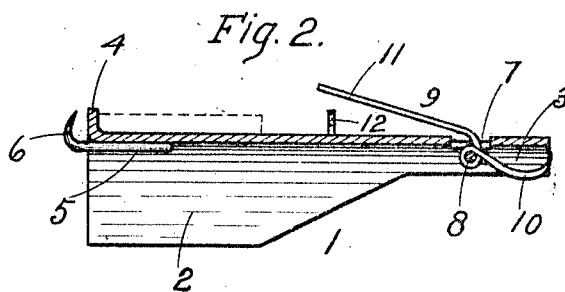
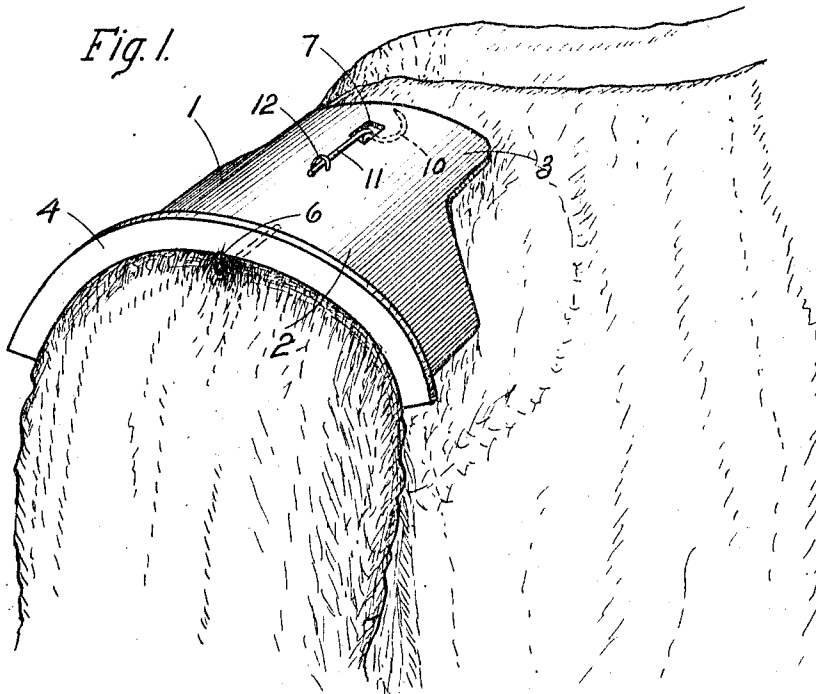


C. G. MURK.  
SHOULDER PROTECTOR.  
APPLICATION FILED MAY 20, 1910.

978,620.

Patented Dec. 13, 1910.



Witnesses:  
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A. A. Olson

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His Attorney.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES G. MURK, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## SHOULDER-PROTECTOR.

978,620.

Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Dec. 13, 1910.**

Application filed May 20, 1910. Serial No. 562,437.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES G. MURK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoulder-Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a shoulder protector, and has for its object the production of a plate adapted to be arranged upon the shoulder to protect the same, when carrying a weight, by means of a strap extending over the shoulder; the device being designed for use especially by mail carriers.

A further object is the production of a device of the character mentioned which will be of durable and economical construction and efficient in operation.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

With these objects in view my invention consists in a shoulder protector characterized as above mentioned and in certain details of construction and arrangement of parts all as will be hereinafter fully described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, and in which,

Figure 1 is a view showing my improved shoulder protector applied for use, and Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the device, detached.

Referring now to the drawing, 1 indicates the body of the device which is a curved, preferably metallic plate, the same being shaped so as to conform to the shoulder upon which it is designed for use. The outer end portion 2 of said plate is of greatest width, the same being of dimensions such as to adapt the same to completely cover the upper side of the outer end portion of the shoulder, the inner end portion 3 of said plate being of reduced width, as indicated. Said plate is of a length such that, when arranged upon a shoulder, the same will extend from the outer end of the latter to within a short distance of the neck. Provided at the outer edge of the portion 2 is a co-extensive upwardly projecting flange 4, the same being adapted, when a strap, such as a mail carrier's strap, is arranged upon the plate 1 to prevent outward displacement thereof, as clearly indicated in Fig. 2. Provided centrally at the outer end of the plate

1 is a securing member comprising the shank and portion 5 which is rigidly secured upon the under side of said plate, and the outer upwardly curved and pointed end portion 6 which projects beyond the outer edge of said plate, the latter portion being adapted when in use to engage or pierce the shoulder portion of the garment of the wearer. Provided centrally in the portion 3 adjacent the inner edge of the plate 1 is a slot 7. Rigidly secured to the under side of the plate traversing the slot 7 is a pivotal pin 8. Pivotaly mounted intermediate its extremities upon the pin 8 is an engaging or securing member 9, the same comprising the rearwardly projecting curved and pointed portion 10 which is adapted, as the hook portion 6, to engage the garment of the wearer. The forwardly projecting shank portion 11 of the member 9 extends through the slot 7, said member 9 being adapted to be held in operative position by means of a curved keeper 12 under which the shank 11 is adapted to engage.

When arranging the device upon a shoulder for use, the engaging hook 6 is first inserted into the shoulder part of the coat of the user at the outer extremity thereof, this being effected by sufficiently elevating the inner end of the plate. Thus the outer end of the latter is securely held in position upon the garment. Upon the hook 6 being engaged the inner end of the plate is lowered to engagement with the shoulder. Now, by forwardly oscillating the shank 11 of the member 9 from a substantially vertical position, the engaging end 10 thereof may be made to pierce the cloth of the garment to lock the inner end of the plate thereto, said member being held in locking position by means of the keeper 12 as before mentioned. The end 10 of the member 9 is so formed that, when the latter is in engaging position, the outer end of the former rests against the inner edge of the plate 1; and whereby slipping of the cloth engaged thereby from engagement therewith is prevented.

With a device of the construction as above set forth and arranged as shown and described, means will be provided whereby the wear of a carrying strap resting upon the shoulder will be distributed over a greater area, and whereby soreness of the shoulder will be prevented. The embodiment of securing devices as described provides means

which are efficient in operation and which will not injure the cloth upon which the device is secured; such embodiment further providing means whereby the device may be readily and quickly attached or detached.

While I have shown what I deem to be the preferable form of my protector I do not wish to be limited thereto as there might be various changes made in the details of construction and arrangement of parts described without departing from the spirit of the invention comprehended within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A shoulder protector comprising a plate, said plate being of greatest width at its outer end portion, the same being transversely curved to conform to the shoulder, an upwardly projecting flange at the outer edge of said plate, a stationary pointed hooked member at one end and a pivoted hooked member at the other end of said plate

adapted to pierce the shoulder portion of the garment of the wearer to secure said plate thereto, substantially as described.

2. A shoulder protector comprising a metallic plate, said plate being of greatest width at its outer end portion, the same being transversely curved to conform to the shoulder, an upwardly projecting flange at the outer edge of said plate, a stationary pointed hook member at the outer end of said plate, a pivoted hook member at the inner end of said plate, said hook members being adapted to pierce the shoulder portions of the garment of the wearer to secure said plate thereto, and means for holding said pivoted hook member in engaging position, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES G. MURK.

Witnesses:

HELEN F. LILLIS,  
JOSHUA R. H. POTTS.