface. Another object of the present invention, therefore, is to ornament a plain woven ribbon with-

out printing the design or ornamentation on the 30 ribbon surface. Open mesh or loosely woven ribbons cannot

be satisfactorily ornamented either by method of weaving the design, as by the jacquard apparatus, or by printing, because the woven threads 35 do not remain in fixed position and because the

threads are frequently too far apart to clearly delineate the design either printed or woven.

A further object of the present invention is to facilitate the ornamentation of ribbons of the 40 loosely woven or open mesh types.

Another object of the invention is to provide a ribbon which possesses varying flexibility in different portions of the width thereof.

A yet further object of the invention is gen-45 erally to improve the art of ornamental woven ribbons.

The above objects of the invention and other objects ancillary thereto will best be understood from the following description considered in con-50 nection with the accompanying drawing forming a part of the present specification.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a piece of ribbon embodying one form of the present inven-

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a piece of ribbon embodying another form of the invention;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4-4 of 5 Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary plan view of a piece of ribbon constituting another form of the invention.

Referring to the drawing in detail, and first 10 to Figs. 1 and 2, there is shown a ribbon 10 which comprises a strip 12 of suitable woven textile ribbon material carrying superposed thereon relatively narrow spaced strips 14 provided with any suitable ornamental design. As here shown, the 15 strip 12 is provided with selvage edges 16 and the strips 14 are disposed adjacent said edges. The ornamental strips 16 are preferably made of regenerated cellulose which is known in the trade as "Cellophane". Other suitable non-woven non- 20 fibrous cellulosic material, such as paper, or nonfibrous cellulosic materials derived from cellulose esters and cellulose ethers and which can be bonded to the textile layer 12 without stitching, as by an adhesive, with or without the ap-25plication of heat, or by, rendering the material sticky or tacky by means of a solvent therefor, may be used.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, the strips 18 are made of regen- 30 erated cellulose, preferably "Cellophane". Said regenerated cellulosic strips are of the opaque type and may be of any suitable color. The exposed surfaces of said strips are provided with a suitable surface design printed thereon in any 35 Said desired color or combination of colors. strips 14, besides constituting ornamentation for the strip 12, to form the ornamental ribbon 10, also serve to impart stiffness to the marginal edge portions of said ribbon, while substantially $_{40}$ unaffecting the intermediate body portion of the ribbon. By thus stiffening the marginal edge portions of the ribbon, without correspondingly stiffening the intermediate portions thereof, the ribbon can be readily tied into a bow which re- 45 tains its shape much better than does a bow made of ordinary ribbon.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, the ribbon 20 is similar to the ribbon 19, except that a single strip 22 of non-fibrous 50cellulosic material is disposed centrally of the woven textile strip 24. Also, in this form of the invention, the strip 22 is transparent and the design, indicated generally by the reference numeral 26, is printed on the inner surface of the 55

 $_{55}$ tion;

strip, that is, the surface which is disposed in contact with the woven strip 24.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Fig. 5, the ribbon 30 comprises a layer 32 of 5 open mesh fabric and a superposed strip 34 of transparent Cellophane, or other material of the character described above as suitable. Said strip 34 carries a suitable design, indicated generally by the reference numeral 36, said design being 10 imprinted either on the outer surface or on the inner surface which is in contact with the woven strip 32. The design is thus visible at both sides of the ribbon, through the body of the transparent strip at one side of the ribbon, and at the 15 other side of the ribbon through the openings

in the fabric strip.

In making the ribbon in accordance with the present invention, the non-fibrous strips are first printed or otherwise ornamented and subse-20 quently attached to the textile strip as described above. In lieu of printing a design on the cellulosic strips or in addition to the design imprinted thereon, said cellulosic strips may be of one or more colors which contrast with the color of

- 25 the textile strip. Also a plurality of the cellulosic strips, whether printed or colored, may vary in color whereby to obtain contrasting color effects between the several cellulosic strips themselves as well as between them and the textile
- 30 strip. It is also within the scope of the present invention to apply one or more colored or ornamented cellulosic strips to both sides of the textile strip, and it will be further understood that where a plurality of cellulosic strips are applied
- 35 to either one or both sides of the textile strip, the former may be of different widths. Where the cellulosic strips are applied some to one side and some to the other side of the textile strip, it is contemplated that in certain instances it
- 40 would be desirable to have cellulosic strips on one side of the fabric overlie cellulosic strips on the opposite side of the fabric. In other instances the cellulosic strips on one side would be spaced intermediate of the cellulosic strips
- 45 on the other side of the textile fabric, particularly where the textile strip is of open mesh fabric which permits the strip on one side of the fabric to be visible at the other side thereof. Accordingly, it will be apparent that it is possible
- 50 to obtain a wide variety of ornamentation for ribbons by using, at the most, only a few different textile strips, and even when utilizing a woven textile strip of one character or color a practically unlimited variety of ornamentation 55 may be obtained by upwrite the
- 55 may be obtained by varying the ornamentation on the non-fibrous strips. It is thus seen that the above described rib-

bons are well adapted to accomplish the several objects of the present invention. It will be

