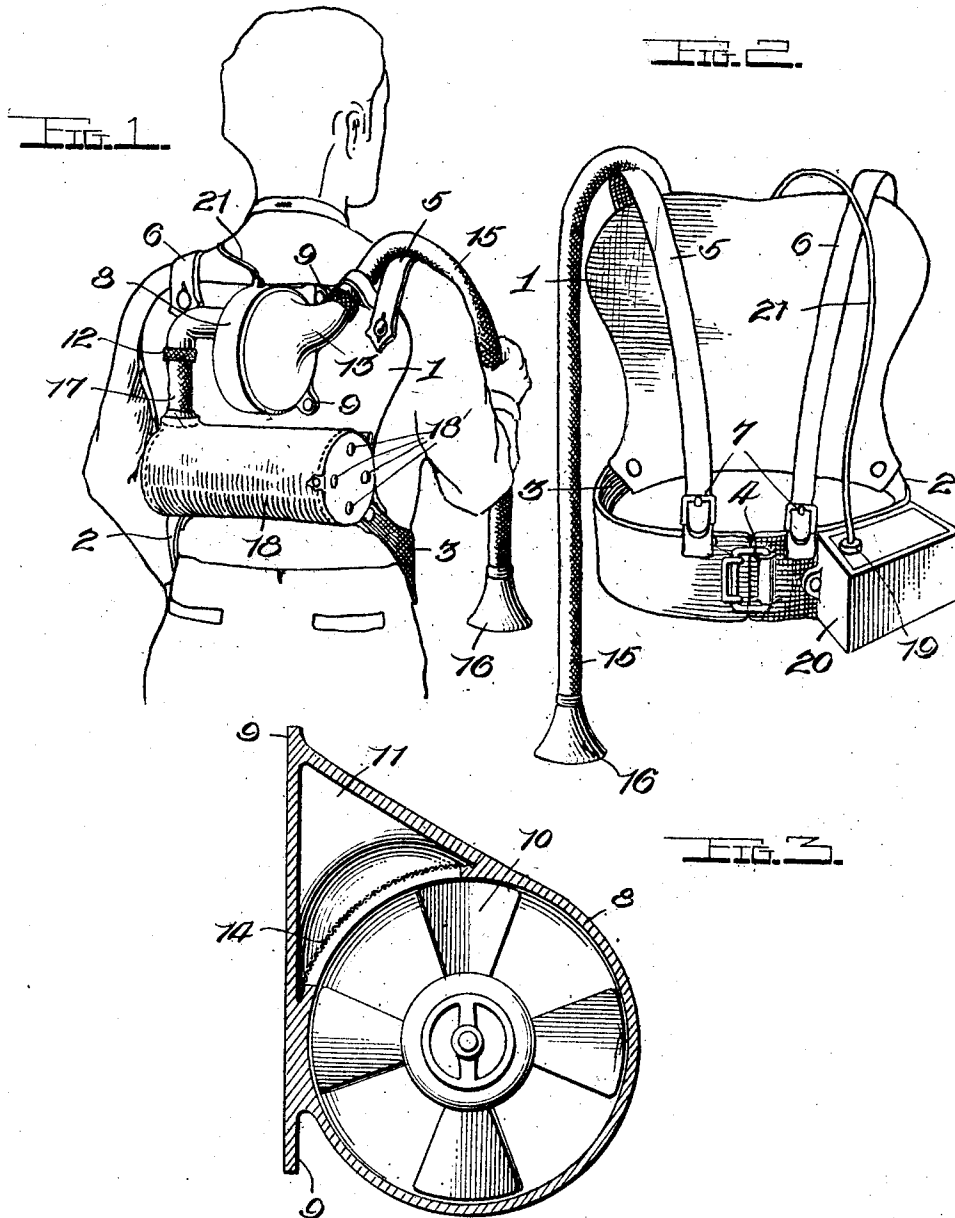


G. BUTENSCHOEN.
COTTON PICKER.
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1,047,164.

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Witnesses

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COTTON-PICKER.

1,047,164.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE BUTENSCHOEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Davenport, in the county of Scott and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cotton-Pickers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in cotton pickers and more particularly to a pneumatic apparatus for conveying the cotton when picked from the plant to a receptacle carried by the operator, and my object is to provide a device of this character which may be readily and quickly applied to the body of the operator to be carried from place to place.

A further object of the invention resides in providing a flexible back plate or the like which may be readily applied to the back of the operator and which carries a suction fan by which the cotton may be conveyed, after being picked, to a receptacle also carried on this flexible plate.

