

J. T. COWLES.
POCKET GUARD AND ALARM.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 5, 1909.

1,016,672.

Patented Feb. 6, 1912.

Fig. 1.

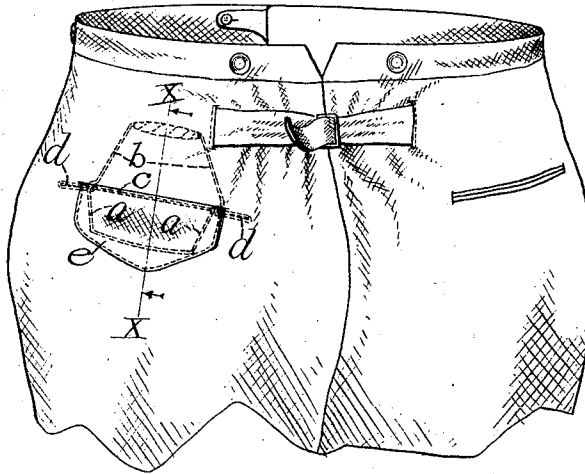


Fig. 2.

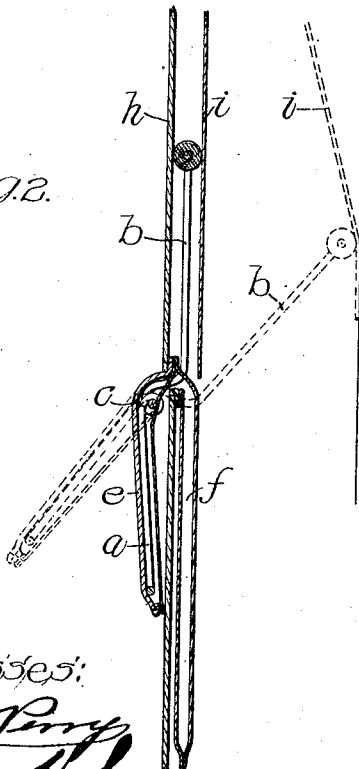
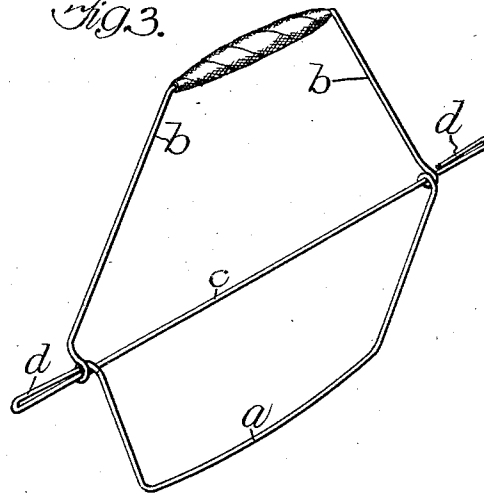


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. COWLES, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

POCKET GUARD AND ALARM.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed May 5, 1909. Serial No. 494,018.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN T. COWLES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pocket Guards and Alarms, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

This invention relates to a pocket guard and alarm. Its object is to render more difficult the picking of pockets, and to give an alarm when that act is attempted.

The invention consists substantially in the construction hereinafter set forth and shown in the drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

Like letters refer to similar parts in the several figures in the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the device applied to a pocket in a garment, the device being shown in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the pocket and device on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 1, and with the position of the alarm shown in dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the device.

This pocket guard and alarm is shown in the drawings applied to the hip pocket of a pair of trousers, although it may be well utilized with any pocket containing a flap or cover. The principle of the device is that it is arranged so that in order to get into the pocket, one side of the device must be lifted and the act of lifting that side moves another part of the device into contact with the body, and thus gives the alarm to the person whose pocket it is attempted to pick. It is manifest the two portions of this device may be made in many different forms and shapes, but it is believed that the simplest and best form is that indicated in the drawings, in which a straight piece of wire c is employed as an axis, and another piece of wire is bent so as to have a lower loop a and an upper loop b , twisted to form an eye through which the straight wire c may be inserted and thus form an axis upon which the two loops may be turned and the parts may be retained in permanent relation by bending the ends of the wire c backwardly upon themselves on each side of the loop portions of the wire, as indicated at d and outside of the eyes thereof, so that these bends produce a stop to prevent the parts being detached.

In the mode of application illustrated, to which the invention, however, is not to be

limited, the lower loop a is inserted within the flap over the pocket, that is to say, between the lining and the goods of the flap, while the upper loop b is inserted between the lining and the goods of the body portion of the trousers above the pocket. In the drawing the flap is designated by the letter e and the pocket by the letter f , the section of the goods above the pocket by the letter h , and the lining therefor by the letter i . It is preferable to offset the upper loop b just above the eye to allow for the thickness of the goods. It is evident with this construction that the lower loop gives a certain stiffness or rigidity to the flap which makes it comparatively difficult to lift, and yet access cannot be obtained to the pocket without lifting this flap, so that this loop acts as a guard to render more difficult the picking of the pocket; and besides, when this flap is lifted, it carries with it the lower loop of the device which turns on the axis c and throws inward the upper loop b into contact with the body and necessitates some pressure upon the body in order to fully gain access to the pocket, whereby an alarm will be given to the person whose pocket is attempted to be picked. This is well illustrated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, where the flap has been lifted, carrying with it the lower loop a and throwing the upper loop b into contact with the body and thus giving the alarm.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A pocket guard and alarm comprising a wire bent into an upper and lower loop, the lower of which is secured to the inside of the flap or cover of the pocket and the upper of which extends above the pocket adjacent to the body, and a pivot or hinge of a length to extend across the pocket and beyond the sides thereof upon which the two portions may be turned, whereby the lifting of the flap projects the upper loop of the device against the body and gives the alarm.

2. A pocket guard and alarm comprising a wire bent to form a lower portion and an upper portion and a hinge or axis member secured thereto between said portions said hinged member being adapted to be secured to a garment adjacent to a pocket therein.

3. A pocket guard and alarm comprising a wire bent to form a lower portion and an upper portion, and a hinge or axis member

secured thereto between said portions, said hinge member being adapted to be secured to a garment adjacent to and extending across the mouth of a pocket therein.

- 5 4. A pocket guard and alarm comprising a wire forming an axis and secured to the inside of the flap or cover of a pocket, in combination with another wire twisted around said axis to form a bearing and having a projecting lower loop and a projecting upper loop arranged to be secured to a garment, with the lower portion inside of the flap or cover of the pocket and the upper portion in an approximately parallel plane above said pocket.

- 10 5. A pocket guard and alarm comprising a comparatively straight wire forming an axis and having its two ends bent back upon themselves, in combination with another
15 20 wire twisted around said axis just inside of

the bent ends and projecting in the form of loops above and below such axis.

6. A pocket guard and alarm comprising an approximately straight wire having its two ends bent back upon itself, in combination with another wire twisted around the axis to form eyes on either side just inside of the bent ends of the axis and having projecting loops below and above the axis with the upper loop offset to an extent to accommodate the fabric of the garment to which it is to be attached.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, on this 3rd day of May, A. D. 1909.

JOHN T. COWLES.

Witnesses:

C. H. SEEM,

FRANK T. BROWN.

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