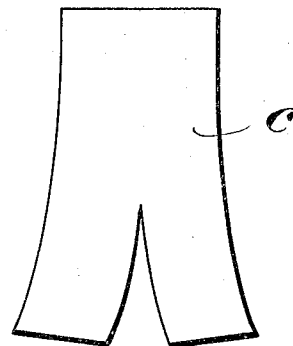
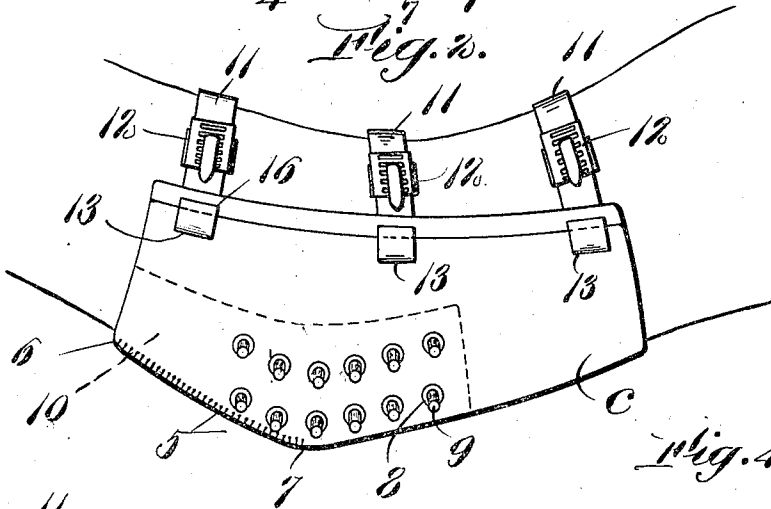
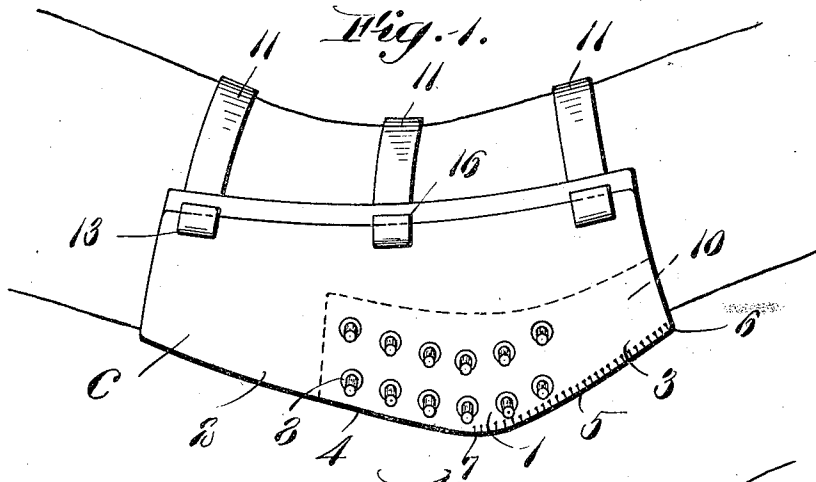


M. BALDWIN.
ELBOW PROTECTOR.
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1,351,731.

Patented Sept. 7, 1920.



Inventor:
Murray Baldwin
by Roberts Roberts & Cashman
His attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MURRAY BALDWIN, OF BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS.

ELBOW-PROTECTOR.

1,351,731.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MURRAY BALDWIN, citizen of United States, and resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Elbow-Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to elbow protectors and more particularly to a device for protecting the elbow in firing a firearm in a recumbent position with the elbow resting upon the ground or other support. In firing an army rifle or other high-power firearm with the elbow resting on a support the recoil of the gun thrusts the elbow against and sometimes along the support with considerable force. While the thrust is ordinarily not of sufficient magnitude seriously to injure the elbow at a single firing a series of thrusts incident to firing several times will make the elbow painfully sore.

The object of the present invention is to provide a device which will fully protect the elbow of a marksman in firing a gun in a recumbent position with the elbow resting upon the ground or other support, which will restrain the elbow from slipping along the support, which will fit snugly over the elbow and along the arm on one or both sides of the elbow so as to protect the arm adjacent the elbow, which can be attached or detached to or from the arm quickly and easily, which is adjustable to arms of different size, which has a shock-absorbing pad detachable for drying, cleaning and other purposes, which has means adapted both to secure the pad in position and to secure the protector to the arm, and which is generally convenient and serviceable.

Other objects of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the preferred embodiment of my invention secured in operative position;

Fig. 2 is an elevation of the device viewed from the opposite side;

Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the device; and

Fig. 4 is a diagram showing the shape of

the blank from which the outer casing of the device is formed.

A cardinal feature of the invention comprises a pad or casing shaped to fit over the elbow when the arm is somewhat bent. The pad or casing is preferably cup-shaped in the region of the elbow so that the elbow will fit thereinto, and it preferably extends along the arm from the elbow in one or both directions. In the preferred embodiment of the invention the casing is curved in the region of the elbow and is relatively straight on each side thereof, so that when the arm is bent into the position to support a firearm the elbow will fit into the curved portion and the relatively straight portions will extend along the arm on each side of the elbow. The casing is curved transversely so as to fit around the arm. Thus in the drawings I have shown the outer casing C having a curved central portion 1 and relatively straight end portions 2 and 3, the casing C being curved transversely as shown in Fig. 3.

