

W. M. BARNES.
 BUTTON PROTECTOR.
 APPLICATION FILED OCT. 30, 1915.

1,180,104.

Patented Apr. 18, 1916.

Fig. 1

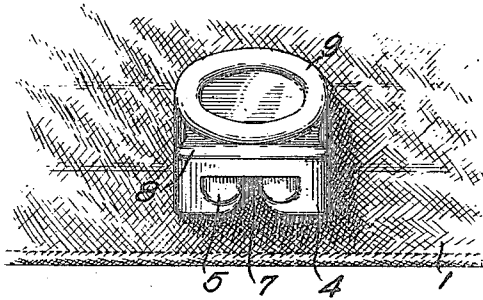


Fig. 2

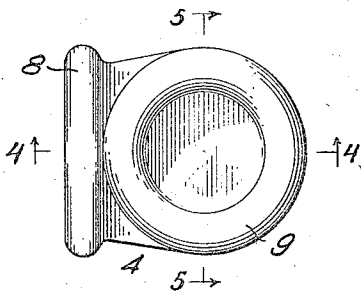


Fig. 4

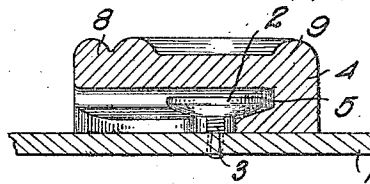


Fig. 3

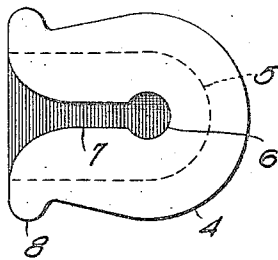
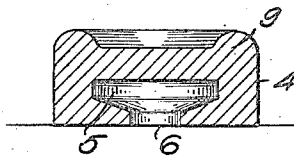


Fig. 5



WITNESSES
F. A. Sweet
A. L. Kitchin

INVENTOR
Walter M. Barnes
 BY *Mumford*
 ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER M. BARNES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BUTTON-PROTECTOR.

1,180,104.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 18, 1916.

Application filed October 30, 1915. Serial No. 58,843.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER M. BARNES, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Button-Protector, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to button protectors and has for an object the provision of an improved construction adapted to fit over a button and pinch the retaining member therefor or the button itself, as desired, so as to protect the button against accidental breakage.

Another object in view is to provide a protector for buttons formed with a slot merging into a recess which accommodates a button, the protector being adapted to prevent the accidental breaking of the button when beating a garment carrying the button.

A still further object in view is to provide a button protector formed of any suitable material and arranged with raised portions for receiving the impact of an article and thereby protect the button against breakage.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a fragmentary view of a garment with a perspective view of the protector arranged thereon; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the protector shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the protector shown in Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a section through Fig. 2 on line 4-4; Fig. 5 is a section through Fig. 2 on line 5-5.

In carrying out the objects of the invention it is aimed to provide a protecting device for buttons for coats and other garments which are cleaned from time to time by being beaten and then brushed. In the beating of the garment the dirt is loosened more effectively than in any other manner, after which it is removed by a suitable broom. During the beating operation the beater is liable to strike the buttons and if the same are breakable, to break or chip the same. The protector embodying the invention is intended to surround and entirely cover the buttons of the garment so that during the beating operation when the garment is being cleaned the beater will strike either the garment or the protector. The protector will transmit the blow to the garment and protect the button so that the garment is

properly beaten in the immediate vicinity of the button as well as at other places.

Referring to the accompanying drawings by numerals, 1 indicates a garment of any desired kind which may be provided with any suitable number of buttons 2 held in place by any suitable fastening means, as for instance, the usual number of threads 3. The protector 4 may be made from rubber; fiber or other suitable material, though a good quality of rubber is preferable. When rubber is used the same is vulcanized until it is comparatively stiff so that the same cannot be bent and thereby transmit a blow to the button 2. The protector 4 is provided with what may be termed a socket 5 for receiving the button 2, the socket 5 merging into an aperture 6 through which the threads 3 pass, and a slot 7 having a flaring outer end, as shown in Fig. 3.

In applying the protector the same is placed against the garment 1 so that the button is adjacent the flaring end of slot 7 and then the protector is slid over the button, threads 3 passing through slot 7 into aperture 6. The slot 7 is preferably made comparatively narrow so as to somewhat squeeze the threads 3 and thereby prevent the accidental removal of the protector. When the protector becomes old, or at any time desired, a rubber band may be passed around the protector immediately back of the flange or bead 8 so as to draw the protector together at that point and restrict the aperture 7 so as to positively insure against the accidental removal of the protector. On top of the protector a raised portion or bead 9 is provided which is intended to receive the blow during the beating of the garment, whereby the blow is transmitted to the garment around the button 2 and not to the button.

What I claim is:—

1. A button protector comprising a body provided with a socket for receiving a button, said socket being arranged so as to pinch the threads holding the button in place and thereby hold the body in place over the button, said body being formed with raised portions for preventing a blow from being transmitted to the button.

2. A button protector comprising a removable body formed with an opening for receiving a button and with a ridge for re-

ceiving an impact and transmitting the same to the bottom of the protector without affecting the button.

3. A button protector comprising a body
5 provided with a button receiving socket and a bead or ridge for holding an elastic in position, whereby the socket is substantially closed at one point.

4. A button protector formed of rubber
10 and provided with a button receiving socket,

and reinforcing stiffening ribs for preventing an impact being transmitted to the button arranged in the socket.

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

WALTER M. BARNES.

Witnesses:

MATILDA F. BARNES,
WILLIAM F. FAUST.