J. T. COWLES.

POCKET GUARD AND ALARM.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 3, 1912.

1,128,230. Patented Feb. 9, 1915.

Fig. 1.

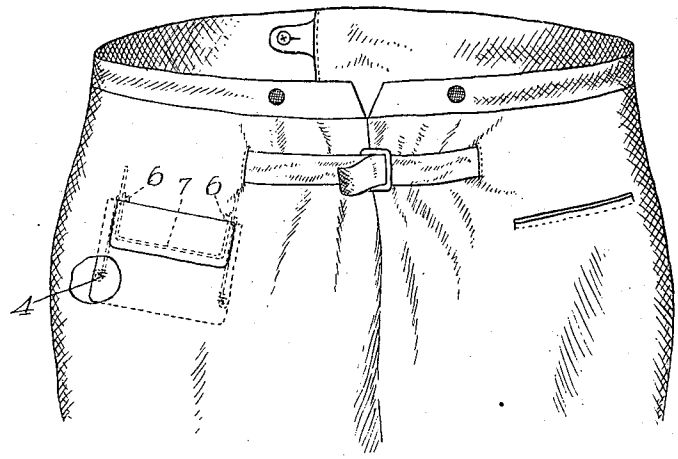


Fig. 2.

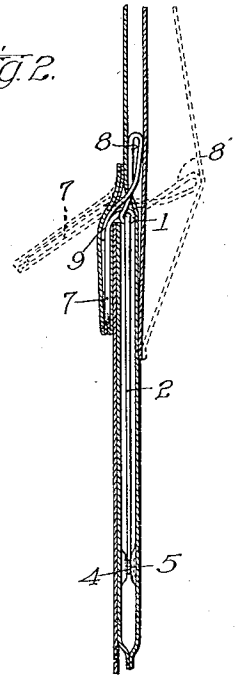
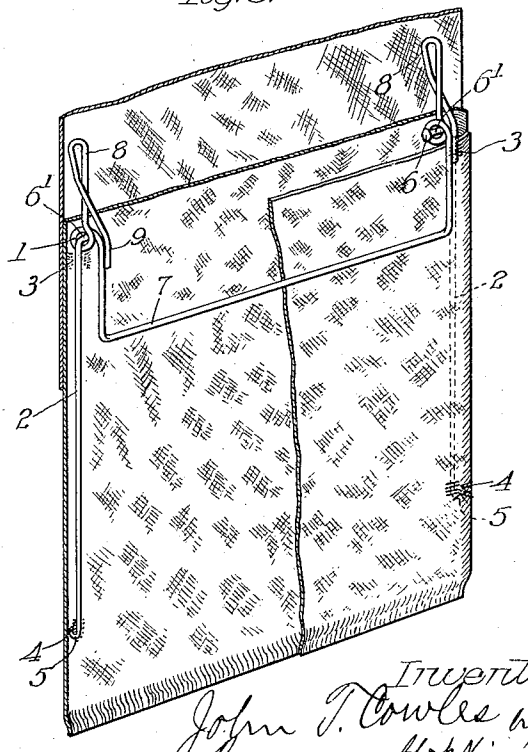


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Robert N. Weir
C. A. Seem

Inventor
John T. Cowles by
Brown & Hopkins
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. COWLES, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

POCKET GUARD AND ALARM.

1,128,230. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 9, 1915.

Application filed February 3, 1912. Serial No. 675,127.

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 specification.

This invention relates to pocket guards and alarms, and one of its objects is to render a device of such character simpler in construction and more efficient in operation.

A further object of the invention is to provide a combined pocket guard and alarm which will permit convenient use of the pocket under normal conditions.

Like letters of reference designate similar parts in the figures on the drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the improved device applied to a hip pocket in a pair of trousers, the device being shown in dotted lines except that portion where the cloth is shown broken away; Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-sectional view of the device applied to a pocket, the dotted lines representing the position of the parts of the device when the pocket is attempted to be opened for entry thereto; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the device showing more particularly the manner in which the device may be secured to the pocket.

This pocket guard and alarm is shown in the drawing applied to the hip pocket, of a pair of trousers, although it may be applied to coat pockets or vest pockets or pockets of other types, which contain or have attached thereto a closing flap or cover. However, it is particularly well adapted to pockets fitting closely to the body such as hip pockets of trousers.

My improved device is so arranged that when the flap or cover of the pocket is lifted in order to gain an entry into the pocket, a portion of the device is pressed against the body which would give an alarm to the person if his pocket provided with one of these devices were attempted to be picked. It is also desirable to have the device so arranged that when the owner of the pocket wishes to use it in the normal manner he should be permitted to do so freely and place articles into the pocket and take them out of the same without hindrance from the pocket guard and alarm. I have therefore arranged the device so that when the flap or cover of the pocket is lifted the hand may be inserted freely into the pocket or freely withdrawn therefrom, and articles inserted into the pocket or withdrawn therefrom without being obstructed or hindered by any part of the pocket guard or alarm, because no part of the device extends across the pocket at the entrance thereto. In my prior Patent No. 1,016,672, for a pocket guard and alarm patented February 6, 1912, an axis or cross piece is provided at the entrance to the pocket, but the present invention is an improvement thereon because the axes for the alarm and the pocket guard are arranged in a specifically different manner to minimize the obstruction or hindrance at the entrance of the pocket under normal conditions and the annoyance which an axis extending across the entrance to the pocket might cause to the owner of such pocket.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating an embodiment of the present invention, a wire is bent preferably to conform to the shape of the flap or cover of the pocket and secured between the lining and the exterior cloth of the flap and is provided with circular loops 1, 1, to form bearings for the vertical side pieces 2, 2, which are also of wire, although they may be of various shapes and of any material desired. I prefer, however, to show vertical pieces of wire to exemplify my invention, and prefer also to make such wires more flexible at their lower ends than at their upper ends, so that when a person stoops over, sits down or moves about, the wires will conform more readily to the body of the person.

