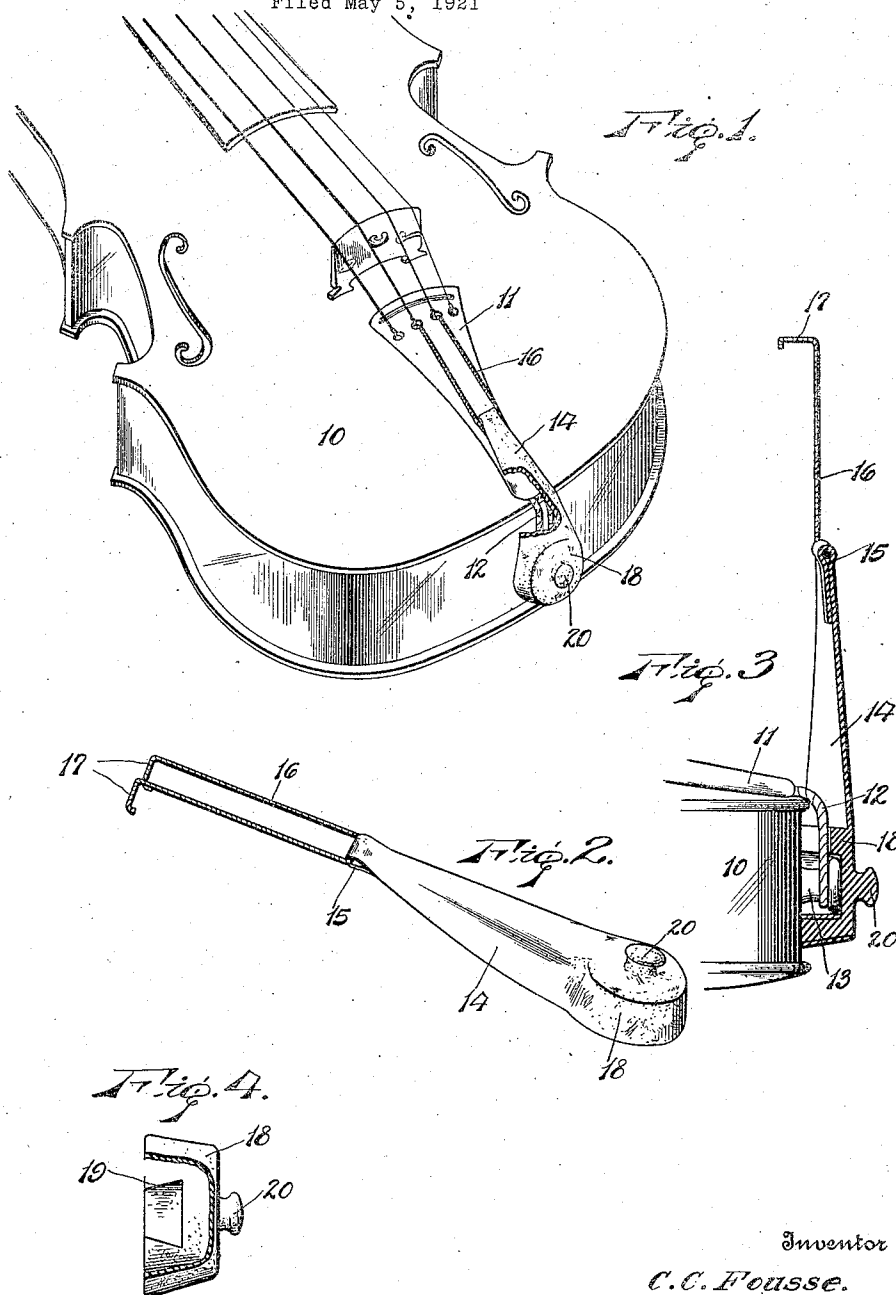


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C. C. FOUSSE
VIOLIN ATTACHMENT

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Inventor
C. C. Fousse.

By *Lamy & Lamy*, Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. FOUSSE, OF WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA.

VIOLIN ATTACHMENT.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. FOUSSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wheeling, in the county of Ohio and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Violin Attachments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to violin attachments and more particularly to a protector for the tail piece loop or gut thereof. The principal object of the invention is to provide a comparatively simple and inexpensive device of this character whereby moisture and dampness will be prevented from coming in contact with the loop.

The invention has a further object to provide an elastic guard which may be easily and snugly stretched over the tail piece loop of a violin and which may be readily removed, the tension due to the inherent elasticity of the guard tending, however, to prevent accidental displacement thereof.

