N. C. FLEMING.

FINGER ARMOR.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 21, 1918.

1,316,292. Patented Sept. 16, 1919.

Fig. 1.

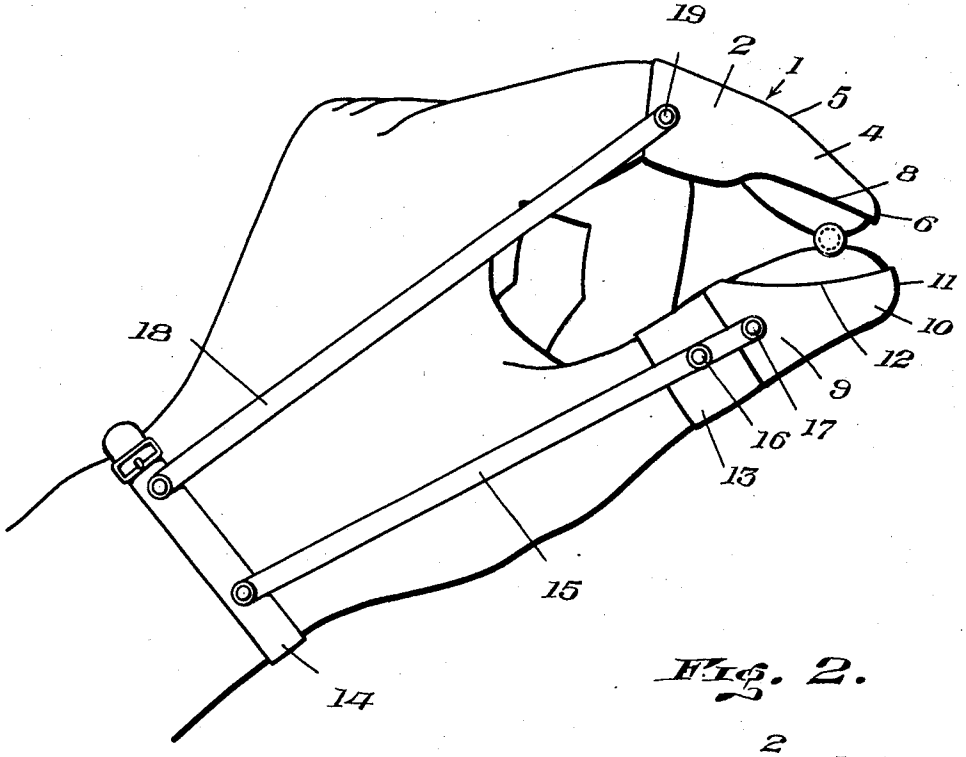


Fig. 2.

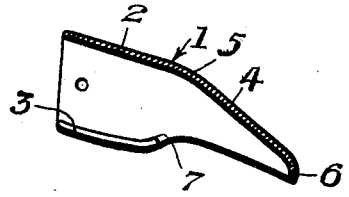
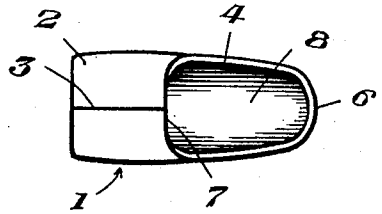


Fig. 3.



WITNESS:

Thos. W. Clay

INVENTOR.

N. C. Fleming

BY

W. J. Fitz Gerald & Co.

ATTORNEY.

THE COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHANIEL CARR FLEMING, OF COLDWATER, KANSAS.

FINGER-ARMOR.

1,316,292. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 16, 1919.

Application filed December 21, 1918. Serial No. 267,782.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL CARR FLEMING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coldwater, in the county of Comanche and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Finger-Armor; 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.

The present invention relates to shields or armor for fingers, and appertains more especially to such devices for use on the forefinger and thumb of a hand for protecting them from being bruised or injured when driving nails, the armor being designed to protect the finger and thumb, leaving them sufficiently exposed for holding the nail and causing the hammer to glance off should it miss the nail and strike the armor.

This invention is an improvement of the finger armor disclosed in my Patent #1,268,103, granted June 4, 1918, and the improvements relate more particularly to the construction of the finger stall, whereby it is more practicable and efficient in use, the thumb stall also being improved as over the said patented device, to enhance the utility of the armor.

A further object is the improvement of the armor, whereby the finger and thumb stalls will be of increased efficiency, and of such form that they will maintain themselves in place without retaining straps or means, if preferred.

It is also the object to provide such a device which is simple in construction, easy and cheap to manufacture, and thoroughly practicable in use.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will be apparent as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Figure 1 is an elevation showing the armor applied to the hand.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the forefinger stall.

Fig. 3 is a bottom view of the forefinger stall.

