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L. F. WINNE

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AUTOMOBILE DOOR PROTECTOR

Filed July 24, 1929

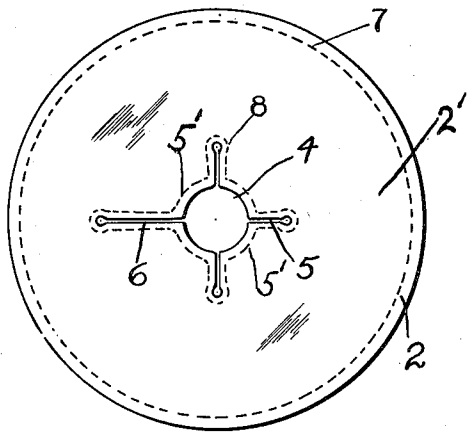
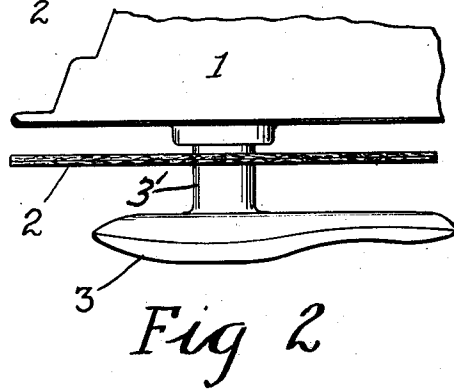
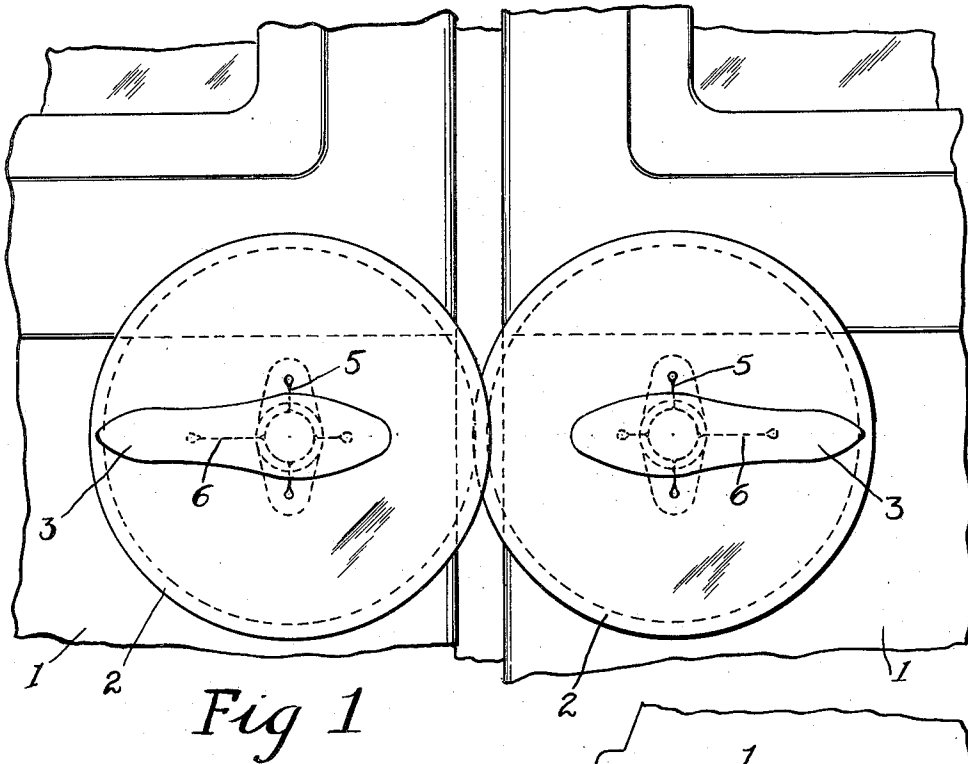


Fig 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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AUTOMOBILE DOOR PROTECTOR

Application filed July 24, 1929. Serial No. 380,494.

This invention relates to means for protecting automobile doors adjacent to the handles or knobs thereof from injury, the object of the invention being to provide a simple, inexpensive and practical device which may be readily slipped over the handle of an automobile door to protect the highly finished surface thereof adjacent to the handle from injury by the scratching and marring thereof by the rings and keys of persons manipulating the handle, and which device may be readily removed when desired and which will adjust itself to various sizes of handle spindles and which in practice will not detract from the ornamental appearance of the car.

