H. R. HART.

ATHLETIC GUARD.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 3, 1915.

1,158,208. Patented Oct. 26, 1915.

*Fig. 1.*

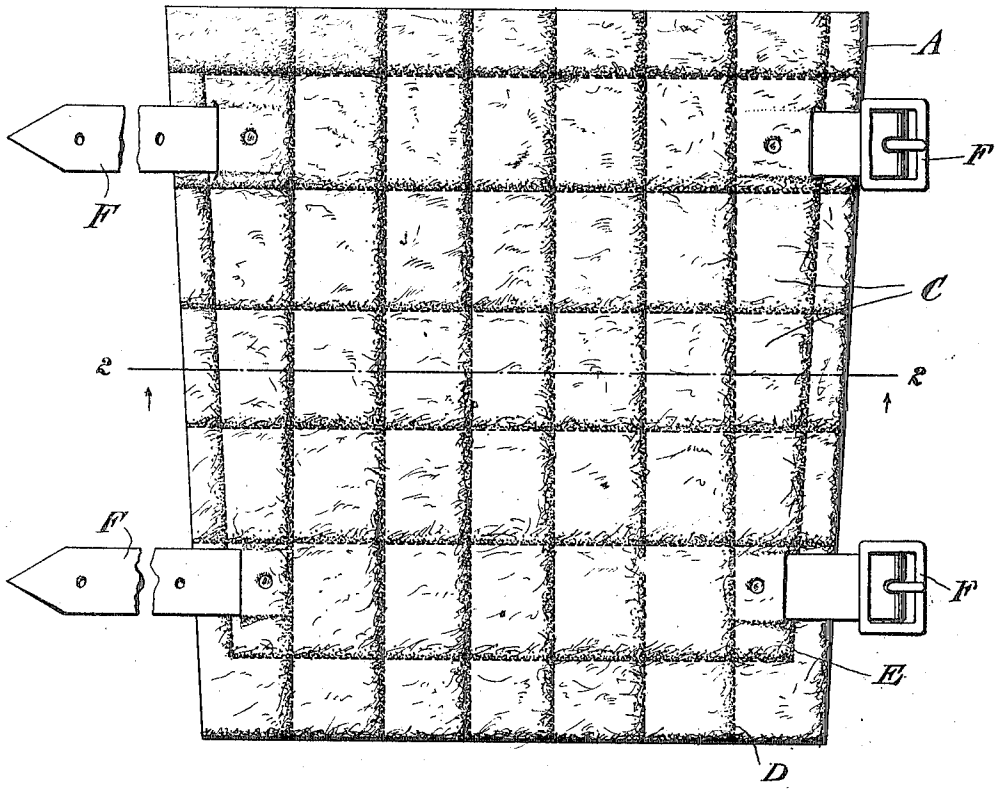
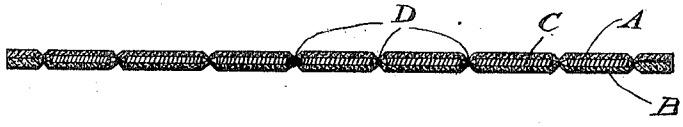



*Fig. 2.*




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY RIDGEWAY HART, OF MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY.

## ATHLETIC GUARD.

1,158,208. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 26, 1915.

Application filed July 3, 1915. Serial No. 37,989.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY RIDGEWAY HART, citizen of the United States, residing at Montclair, New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Athletic Guards, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is intended to provide an improved guard or pad for use by athletes which will, in addition to providing the usual protection to the wearer, allow a freedom of movement of the protected member heretofore unknown. This freedom of movement is made possible by making the guard flexible longitudinally and laterally.

Guards or pads of this nature have generally been made by sewing between two pieces of suitable material inserted strips of some solid, resisting material running lengthwise of the limb or other part of the body on which it is worn and thus are flexible only in one direction.

In my present invention, as a specific means of illustration I use a shin guard or pad, but do not limit myself to this form as guards or pads made in accordance with my invention may be used on the arms, elbows, legs or any other member of the body requiring extra protection in participating in such games as hockey, football and the like.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view, and Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

As is usual in the construction of guards or pads of this nature, two layers A and B, of any suitable material, felt, canvas or the like are laid one upon the other. I then interpose a plurality of squares or rectangles, as shown at C. I do not limit myself as to size or shape of these squares or rectangles which may be of any approved size or shape. They are made of some solid resisting substance, fiber for instance, and are placed between the layers A and B, in alinement one with the other both vertically and horizontally, and at a sufficient distance apart to permit vertical and horizontal stitches as shown at D and E, between them, thereby incasing each individual member or square in a pocket or compartment between the layers A and B.

Riveted or sewed to the guard or pad in a suitable position I use the usual buckle and straps F, F, by means of which the guard or pad is attached to the desired leg, arm or shin, or other situation.

What I claim is:

1. An athletic guard or protector comprising a pad of flexible material having incorporated therein a plurality of rigid sections spaced apart vertically and horizontally, substantially as described.

2. An athletic guard or protector comprising a pad of a plurality of layers of a flexible material, and a plurality of rectangular rigid sections fastened between them so as to permit flexibility of the pad in two directions, substantially as described.

3. An athletic guard or protector comprising a pad of a plurality of layers of a flexible material, a plurality of rigid sections fastened between them independently of each other and in alinement one with the other in a vertical and horizontal plane, so as to give flexibility in two directions, substantially as described.

4. An athletic guard or protector comprising a pad of a plurality of layers of a flexible material, a plurality of rigid members fastened between them and in alinement one with the other in a vertical and horizontal plane and having vertical and horizontal securing means between them.

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

HENRY RIDGEWAY HART.

Witnesses:
E. L. STURGES,
FRANCIS G. COATT.