The forefinger stall 1 of the armor is stamped and formed by means of suitable dies from a blank of suitable metal, although it can be manufactured in different ways. This finger stall embodies a band 2 to embrace the second phalange of the forefinger, and is of a length to extend between the first and second knuckles, the edges of the metal from which the stall is bent meeting and abutting at the bottom or lower surface of the band 2, as seen in Fig. 3. The stall 1 is provided with an extension 4, projecting from the outer end of the band 2 and of arcuate cross section, the basal portion of the extension 4 merging into the top and sides of the band, and the extension 4 decreases in size from the band to the outer end of the extension. The tops or upper surfaces of the band 2 and extension 4, are arranged at an obtuse angle with one another, forming the bend 5 that fits over the first knuckle of the finger, so that the stall will accommodate the first and second phalanges in a slightly bent position, and furthermore, by a tendency to straighten out the finger, the first phalange will be pressed tightly against the top or back of the extension 4, it being noted that the band 2 snugly embraces the second phalange. The outer end of the extension 4 is curved downwardly or forwardly so as to extend across the finger nail and tip of the finger for protecting same, and the outer end of the bottom or front portion of the band 2 is curved toward the top or back of the stall, as at 7, to enter the fold of the first finger joint, so that the back of the joint in fitting within the angle 5, and the lip or inturned portion 7 in fitting in the fold or angle between the first and second phalanges, will serve to retain the stall on the finger unassisted by special retaining means, such as shown in Fig. 1. The finger stall can thus be used by itself when desired, and will maintain itself comfortably in position on the finger unless pulled off by the other hand.

The extension 4 is of arched form, providing an opening 8 which is of a size the full width and length of the face of the first phalange, so as to expose same for holding the nail or other member to be driven. This also enables the first phalange to be swung out of the stall when desired, because the opening 8 permits this, and the band 2 serves to hold the extension 4 in place. Then, when the finger is straight-

ened out or pressure applied to the first phalange, it will be pressed snugly into the stall against the extension 4. In this way, the stall is more convenient in use and permits of the use of the forefinger to a greater extent than if the stall completely surrounded the first phalange.

The thumb stall is of somewhat similar construction, but is of shorter length so as to be co-extensive with the first phalange of the thumb, the thumb stall having the band 9 at its inner end to embrace the first phalange adjacent to the first knuckle. An arcuate extension 10 similar to the extension 4, covers the thumb nail and surrounding portion of the thumb, the outer end 11 of the extension extending across the end of the thumb and its nail, and there being an opening 12 exposing the face or fleshy part of the thumb, in order that the nail being driven can be gripped and held between the thumb and forefinger. This thumb stall as well as the finger stall is made of metal and is of sufficient thickness to withstand the blows of the hammer, and also curved so as to deflect the hammer to one side without injuring the thumb or finger.

Retaining means for the stalls can be used, somewhat similar to the retaining means disclosed in said patent, and when this is desired, a band 13 of leather or other suitable material is provided inwardly of the thumb stall to fit on the second phalange of the thumb, and a wrist band 14 is provided to embrace the arm at the wrist. A strap 15 anchored to the wrist band 14, is riveted or otherwise secured as at 16 and 17 to the bands 13 and 9, and the rivet 17 will be located at the inner end of the thumb stall out of the way, so as not to interfere with the use of the armor or to be apt to be struck by the hammer. If desired a second strap 18, anchored to the wrist band 4, can be provided for assisting in holding the finger armor in place, the outer end of the strap 18 being riveted or otherwise secured, as at 19, to the band 2 at its inner end. If this strap 18 and rivet 19 are used, it will be noted that the rivet 19 will be located adjacent to the second knuckle so as to be sufficiently removed from the tip of the finger to prevent interference or annoyance by the the use of said rivet.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. A finger armor comprising a stall having a band to embrace the second phalange, and an extension projecting from the band to receive and protect the back of the first phalange and providing an opening exposing the entire face of the first phalange, said band having means to enter the fold between the first and second phalanges to hold the band in place.

2. A finger armor comprising a metal stall having a band to embrace the second phalange, and an extension of arcuate cross section projecting from the band to receive the back of the first phalange, and providing an opening for exposing the entire face of the first phalange, said band and extension being arranged at an obtuse angle with one another, so that the tendency to straighten out the finger moves the first phalange tightly within said extension.

3. A finger armor comprising a stall having a band to embrace the second phalange, and an extension projecting from said band to receive and protect the back of the first phalange, and providing an opening exposing the entire face of the first phalange, the outer end of said band having a portion bent to enter the fold between the two phalanges.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

NATHANIEL CARR FLEMING.

Witnesses:

W. J. MASEMORE,

GEO. W. JAUSON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents. Washington, D. C."