

May 12, 1925.

1,537,294

P. A. DE COURCY
UNIFORM GOLD PROTECTOR
Filed Feb. 15, 1923

Fig. 1.

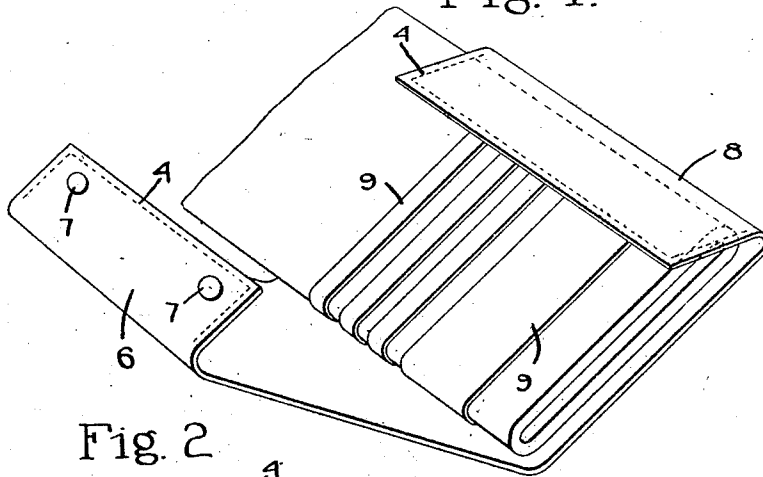


Fig. 2.

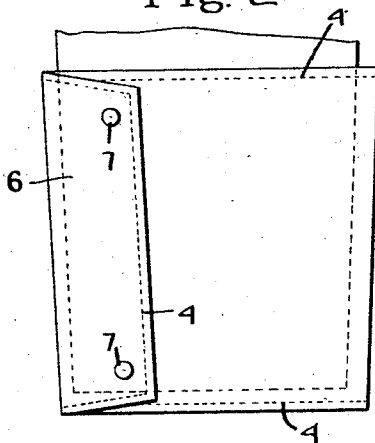


Fig. 3.

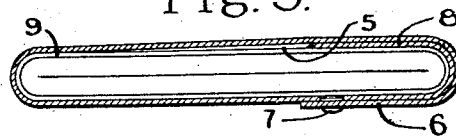


Fig. 4.

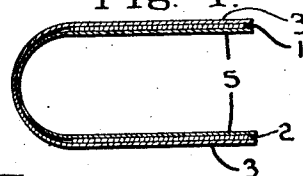


Fig. 5.

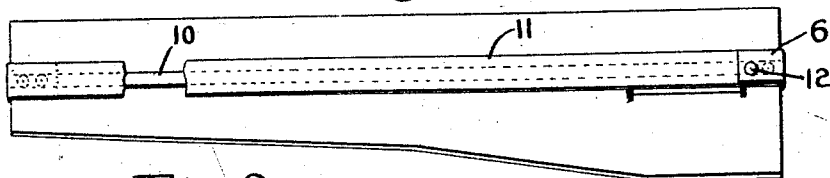
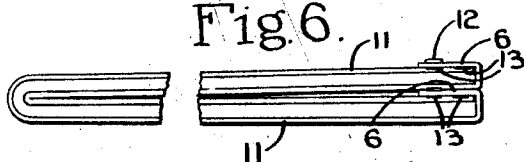


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PERCY A. DE COURCY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

UNIFORM-GOLD PROTECTOR.

Application filed February 15, 1923. Serial No. 619,250.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERCY A. DE COURCY, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Uniform-Gold Protectors, of which the following description in connection with the accompanying drawing is a specification, like characters on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention relates to a garment protector and an object thereof is to provide a new and useful device which may be applied to a garment over the tarnishable insignia mounted thereon to protect the same.

The object of the invention is more particularly to provide a device which may be placed over certain parts of a uniform and over the tarnishable insignia mounted thereon to keep the insignia from becoming tarnished when the uniform is not being worn.

Other objects and features of the invention will more fully appear from the following description and the accompanying drawings and will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

The drawings illustrate both in perspective and detail a preferred form of construction and a modification thereof adapted for use in a garment protector and embodying the broad principles of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is an elevation showing the protector partly open in the process of being applied to a sleeve;

Fig. 2 is an elevation showing the protector fully closed about the sleeve;

Fig. 3 is an end view of the garment and sleeve shown in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a detail of one of the folds of the protector;

Fig. 5 is an elevation of the protector applied to a pair of trousers;

Fig. 6 is an elevation showing the protector applied to a pair of trousers which have been folded for packing.

The device illustrated is designed to be used in connection with garments on which tarnishable insignia are mounted, to cover the insignia and save them from deterioration when the garments are not being worn. Such insignia may be the emblems of secret or fraternal organizations worn on the coat sleeves and the decorative stripes fastened on the trousers, or the rating marks, and gold braid or chevrons used on the uniforms

of persons in the military service. The protector is particularly useful to officers of ships since the insignia used on their uniforms tarnish very quickly while at sea. Because of the fact that the insignia on the sleeves of a coat are usually of different shape than the insignia on the trousers the protector has been made in two different forms which, however, are alike in all the essential characteristics.

As illustrated herein the protector comprises a pair of similar yieldable boards 1 and 2 of an area sufficient to cover the portion of the garment on which the insignia are mounted. The boards are used as a stiffening material so that when the protector is fastened over the garment and insignia, the garment will be firmly clamped therebetween. The boards may be of any material which will not shrink or draw out of shape should they become dampened and it has been found that a thin flexible fibre board is admirably adapted for use in the protector.