The outer casing is preferably made of a relatively heavy material which will hold its shape and at the same time be somewhat flexible so as to adapt itself to the elbow. The most suitable material for this purpose of which I am aware is leather, but it will be understood that other materials having similar characteristics may be employed. I therefore employ the word "leather" in the claims to connote any material of this general character. The casing C may be given the shape illustrated in the drawings by forming it of two pieces sewed together along the longitudinal central line 4. However, I preferably construct the casing from a single piece of leather by splitting the single piece along the central line 5 from the end 6 to a point 7 in the region of the curved portion 1. A V-shaped section of material is removed as illustrated in Fig. 4 and the two sides of the V-shaped opening are then sewed together to form a dart. The formation of a dart in one end of the casing not only causes the casing to fit along the arm on both sides of the elbow but it also makes the casing somewhat more rigid owing to the central seam and owing to the cup-shaped contour thus produced.

In order to prevent the device from slipping on the ground or other support when the firearm is discharged I preferably provide protuberances on the outside of the casing in the region of the central cupped portion 1. These protuberances are preferably in the form of metallic rivets secured in openings in the casing and having projections extending outwardly from the outer surface of the casing. Thus in the drawings I have shown rivets 8 having central projections 9 extending outwardly therefrom. When employing rivets of this character I preferably cover the rivets on the inside of the casing with a cover 10 of leather or other suitable material which may be glued or otherwise secured to the inner surface of the casing.

While the leather casing above described will suffice to protect the elbow under certain conditions I preferably provide a shock-absorbing pad within the casing to form a cushion between the elbow and casing. Thus in Fig. 3 I have illustrated a pad P formed of sheepskin with the leather side facing inwardly and the wool side facing outwardly. Thus the wool is confined between the skin and the outer casing C.

In order to remove the inner pad conveniently and quickly I preferably make it detachable from the outer casing and in the preferred embodiment of the invention the means for detachably securing the pad to the casing is also employed to secure the device on the arm of the marksman. This means comprises one or more bands 11 which are preferably formed of elastic material, at least throughout a portion of their length, and which are provided with adjustable buckles 12 or other detachable and adjustable means for opening the bands so that the elbow protector may be removed from the arm. The bands 11 are secured to the opposite sides of the casing by passing through slits 13 provided in the edge of the casing. Along each side of the pad P a strip of leather or other suitable material 14 is stitched as shown at 15 in Fig. 3, and these binding strips are provided with slits 16 through which the bands 11 are adapted to fit.

To remove the device from the arm the buckles 12 may be unfastened whereupon the bands 11 may be opened and the protector removed from the arm. Also the device may be slipped off the arm over the hand without unfastening the buckles, especially where the bands are elastic. When employing buckles as illustrated in the drawings the device may be readily secured to the arm or detached from the arm with one hand so that a marksman may attach or detach his own elbow protector. The elastic portions

of the bands 11 facilitate the movement of the arm in the protector and assist in adjusting the device in position. In order to remove the pad P from the casing for purpose of drying or cleaning the pad or for other purpose it is necessary merely to unfasten the buckles and slip the loose ends of the bands from the slits 16 along the edges of the pad. Thus the bands 11 function both to secure the pad in the casing and also to secure the entire device to the arm.

It will be observed that the protector extends a greater distance along the arm in one direction from the elbow and I prefer to have the longer end extend above the elbow. This gives a greater degree of protection above the elbow where it is most needed and it also permits easier movement of the forearm.

A recumbent position as recited in the claims is either a prone, sitting, squatting, kneeling, leaning or other position in which the elbow is rested upon a support.

I claim:

1. A device for protecting the elbow while firing a firearm in a recumbent position, comprising a casing fitting the elbow and having means thereon adapted to prevent the device from sliding under the impact due to the discharge of the firearm.
2. A device for protecting the elbow while firing a firearm in a recumbent position, comprising a casing fitting the elbow and having studs projecting therefrom adapted to prevent the device from sliding under the impact due to the discharge of the firearm.
3. A device for protecting the elbow while firing a firearm in a recumbent position, comprising a casing fitting the elbow and adapted to be detachably fastened to the arm, and a pad detachably fastened inside the casing.
4. A device for protecting the elbow while firing a firearm in a recumbent position, comprising a casing fitting the elbow, cooperating straps attached to opposite edges of the casing adapted to be detachably connected to secure the casing to the arm, and a pad in the casing detachably retained therein by the said straps.
5. A device for protecting the elbow while firing a firearm in a recumbent position, comprising a casing fitting the elbow, cooperating straps attached to opposite edges of the casing adapted to be detachably connected to secure the casing to the arm, and a pad in the casing having openings adjacent its edges through which the straps are passed to detachably retain the pad in the casing.
6. A device for protecting the elbow while firing a firearm in a recumbent position, comprising a casing fitting the elbow, co-

operating straps attached to opposite edges of the casing adapted to be detachably connected to secure the casing to the arm, a pad in the casing detachably retained therein by the said straps, and means upon the casing adapted to prevent the device from sliding under impact due to the discharge of the firearm.

7. A device for protecting the elbow, comprising a casing fitting the elbow, having means adapted to be detachably secured to

an arm and having non-slip means upon the outer surface thereof.

8. A device for protecting the elbow, comprising a casing fitting the elbow, having straps thereon adapted to be detachably secured about an arm, and having studs projecting therefrom.

Signed by me at Boston, Mass., this 5th day of December, 1918.

MURRAY BALDWIN.