- 60 understood, however, that certain changes and omissions may be made in the forms of the invention herein illustrated without departing from the essential requirements of the ribbon structure, and that the invention may be em-
- 65 bodied in other forms. Therefore, I do not wish to be limited precisely to the present disclosure, except as may be required by the appended claims and prior art.
- Having thus described my invention, what I 70 desire to claim and secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

 A ribbon comprising a strip of textile material and a narrower strip of non-woven non-fibrous material bonded together in super-75 posed face to face relation, said non-fibrous strip being disposed entirely inwardly of the side edges of said textile strip and extending longitudinally thereof, said strip of non-fibrous material having a surface design printed thereon for ornamenting the ribbon, said ribbon being flexible and sufficiently narrow to be tied into a knot or bow.

2. A ribbon comprising a strip of textile material and a narrower strip of transparent nonfibrous cellulosic material bonded together in 10 superposed face to face relation and disposed entirely inwardly of the side edges of said textile strip, said transparent strip having a printed inner surface visible through its body portion, said ribbon being flexible and sufficiently narrow 15 to be tied into a knot or bow.

3. A ribbon comprising a plurality of strips extending longitudinally of the ribbon in superposed face to face relation, one of said strips consisting of textile material and another of 20 said strips consisting of non-woven non-fibrous material bonded to said textile strip, said nonfibrous strip being substantially narrower than said textile strip and extending longitudinally thereof entirely inwardly of the side edges of said 25 textile strip whereby the stiffness of said ribbon varies in the width thereof, said ribbon being flexible longitudinally and laterally for tying the same into a knot or bow.

4. A ribbon comprising a strip of textile ma- 30 terial and two spaced strips of non-woven non-fibrous material secured to said textile strip in face to face relation adjacent and entirely in-wardly of the side edges thereof whereby said ribbon is more flexible in its intermediate por- 35 tion than in its marginal edge portions, said ribbon being flexible and sufficiently narrow to be tied into a bow or knot.

5. A ribbon comprising a strip of textile material and a narrower strip of non-woven nonfibrous material secured to said textile strip in face to face relation and extending longitudinally in spaced relation to the side edges of the latter whereby said ribbon is more flexible in its marginal edge portions than in an intermediate portion thereof, said ribbon being flexible and sufficiently narrow to be tied into a bow or knot.

6. A ribbon comprising a strip of open-mesh fabric and a narrower strip of non-fibrous cellu- 50losic material secured to said fabric strip in face to face relation entirely inwardly of the side edges of said fabric strip and carrying an ornamental design printed thereon, said ribbon being flexible and sufficiently narrow to be tied 55into a bow or knot.

7. A ribbon comprising a woven textile strip and a non-woven strip of transparent Cellophane adhesively united together in face to face relation, said non-woven strip being narrower 60 than said woven strip, extending longitudinally of the latter and disposed entirely inwardly of the side edges of said woven strip, and carrying a design on its inner surface visible through its body portion for ornamenting the ribbon, said 65 ribbon being flexible laterally and longitudinally for tying the same into a knot or bow.

8. A ribbon comprising an open-mesh woven strip and a strip of Cellophane united together in face to face relation, said Cellophane strip 70 being narrower than said woven strip and disposed entirely inwardly of the side edges thereof, extending longitudinally of the latter, and carrying a surface design for ornamenting the ribbon, said ribbon being flexible laterally and 75 longitudinally for tying the same into a knot or bow.

9. A ribbon comprising an open-mesh woven strip and a non-woven strip of transparent re-5 generated cellulose united together in face to face relation, said non-woven strip being narrower than said woven strip, extending longitudinally of the latter and disposed entirely inwardly of the side edges thereof, and carrying

10 a design on its inner surface visible through its body portion for ornamenting the ribbon, said ribbon being flexible laterally and longitudinally for tying the same into a knot or bow.

10. A ribbon comprising a strip of textile ma-15 terial and a plurality of spaced strips of nonfibrous cellulosic material superposed in face to face relation on said strip of textile material, said strips being disposed entirely inwardly of the side edges of said material and secured thereto, said ribbon being flexible laterally and longitudinally for tying the same into a knot or 5 bow.

11. A ribbon comprising a woven textile strip having selvage edges and a non-woven strip of non-fibrous material secured in superposed face to face relation on said textile strip extending 10 longitudinally thereof between said selvage edges and having a surface design, said non-woven strip being narrower than said woven strip but sufficiently wide to constitute at least the major ornamental element of the ribbon. 15 JOSEPH W. STARK.