A covering 3 of tough, flexible material extends between the edges of the boards to connect the boards and to surround the garment. Such covering is preferably a waterproof, neat-appearing imitation leather, fastened to the board by means of an adhesive over the contacting surfaces of the board and covering, and firmly sewn to the board by stitching 4 along the outer edges. An inner lining 5 for the boards is made of a soft, flexible, lintless pile fabric and extends well over the area of the insignia and connects the boards. It is not necessary that the lining do more than cover the insignia, but for convenience in making the protector, the lining is a continuous strip of material extending the full length of the protector and sewn to the boards, and to the outer covering between the boards, by the stitching. The inner lining is preferably velveteen or other material having a rather long pile which will hug all portions of and fit closely against the insignia to protect the same from contact with anything which will cause the insignia to become tarnished. In order to further assist the lining to hug all portions of the insignia the lining is entirely loose from the boards and outer covering except at the stitched edges.

The covering extends on at least one end from one of the boards to form a flap 6 to overlie the other board, and separable fasteners 7 have their complementary parts

mounted one on the flap and the other on the under-lying board to hold the protector in clamped position with the lining engaging and protecting the insignia.

5 In the form of the protector which is adapted for use in connection with a sleeve and shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, the covering is extended from one board to form an additional flap 8 to fold around the creased portion of the sleeve, adequately to protect the insignia thereon. Where the insignia are of such a character that they do not extend all the way around the sleeve, but are merely stars or other emblems which occupy only a small space on the top portion of the sleeve, the flap 8 is not necessary, but it has been put on this form of the protector in case the tarnishable insignia 9 extend over the creased portions of the garment, in order to fit closely against and protect the folds of the insignia.

The form of protector shown in Figs. 5 and 6 is particularly designed for use in connection with trousers on which the tarnishable insignia are the stripes 10 extending lengthwise of the trousers instead of around, as in the case of the stripes on the sleeve. In this form of protector the boards are long and narrow and the protector is made with only the one flap 6. Two protectors are used for one pair of trousers and each protector consists of two elongated portions 11 with the flap 6 formed on the end of one of the elongated portions. The separable fasteners have their complementary parts mounted one on the flap 6 and the other on the extremity of the elongated portion which is opposite from the flap. In order to accommodate trousers of varying lengths several fasteners have been used on each protector. It has been found convenient to use fasteners of the stud and socket type and mount a single stud 12 on the flap 6 and a plurality of sockets 13 at varying distances from the end of one elongated portion 11 for co-operation with the stud for varying the length of the protector.

Although a particular and preferred form of the invention has been described, it is obvious that the shape of the protector and the number and shape of the flaps may be varied and other changes made without departing from the spirit of the invention. Therefore it is desired that the invention be construed as broadly as the limitations in the claims, taken in conjunction with the prior art, may allow.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:—

1. A protector for folding around and covering the portions of a garment on which tarnishable insignia are mounted, said protector having an inner surface of soft, flexible, lintless, pile fabric to rest against the

insignia, an outer surface of tough, flexible material, means for stiffening the protector between the folds thereof and means for fastening the protector on the garment.

2. A protector for folding around and covering the portions of a garment on which tarnishable insignia are mounted to prevent tarnishing thereof comprising a strip of tough flexible material forming the outer surface of the protector, a strip of soft flexible lintless pile fabric forming the inner surface of the protector and lying next to the insignia, a strip of stiffening material between the inner surface and outer coverings and intermediate of the folds, and separable fasteners having the complementary parts mounted on the overlapping portions of the protector to hold the protector around the garment.

3. A protector having two joined parallel portions for covering and clamping therebetween the portions of the sleeve of a garment on which tarnishable insignia are mounted to save the insignia from deterioration, comprising two parallel portions of an area sufficient to cover the parts of the garment on which the insignia are mounted, each portion having an outer covering of tough, flexible material, joining the parallel portions to one another at one end, and an inner lining of soft flexible lintless material for pressing closely against all the covered portions of the insignia and garment, and fasteners acting to hold the protector in clamped insignia and garment, and fasteners acting to hold the protector in clamped position with the lining engaging and protecting the insignia.

4. A protector for covering and clamping a portion of a garment on which tarnishable insignia are mounted to prevent tarnishing thereof comprising a pair of similar yieldable boards of an area sufficient to cover the portion of the garment, an outer covering for the boards of tough, flexible material extending between the edges of the boards to connect the boards and therewith surround the garment portion, an inner lining for the boards of soft, flexible, lintless pile fabric extending well over the area of the insignia, the said covering, at least at one connection, being extended from one board to form a flap to overlie the other board, and separable fasteners having their complementary parts mounted on the flap and the underlying board and acting to hold the protector in clamped position with the lining engaging and protecting the insignia.

5. A protector for covering and clamping therebetween the portion of the sleeve of a garment on which tarnishable insignia are mounted, comprising a strip of tough, flexible material forming the outside of the protector, and a strip of soft, flexible, lintless pile fabric forming the inside of the

protector, the protector being folded across the middle to present two parallel side portions with the fabric innermost, one side portion having a short end which is folded under between the parallel extending side portions, and the other side portion having a long end which is folded over on the outside of the side portion having the short end, and separable fasteners having one part mounted on the long end and the complementary part on the side portion having the short end for holding the protector in folded position, and pieces of stiffening material between the adjacent portions of pile fabric and outer covering except at the folds.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

PERCY A. DE COURCY.