It is a well known fact that in demonstrating cars for sale as well as in the subsequent use of such cars, the rings of the persons manipulating the door handles frequently scratch and mar the highly finished appearance of the door and this makes it very difficult to effect a sale of a new car which has been so scratched about the handles. Not only this but the purchaser of the car frequently finds that the highly finished door has been damaged by guests and others who manipulate the handles by reason of rings worn on the fingers. Furthermore, when the handles or handle knobs are provided with locks, as is usually the case, the owner frequently has the key upon a key ring and the swinging chain or other keys upon the ring frequently strike the door and mar the finish thereof, and therefore, the object of the present improvement is the provision of a simple, inexpensive protector that will readily fit the hubs or spindles of door handles and prevent the scratching or marring of the door around the handles and which device may be left on or removed as desired.

In the drawings accompanying and forming a part of this specification—

Figure 1 illustrates portions of the adjacent side doors of an automobile having this improved protector applied to each door;

Fig. 2 is a top view of the door handle with the protector in position; and

Fig. 3 is a view of the protector detached.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

Before explaining in detail the present improvement and mode of operation thereof, I desire to have it understood that the invention is not limited to the details of construction and arrangement of parts which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, since the invention is capable of other embodiments, and that the phraseology which I employ is for the purpose of description and not of limitation.

In practice the protector may be made of any suitable material and shape adapted for the purpose. In the present instance it is shown comprising a soft pad preferably of disc form consisting of a felt body 2 having stitched thereto a suitable ornamental finish 2' comprising a disc of patent leather or pantasote, the felt pad and the patent leather preferably being stitched around their marginal edges, as at 7. The pad is provided with a centrally located circular opening 4 approximately the size of the average door handle hub or spindle 3' carrying the handle 3 which usually projects a greater distance at one side of its hub than at the other, and for the purpose of permitting the pad to be readily slipped over this elongated handle and also for the purpose of allowing the pad to snugly fit and conform to the various shapes and sizes of handle hubs or spindles, the pad is provided with a plurality of radiating slots 5, 6, the slots 5 being of substantially the same length while the slot 6 is of greater length whereby the pad may be slipped over the elongated handle and whereby the flexible segmental portions 5' between the slots will conform to the hub and snugly fit the same at the inside of the handle. In the present instance these slots present a cruciform appearance, although it will be understood that any shape or arrangement of slots suitable for the purpose may be used. In the present instance the felt pad body and its cover are also stitched together by a row of stitches 8 around the marginal edges of the slots whereby the pad is strong, durable and efficient.

This improved protector may be readily attached and detached as desired, and when attached is in position to snugly fit around the

door hub conforming to the various shapes and sizes thereof by reason of the flexible segmental portions around the opening 4 and being of sufficient size to overlap the door under the entire handle prevents injury since by its use scratching and marring by finger rings or keys hanging from key rings is prevented.

The protector may also have a highly ornamental outer surface and a soft inner surface so that the ornamental effect thereof can conform to the character of the car. In fact the outer surface of the pad can be striped or ornamented in any manner to conform to that of the car and in practice the monogram of the user could be applied to the pad rather than to the door and thus be easily changed when the car is sold.

It is to be understood that by describing in detail herein any particular form, structure or arrangement, it is not intended to limit the invention beyond the terms of the several claims or the requirements of the prior art.

Having thus explained the nature of my said invention and described a way of constructing and using the same, although without attempting to set forth all of the forms in which it may be made, or all of the modes of its use, I claim:

1. A motor car door protector comprising a felt pad and an ornamental cover stitched together around the margins thereof and provided with a centrally located circular opening, and slotted at intervals to provide flexible segmental portions adapted to conform to various sizes and shapes of door handle hubs.

2. A motor car door protector comprising a felt pad and an ornamental cover stitched together around the margins thereof and provided with a centrally located circular opening, and slotted at intervals to provide flexible segmental portions adapted to conform to various sizes and shapes of door handle hubs, the cover being stitched around the margins of such segmental portions and one of said slots having greater length than the others.

Signed at Nyack, county of Rockland and State of New York, this 19th day of July, 1929.

LANSING F. WINNE.

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