

R. B. JOHNSON.
 BUTTONHOLE PROTECTOR AND NECKBAND GUARD.
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947,104.

Patented Jan. 18, 1910.

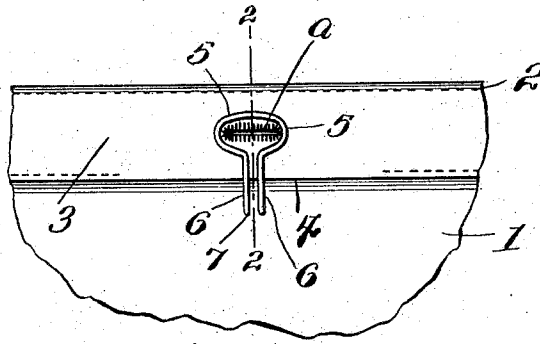


Fig. 1.

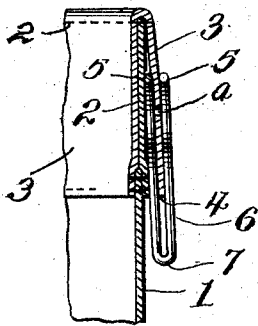


Fig. 2.

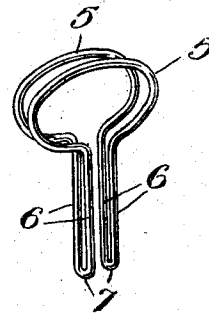


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD BRADFORD JOHNSON, OF GOLTS, MARYLAND.

BUTTONHOLE-PROTECTOR AND NECKBAND-GUARD.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 18, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD BRADFORD JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Golts, in the county of Kent and State of Maryland, have invented new and useful Improvements in Buttonhole-Protectors and Neckband-Guards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to buttonhole protectors and neck band guards, and one of the principal objects of the same is to provide a simple and inexpensive device for application to the outer layer of the back buttonhole pocket of a shirt to prevent said layer from being starched down to the neck band of a shirt during the ironing process.

Persons who send their shirts to laundries are very much annoyed by the outer layer of the rear portion of the neck band being starched down to the inner layer of said band and also the buttonhole being filled with starch and requiring the use of a bodkin to insert the head of the button. When the outer layer of the button pocket is starched down to the neck band it is quite difficult to release the same, and in many instances the shirt is injured during this operation.

The principal object of my invention is to provide a simple device to be applied to the outer layer of the buttonhole pocket, said device being preferably formed of wire and provided with two members to practically surround the buttonhole upon both sides of the layer prior to the ironing process in the laundry. The protector and neck band guard prevent the outer layer of the neck band from being starched to the inner layer and also protects the buttonhole from being ironed flat and stuck together with the starch.

The objects and advantages referred to may be attained by means of the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which,—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the rear portion of the neck band of a shirt and showing the buttonhole protector and neck band guard in position for use. Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig.

3 is a detail perspective view, showing the buttonhole protector and neck band guard on an enlarged scale.

Referring to the drawing, the numeral 1 designates the fragmentary portion of the back of a shirt, and 2 is the neck band of said shirt. As usually made, shirts are provided with an outer layer 3 of material surrounding the neck band, said layer being disconnected in the center, as at 4, from the neck band to provide a pocket for the rear collar button. This layer 3 is liable to become starched down to the neck band 2 in the process of ironing the shirt. To prevent this annoying occurrence I have provided a simple device consisting of a single length of wire bent to form the parallel buttonhole protecting members 5, said two members being of substantially elliptical form, as shown in the drawing, and connected together by the parallel shanks 6, said shanks being united by the bend 7 in the wire.

The manner of applying my protector and guard may be briefly described as follows: After the shirt has been washed, starched and dampened prior to the ironing process the protector and guard is applied by placing the parallel loops 5 one upon each side of the layer 3 to surround the buttonhole *a* at the back of the neck band. There will be sufficient resiliency in the protector and guard to hold itself in place with the protecting members 5 surrounding the buttonhole and preventing the ironing of the buttonhole to starch the buttonhole sides together and at the same time to prevent ironing down the layer 3 to the neck band 2. The protector may be readily removed or may be sent to the customer with the shirt.

From the foregoing it will be obvious that the protector and guard can be manufactured at slight cost, will effectually prevent the ironing down and closing of the buttonhole pocket and at the same time will prevent the ironing of the buttonhole.

I claim:—

A buttonhole protector and guard formed from a single strand of wire and comprising parallel loops, a pair of parallel shanks ex-

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tending from each loop, said shanks being
united by a bend in the wire, whereby said
protector may be attached to the neck band
of a shirt to inclose the buttonhole and to
5 prevent the buttonhole from being clogged
by the starch during the process of ironing
the garment.

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

RICHARD BRADFORD JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

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ANNA COX.