A still further object resides in providing a device which is extremely simple and durable in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, and one which is very efficient and useful in operation.

With these and other objects in view, my invention consists in the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter referred to and more particularly pointed out in the specification and claim.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this application, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the device applied to the back of an operator. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same showing the arrangement of the straps and buckling means for the application of the same to the body, and Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the casing carrying the suction fan.

In describing my invention, I shall refer to the drawing in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views and in which—

1 indicates a flexible plate of any desired size which is adapted to fit the back of an operator, said plate being formed preferably of leather, and secured to the lower ends of the same at opposite sides, are the belt straps 2 and 3, respectively, which are adapted to be drawn around the waist of

the wearer and secured together by means of a buckle or the like 4. Engaged with the plate 1 at opposite sides of its upper end, are the shoulder straps 5 and 6 which are adapted to extend over the opposite shoulders of the wearer to be engaged with the belt straps 2 and 3, by means of the buckles 7, and it will be seen that when these waist and shoulder straps are properly applied, the plate will be securely held on the back of the operator.

A casing 8 is riveted or otherwise secured to the upper portion of the plate 1 at the points 9, said casing having revolubly mounted therein, the usual or any preferred form of suction fan 10, and a compartment 11 formed in the upper portion of the casing has extending from opposite sides thereof, the tubular arms 12 and 13. This compartment 11 formed in the casing 8, is divided from the compartment containing the fan 10 by means of a screening material 14, permitting only air to pass therethrough, and the one tubular arm 13 has connected therewith, a flexible tubular connection 15 which is adapted to extend over the one shoulder of the operator having the free end thereof provided with an enlarged nozzle arrangement 16, while the other tubular portion 12 is connected by means of a flexible connection 17 to a receptacle 18 also carried on the plate 1. This receptacle may be of wood, metal, leather or of any other desired material, whatsoever, and from this construction, it will be seen that as the fan is rotated to cause a suction in the compartment 11, all matter with which the nozzle 16 comes in contact, will be drawn through the flexible connection 15 into the compartment 11, from where it will be conducted to the receptacle 18 through the medium of the flexible connection 17. One end of the receptacle 18 is provided with the perforations 18', which are too small to permit the passage of the cotton, but which are large enough to allow the escape of the air which is forced into the receptacle by the fan.

In order to provide means for the operation of the suction fan 10, I provide a storage battery 19 which is adapted to be carried in a pocket or the like 20 formed on the one belt strap 2. The wires 21 from this battery may be readily extended over the shoulder of the operator not having the connection 15 thereover, said wires having connection with the usual motor of the fan,

whereby it will be appreciated that the device may be readily set in operation and continued or discontinued at the will of the operator.

5 In operation, after the device has been properly applied to the body of the person, and the tubular connection disposed over the one shoulder of the cotton picker so that the nozzle 16 at the free end thereof, 10 is disposed at the wrist or hand of the picker, the fan may be set in operation, whereupon it will be seen that the suction will cause all articles with which the nozzle comes in contact, to be passed into the re- 15 ceptacle 18. The picker then walking through the fields, picks the cotton bolls, and in applying the nozzle in contact with the picked cotton, causes the latter to be drawn and conveyed to the receptacle 18. 20 This may be continued until the receptacle has become filled, whereupon the same may be emptied and the operation continued.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that 25 I have provided an improved cotton picker, which apparatus is designed to automatically convey the picked cotton into a receptacle carried by the operator or picker. It will further be seen that I have provided 30 a device which may be readily carried upon the body of the picker without causing any unnecessary strain, the same being extremely light in construction and compact in form, and it will further be seen that the same is

so designed as to be readily fitted to the 35 body of any person desiring the use of the same. Furthermore, it will be seen that the device is one which is extremely simple and durable in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, and one which will be very 40 efficient and useful in operation.

What I claim is:--

An apparatus of the class described, comprising a flexible plate, a plurality of straps carried thereby adapted to be disposed 45 around the waist and over the shoulders of the operator, a casing carried on said plate, a screening device disposed in said casing dividing the same into a pair of compart- 50 ments, a suction fan disposed in one of the compartments of said casing, a tubular flexible connection leading from a picking nozzle to the other of said compartments and adapted to be disposed over the 55 shoulder of the operator, a receptacle also carried by the plate, an additional tubular connection between said receptacle and the last referred to compartment of the casing, and means to supply power to the suction fan, said means being carried by the waist 60 strap on the plate and disposed within easy reach of the operator.

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

GEORGE BUTENSCHORN.

Witnesses:

H. P. OETZMANN,

CHARLES H. SCHLAPP.