The vertical side wires 2, 2, may be secured to the trousers in various ways, but in this instance I have shown them connected to the inside lateral edges of the pocket proper. It is evident that the device may be attached to any pocket in this manner by inserting the vertical wires into the lateral, vertical recesses of the pocket and securing them in place as desired. In Fig. 3 I have shown the vertical side pieces 2, 2 fastened to the inner lateral edges of the pocket by

stitching at 3, 3 and 4, 4. The lower end of the vertical side pieces may be provided with heads or enlargements, so that the wires can not be pulled out from the pocket. The upper ends of the side piece wires 2, 2 may also be provided with heads or enlargements 6, 6, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 3. The upper ends of the vertical side piece wires 2, 2 are bent at right angles to form bearings for the circular loops 1, 1, which are connected to the U-shaped member or guard 7, which is located inside of the flap or cover of the pocket.

Connected to the guard 7 is an alarm extension 8 at each side of the pocket. Preferably the extensions 8 are of wire, integral with the guard 7 and a continuation of the loop 1. The alarm extensions 8, 8 are bent backward on themselves and the ends may be soldered at 9 to the vertical portion of the guard 7. The heads or enlargements 6, 6 will prevent the circular portions 1, 1 from becoming detached from the bearings 6′, 6′ or from the vertical pieces 2, 2 before the entire device is attached to the pocket.

If the pocket is attempted to be picked by an unauthorized person, the alarm extensions 8, 8 will be forced back toward the body of the person owning the pocket, as indicated in Fig. 2 in dotted lines, and therefore the owner of the pocket would be warned so that he can protect his valuables which he wishes to carry in such pocket.

When the owner of the pocket wishes to insert his hand into the pocket he may do so by lifting up the flap or cover and turning it to a reverse vertical position, when he will have free access to the pocket. Articles may be inserted into the pocket or withdrawn therefrom without hindrance or obstruction by any portion of the device because the bearings and the side pieces are at the lateral edges of the pocket and no part of the device aside from the flap is in the path of movement of the owner's hand or of the articles which he wishes to insert into the pocket or withdraw therefrom, for instance, a small pocket book which he wishes to carry in his hip pocket.

Those skilled in the art may make various changes in the details and arrangement of parts of my improved device without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the claims, and I wish therefore not to be restricted to the precise construction exemplifying my invention.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. A pocket guard and alarm comprising separate lateral pieces for attachment to the inside of a pocket at both sides and having bearings, a loop connected to the flap or cover of the pocket, and rearward extensions of said loop to form alarms, said loop and rearward extensions being pivoted on said bearings.

2. In a pocket guard and alarm, the combination with separate vertical side pieces entirely within the pocket at the sides and having short bearings at their upper ends, of a U-shaped guard pivoted on said bearings, and an alarm connected to said guard at each end of the U.

3. In a pocket guard and alarm, the combination with separate lateral side pieces adapted to be disposed within the pocket at each side having greater flexibility at their lower ends than at their upper ends, of short bearings at the upper ends of said side pieces, a guard extending between said side pieces and mounted on said bearings, and extensions rigidly connected to said guard and moving therewith on said bearings.

4. In a pocket guard and alarm, the combination with a guard, of an alarm, and means disposed within the pocket for connecting said guard and alarm to the lateral inside edges or recesses of said pocket without obstructing the entrance to the pocket when the guard is in open position.

5. In a pocket guard, the combination with separate side pieces each formed with an enlargement at one end and a bend at the other end with a head at the end of the bent portion, the said bent portions forming bearings, means for fastening the side pieces to the inside edges of the pocket, the bend and enlargement preventing the displacement of each side piece, and a U-shaped guard with its extremities pivotally mounted on the bearings.

6. In a pocket guard, the combination with separate side pieces fastened to the inside edges of the pocket with an inwardly bent end at the upper edge of each corner of the pocket forming a bearing, and a U-shaped guard pivotally mounted in the bearings intermediate the ends of both the parallel sides and disposed with the base portion of said guard in the flap of the pocket.

7. In a guard and alarm for pockets having flaps, the combination of separate side pieces each secured to the inside edge of the pocket and having a bearing at one end, the bearing being disposed at the upper edge of the pocket, and a U-shaped guard disposed with the base portion of said guard in the flap of the pocket having its extremities pivotally mounted in the bearings at a distance from the ends of said extremities at the edges of the pocket.

8. A guard and alarm for pockets having flaps comprising side pieces fastened in the inside corners of the pockets with one extremity bent and disposed adjacent the opening of the pocket in the corner thereof, and a substantially U-shaped guard in the flap of the pocket pivotally mounted in the

bearings at the corner of the pocket opening and having extensions at the ends of the U-shaped member which project beyond the bearings and form alarms which are effective when the flap of the pocket is raised.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, on this 31st day of January A. D. 1912.

JOHN T. COWLES.

Witnesses:
CHARLES H. SEEM,
M. HARTY.

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