

(No Model.)

A. HERBELIN.  
KNEE PROTECTOR.

No. 588,907.

Patented Aug. 24, 1897.

FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

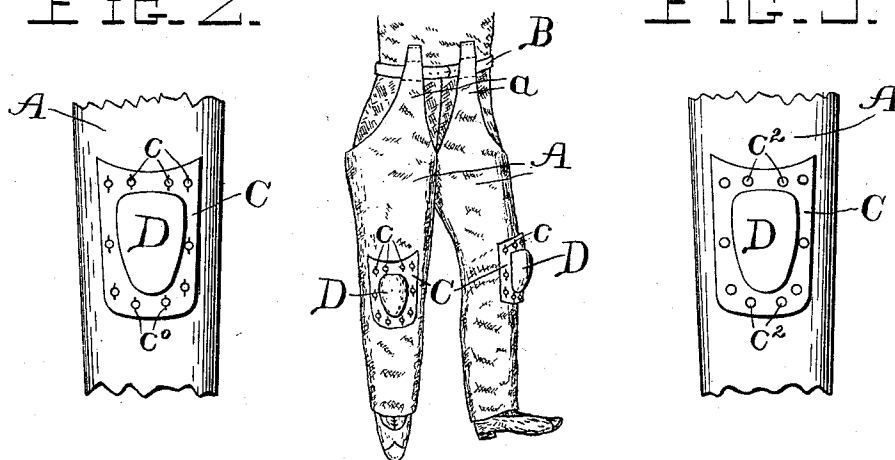
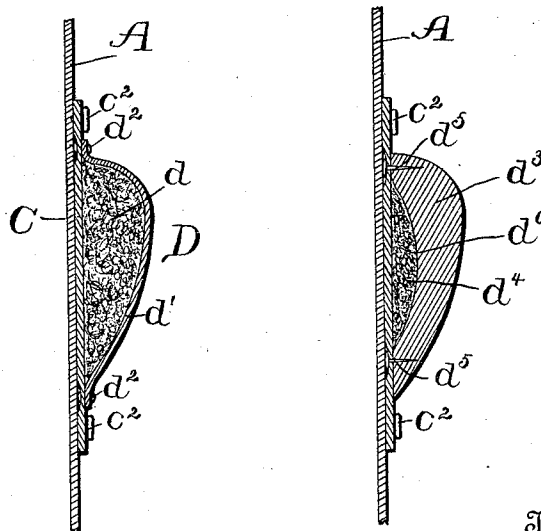


FIG. 4. FIG. 5.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED HERBELIN, OF WACO, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ALEXANDER FERDINAND GIRARD, OF SAME PLACE.

## KNEE-PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,907, dated August 24, 1897.

Application filed January 22, 1897. Serial No. 620,256. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALFRED HERBELIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waco, in the county of McLennan and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Leg-Protectors; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in garment-protectors, and has for its object to provide suitable leg-protectors or overalls to be worn by cotton-pickers, gardeners, plumbers, miners, quarrymen, and others, the said protectors having a pad or reinforcement on the knees thereof, such as will afford a sufficient protection against injury by stones or other hard substances or irregularities on the surface of the ground or other place upon which the wearer is obliged to kneel.

My invention also contemplates the use of detachable reinforcements and pads, which enable the same to be removed for any purpose and replaced when worn out or so desired for any reason.

My invention will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein the same parts are indicated by the same letters throughout the several views.

Figure 1 represents a front perspective view showing a pair of my improved knee-protectors as being worn by a man. Fig. 2 represents an enlarged front elevation of a portion of the leg-protectors, showing the knee-pad as secured to the front thereof, so as to be detachable therefrom by means of ordinary buttons. Fig. 3 is a view similar to that shown in Fig. 2, showing the pad as attached to the leg-protectors by means of socket-buttons. Fig. 4 represents a sectional view showing a pad composed of hair or other similar substance inclosed in a stout leather or canvas casing; and Fig. 5 is a view similar to that shown in Fig. 4, showing a knee-pad, the outer portion of which is composed of a solid block of wood or iron hollowed out on the inner side and padded with hair or like material and secured by nails or screws upon the front of the detachable reinforcement.

A represents the body of the leg-protector,

which is made to cover only the leg of the wearer, and which is provided with an extension *a* at its upper end in front, through which extension passes a belt B, adapted to encircle the waist of the wearer, and thus support the protector. The body of this protector A may be made of any sort of woven or spun cloth, oil-canvas, or rubber cloth, or leather, and may or may not be waterproof.

Upon the front of the knee portion of this protector I attach a reinforcement C, carrying a pad D. This reinforcement C may be made of any strong woven or spun material, or leather, and may be either waterproof or not, as desired. The said reinforcement is attached to the leg portion A, so as to be detachable therefrom, by means of ordinary buttons *c*, secured to the said leg portion, which engage in buttonholes *c*<sup>0</sup> in the said reinforcement, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, or socket-buttons, such as shown at *c*<sup>2</sup> in Fig. 3, may be used, if preferred.

The pad D is secured to the outer face of the reinforcement C by means of stitches, rivets, nails, or may be cemented thereto, or may be made detachable in any suitable manner, if desired. This pad D may consist, as shown in Fig. 4, of a heavy hollow casing *d*<sup>1</sup>, of leather, cloth, canvas, rubber cloth, or metal having an inner stuffing *d*<sup>2</sup>, of hair, straw, or like material, and secured at its edges to the reinforcement C by means of rivets *d*<sup>2</sup>; or, if preferred, however, this casing may be stitched to the reinforcement or made detachable by use of buttons or their equivalent, as desired.

Fig. 5 shows a pad having a thick outer casing *d*<sup>3</sup>, composed of a block of wood or metal, having a convex outer face and a concave inner face *d*<sup>0</sup>, stuffed with hair or other suitable substance *d*<sup>4</sup> and secured to the front of the reinforcement C by means of nails or screws *d*<sup>5</sup>, as shown.

I do not wish to limit myself to the precise form of pad shown and described herein, nor do I wish to limit myself to the use of hair or straw as a padding therefor, as it will be obvious that a pneumatic cushion may be used, if preferred, without altering materially the form or construction of the pad.

Having thus described my invention, what

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

1. In a leg-protector, the combination with the leg portion A, having an extension at the top thereof reaching to the waist of the wearer, and a belt passing through the said extension and supporting the said leg portion, and a plurality of buttons secured upon the outside of the front of the said leg portion; of a flexible reinforcement provided with a plurality of holes adapted to engage the said buttons; a concavo-convex casing secured to the said flexible reinforcement, and a padding filling the concavity of said casing substantially as described.

2. In a leg-protector, the combination with the leg portion A, having an extension at the

top thereof reaching to the waist of the wearer, and a belt passing through the said extension and supporting the said leg portion, and a plurality of buttons secured upon the outside of the front of the said leg portion; of a flexible reinforcement provided with a plurality of holes adapted to engage the said buttons; a concavo-convex block, of unyielding material, secured to the said flexible reinforcement, and a padding in the concave portion of the said block, substantially as described.

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

ALFRED HERBELIN.

Witnesses:

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