This invention relates to sacks and particularly to the sacks used by cotton pickers, these sacks being usually quite long, heavy, and having straps whereby they may be supported upon the shoulders of a cotton picker and usually dragging on the ground behind him.

It is essential to sacks of this character that the sack shall be strongly made so that it may resist the strains to which it is subjected, that the cotton may be readily moved downward toward the free end of the sack and that the sack shall be so closed at its free end that while it will retain the cotton therein, yet it may be readily opened to permit the discharge of cotton therefrom.

The general object of the present invention is to provide a sack of this character which secures these desirable features.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a cotton picking sack constructed in accordance with my invention, the sack being lifted to a vertical position;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary detailed view looking toward the inner face of the sack and showing the manner in which the shoulder straps are engaged therewith;

Fig. 3 is a detailed perspective view of the lower portion of the sack in opened position, the view being partly broken away.

Referring to these drawings it will be seen that the sack is relatively long as is usual with sacks of this character, so that it may be supported by straps upon the shoulders and drag on the ground. The sack is preferably made of canvas, duck, or like material which will resist the wear and tear to which it is subjected. The sack consists of a back 10 and a front 11. This back 10 is formed preferably of a single breadth of material and as it is desired to have the lower portion of the sack wider than the upper portion, the side edges of the upper portion of the sack are folded over as at 12, and stitched as at 13. This fold 12 becomes narrower and narrower as it extends downward and the fold terminates at any desired distance below the mouth of the sack. A shoulder strap 14 has its ends inserted within the upper ends of these folds 12 and firmly stitched thereto, as shown in Figure 2, the upper end of the back breadth being turned over so as to form a hem 15. The front breadth 11 is also formed to provide a fold or hem 16 at its upper end and this front breadth extends downward nearly the full extent of the back breadth and is stitched at the side margins as at 17, to the back breadth. At its lower margin the front breadth is hemmed or otherwise formed with a reinforcing fold 18 and just above this fold a strip 19 of canvas webbing, duck or the like is stitched to the front breadth 11 and extends entirely across the same.

Stitched at intervals to the strip 19 are the transversely extending straps or loops 20, the middle portion of each loop being relatively full. The back breadth 16 at its lower end is folded upon itself and reinforced at 21 and through reinforced portion 21 are formed the rectangular openings 22 which are button-hole stitched all around the opening. These openings 22 are so disposed as to permit the projection of the loops or straps 20 through these openings in the manner shown in Figure 1.

Attached to one end of the reinforcing band 19 and to both the front and back breadths is the small strap and buckle 23 and attached to the other end of the reinforcing band 19 is the canvas strap 24 which is adapted to be passed beneath the loops 20 when the latter are projected through the openings 22 as shown in Figure 1, this strap 24 being then engaged with the buckle on the strap 23, thus locking the flap 25 formed by the extension of the back breadth 16 below the front breadth in its holding position. I do not wish to be limited to this but preferably the front breadth will have its lateral margins folded inward so as to reenforce the side margins of the bag.

It will be seen that a bag constructed as described and illustrated is particularly strong and that inasmuch as the bag increases in capacity downward, the cotton will naturally move downward within the bag as the worker feeds it into the mouth thereof. Thus the picked cotton works downward of itself towards the bottom of the bag, keeps the load off the picker and makes it a particularly easy sack to handle inasmuch as the discharge opening of the sack is at the lower end thereof. The harder the cotton is tamped or packed into the sack, the easier it is to get it out when the bottom flap 25 is released. The flap 25 by my construction may be very readily held locked as it were in its closed position or may be very readily released as there
is only one buckle to operate and the strap 24 is readily passed through or withdrawn from the loops 20.

By attaching the strap 14 between the folded over upper ends of the folds 12 and the back breadth 10, the strain on the strap is transmitted longitudinally throughout the length of the bag or throughout a substantial portion of its length. Thus the strap is not liable to pull out nor the bag to tear. Inasmuch as the bag is reinforced by the strip 19, the shifting of the strap 24 through the loops 20 will not act to wear out the bag at this point or weaken it. Of course it will be understood that this sack may be of any desired length, width and capacity and of any desired material suitable for the purpose.

I claim:

1. A cotton picking bag comprising a back breadth and a front breadth, the back breadth extending in both directions beyond the front breadth, a shoulder strap attached to the upper end of the back breadth, a reinforcing member attached to the face of the front breadth adjacent its lower end and formed with a plurality of loops, the lower end of the back breadth being reinforced and formed with openings adapted to receive said loops when the back breadth is turned up over the front breadth to close the bag, a buckle attached to the bag on one side of said loops, and a strap attached to the bag on the other side of the loops, the strap being adapted to pass through said loops and engaged with the buckle.

2. A cotton picking sack gradually increasing in capacity from its mouth to the bottom of the sack and comprising a back breadth and a front breadth, the back breadth extending in both directions beyond the front breadth, the back and front breadths being stitched to each other along their margins, the lateral margins of the back breadth being folded over upon the inner face of the back breadth and the front breadth being attached to said folded over margins, a shoulder strap attached to the upper end of the back breadth and having its ends disposed within the upper ends of the folded over margins, the outer face of the front breadth and the lower end of the back breadth beyond the front breadth having cooperating means for holding the lower end of the back breadth turned up over the lower end of the front breadth.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

ROBERT H. MALONE.