The present invention relates to briefcases or portfolios and more particularly to a hand receiving pocket or mit which is a permanent part of the briefcase.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a hand pocket or pocket structure for such receptacles as briefcases or portfolios, whereby the receptacle can be carried in the winter-time without the use of the customary glove. Many persons such as lawyers, salesmen and business men in general carry such cases under one arm or the other and usually without a glove, in order to firmly hold the case. The hand becomes cold and numb with eventual discomfort to the person carrying the case.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a pocket or mit for briefcases and the like, which is an integral part of the case and which besides keeping the carrier's hand warm also is a safety factor against theft from the arm of the carrier due to the fact that the carrier's hand is interlocked with the case through the medium of this pocket or mit.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to the reader of the following description.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a briefcase or portfolio showing the pocket or mit.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the case looking at the opposite side from that shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary end elevational view of the case showing the pocket or mit.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view taken substantially on line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawing wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen, that numeral 10 generally refers to a conventional briefcase or portfolio. This type of case generally consists of one rectangular piece of leather folded in half, the half portions constituting side walls 11, 12 which are connected together by a multiple fastener 13. The bight or bottom portion of such a case is generally held in the right or left hand of the carrier. In order to provide interlocking means between the hand and the case so as to prevent slippage of the case from the hand and also to protect the hand against cold weather in the winter, a pocket or mit structure generally referred to by numeral 14 is provided and forms an integral part of the case.

This pocket is in the form of an elongated sheet of suitable material, which may be lined for winter use or otherwise constructed, even with perforations so as to mitigate sweating of the hand, particularly during the summer time. This elongated strip of material is generally denoted by numeral 16 and is disposed under the bight portion of the case to substantially a U-shape as shown in Figures 3 and 5. One half portion of the sheet 15 has its side edges portions stitched as at 16 to the side 12 of the case and its end portion is also stitched as at 17 so as to close this end portion of the sheet, so that there is no opening of the pocket at this side of the case.

The other half portion of the pocket strip 15 has its side portions stitched as at 18 to the side 11 of the case, but the end portion denoted by numeral 19 is not stitched, thus leaving a hand opening 20. This defines the pocket and the carrier's hand can slide down the side 11 of the case, through the opening 20 and under the bight portion of the case, with the fingers projecting upwardly within the pocket at the side 12 of the case. Thus the hand is definitely locked with the briefcase, so that it cannot be easily pulled from a person's hand, nor can it slip from a person's hand and further, this pocket will serve to keep the carrier's hand warm in the case being carried in the winter without a glove on that particular hand.

While the foregoing description sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention what is claimed as new is:

In a briefcase including two sidewalls and a bottom portion, a strip of material secured to the briefcase at one side thereof and extending under the briefcase and up the opposite side thereof, one end portion and the side portions of the strip being secured to the opposite walls of the briefcase while one end is left open for the insertion of a hand in carrying the briefcase.

ELMER E. LEE.