(No Model.)

# D. C. MILLETT.

## WALL PROTECTOR.

No. 292,247. Patented Jan. 22, 1884.

Fig. 1.

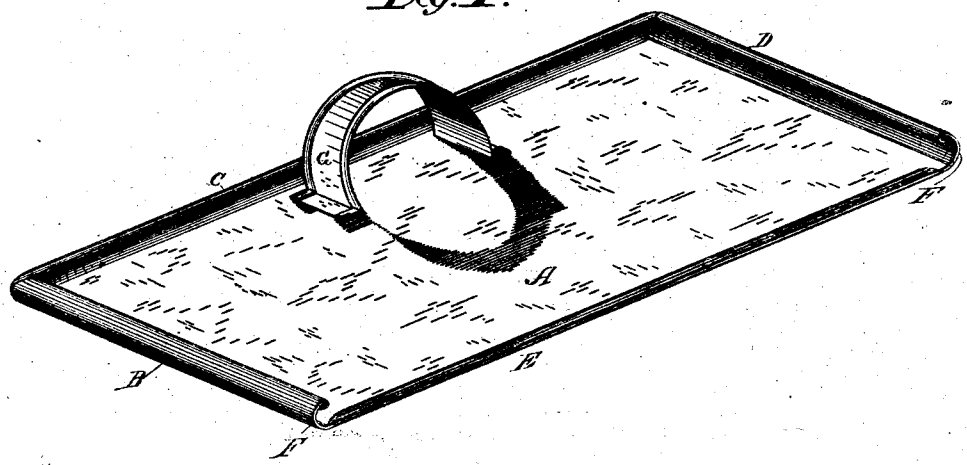



Fig. 2.

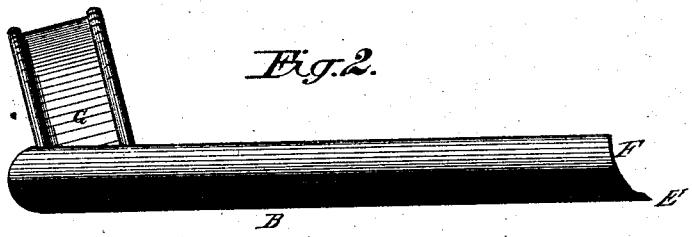
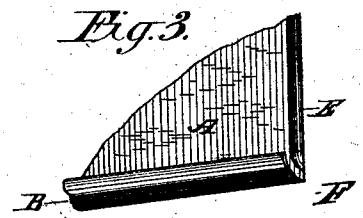



Fig. 3.




Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL CALDWELL MILLETT, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## WALL-PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 292,247, dated January 22, 1884.

Application filed October 1, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DANIEL CALDWELL MILLETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wall-Protectors; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

It is well known that in cleaning the woodwork of door-casings, base-boards, cornices, &c., it is difficult to avoid injury to the adjoining wall by splashings of water more or less dirty. Similar difficulties are encountered in painting or varnishing surfaces adjacent to others not desired to be touched.

The object of my invention is to provide a cheap and efficient means of protecting a wall or other surface or any part of the same, while adjoining surfaces are undergoing the operations of cleaning, painting, or varnishing. I attain this object by means of the implement illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the whole apparatus. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a top view of one end, showing certain details of my invention.

A is a thin strip of water-proof material, preferably sheet-tin, having upon three sides, as shown, the troughs or gutters B C D, in continuity each with the other. The gutters B and D are made with a slight inclination or fall away from the edge E, as shown in detail in Fig. 3, in order that drippings from the surface A, when the same is held vertically, will be accumulated in the lower corners of the troughs B D. The trough C, being bounded at each end by troughs B and D, requires no fall. The edge E of the surface A is made beveled or sharp, as shown, for the purpose fully described below. It will be noticed, also, that the edges F F of troughs B and D are curved away from the edge E, so as to lie without a perpendicular plane intersecting surface A at edge E. The under sides of the various gutters are preferably made rounded and smooth, in order that they may offer no obstruction to the movement of the entire apparatus over a wall or other surface.

It is obvious that the entire mechanism so far described may be made in one piece, either stamped from sheet metal without seam at the junctions of gutters B C D, or cut in the ordinary manner, and such junctions closed with solder.

For convenience of manipulation, I affix a handle, G, oblique to the surface A, so that the hand of a person grasping the apparatus when in use will not interfere with the movements of a cloth or brush moved along and partly upon edge E.

In practice I usually make the implement of sheet-tin about twelve inches long and four inches wide in the clear; but it is obvious that any other material and any other dimensions affording similar conveniences will answer as well.

In operating my invention, I grasp the handle G with one hand and place the apparatus flat upon the surface to be protected, with the sharp edge E abutting upon the surface to be cleaned, painted, or varnished. The edge E, being sharp, will leave the entire surface to be operated upon uncovered to the brush or cloth even when that surface is at right or other angles to the protected wall, or when it has a rounded or overhanging projection. While the apparatus is so held, a wet cloth or brush may be freely passed up and down the surface to be affected, and along edge E, the strokes being mechanically limited by the gutters B D, and all drippings or splashings caught in the same, or in gutter C if the apparatus be held horizontally. The edges of the gutters B and D, being inclined away from the edge E, will permit a free up-and-down movement of the apparatus without obstruction by slight inequalities in a surface at right or slightly-acute angles to surface A, so that fresh surfaces may be successively reached, and will also permit the apparatus to lie close to or under an overhanging projection. The handle G, being inclined away from edge E, leaves an abundance of room for the operation of a cloth or brush without increasing the bulk of the apparatus.

I am aware that it is not novel to cover one

surface while operating upon another adjoining, nor do I claim as my invention such a process. I desire to limit myself to the apparatus shown, and to its legitimate modifications. Among such I might include the omission of the gutters B C D, where it is desired to use the apparatus in dry polishing by a friction injurious to adjacent surfaces.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A wall-protector having a handle for convenience of manipulation, and provided with drip cups or troughs upon three sides of its surface, as and for the purpose described.

2. A wall-protector having a handle oblique to its surface, and provided with drip cups or troughs arranged, as shown, to catch and retain the drippings from the flat surface.

3. A wall-protector having a suitable handle, sharpened edge E, and rounded under edges at the other three sides, as and for the purpose shown,

4. The combination, in a wall-protector, of surface A, sharpened edge E, handle G, oblique to surface A, and drip cups or troughs B C D.

5. The combination, in a wall-protector, of surface A, sharpened edge E, and the edges F F of troughs B D, inclined back from the edge E, so that the wall-protector may be operated close to or under the edges of moldings, &c.

6. The combination, in a wall-protector, of surface A, with opposite curved ends inclined away from each other and toward trough C, so as to make inclined edges F F and inclined gutters or drip-cups B and D, as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

DANIEL CALDWELL MILLETT.

Witnesses:
GEO. H. NOYES,
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