And the invention has a still further object to provide a device of this character wherein possibility of counter-vibration being set up between the device and violin, when the violin is being played, will be effectually eliminated.

Other and incidental objects will appear hereinafter.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of an ordinary violin with my improved device in position thereon, the device being broken away to show the tail piece loop or gut of the violin.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the guard detached.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view through the guard, and

Figure 4 is a transverse section showing the notch in one side of the head of the device.

As is well known, in playing a violin, the instrument is so held that the loop of the tail piece thereof is in close proximity to the person of the player so that perspiration may easily come in contact with the loop and since said loop is formed of gut the moisture will tend to soften the gut and cause the loop to stretch. Furthermore dampness in the atmosphere will also produce a similar effect upon the loop and even though the stretching of the loop be very slight, it will nevertheless, lessen to a certain

extent, the tension upon the strings of the instrument, tending to render the tone thereof flat so that to the trained and sensitive ear of a musician the harmony and expression of a composition will be correspondingly marred. Accordingly, the present invention seeks to overcome this disadvantage.

In Figure 1 of the drawing, I have shown my improved device in position upon a violin 10 of conventional construction, the violin employing an ordinary tail piece 11 provided with a loop or gut 12 engaged about the usual peg or button 13 of the violin. In carrying the invention into effect, I employ a moisture proof shield 14 preferably formed of thin sheet rubber tapered toward one end thereof, the tapered end portion of the shield being formed with an eye 15. Extending through the eye 15 of the shield is a substantially U-shaped attaching member or loop 16, the sides of which are provided at their free ends with laterally directed hooks 17 adapted to extend through two of the string holes in the tail piece 12 of the violin for removably connecting the shield therewith. Preferably, the hooks 17 are provided with rearwardly directed terminals to extend beneath the tail piece for preventing accidental disengagement of the attaching member. This attaching member is preferably formed of wire thread wrapped or otherwise covered so that possibility of the hook vibrating against the tail piece and thus interfering with the proper sound of the instrument will be effectually overcome. Also, in this way, the member will be prevented from scratching or mutilating the tail piece. At its larger opposite end, the shield 14 is formed or otherwise provided with an annular cupped head or cap 18 fitting over the button 13 of the violin, and formed through the wall of the head at its upper side is a dove tailed notch 19 adapted to freely receive the button there-through. After the member or loop 16 has been connected with the tail piece of the violin as indicated, the head 18 is grasped and the shield stretched downwardly over the tail piece loop 12 to dispose the head beneath the button 13 when the head is then moved upwardly thereover to engage the button. As will be seen, the shield will thus normally be tensioned over the tail piece loop to hug closely thereabout and

effectually exclude moisture and dampness from the loop and while the device may be readily removed when desired, still, the elasticity of the shield will serve to prevent accidental disengagement of the device from the violin. In this connection, it will be observed that the larger end of the shield 14 is secured to the annular wall of the head 18 as well as the top wall of said head so that, as shown in Figure 2, the shield is caused to fold along spaced converging lines to provide side flaps, the flaps extending at opposite sides of the tail piece so as to effectively house the tail piece loop 12 as well as the smaller end of the tail piece.

Since some violinists employ the usual button 13 to aid in the adjustment of a small shoulder pad, I have, therefore, formed the head 18 of my device with a similar button 20 which may be employed for the indicated purpose in lieu of the button 13. Accordingly, I provide a highly efficient and simple device for the purpose set forth and, at the same time, one which will in no way interfere with or hinder the use of the violin.

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

1. A tail piece loop protector including an elastic moisture proof shield, and means for connecting the shield with a musical instrument and supporting it under tension over the tail piece loop thereof.

2. A tail piece loop protector including an elastic moisture proof shield having side flaps, and means for connecting the shield with a musical instrument and holding it under tension over the tail piece loop thereof whereby the flaps will be caused to fit closely about the loop at the sides thereof.

3. A tail piece loop protector including a moisture proof shield, a tail piece attaching member carried by one end of the shield, and securing means carried by the opposite end of the shield.

4. A tail piece loop protector including a moisture proof shield provided at one end with a button engaging head, and securing means carried by the opposite end of the shield.

5. A tail piece loop protector including an elastic moisture proof shield provided at one end with a notched button engaging head, and a U-shaped tail piece engaging loop carried by the opposite end of the shield.

6. A protector for violins including a rigid tail piece engaging member, and an elastic moisture proof shield adapted to extend over and house the gut of the violin and provided with means for engagement with the button thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHARLES C. FOUSSE. [L. S.]