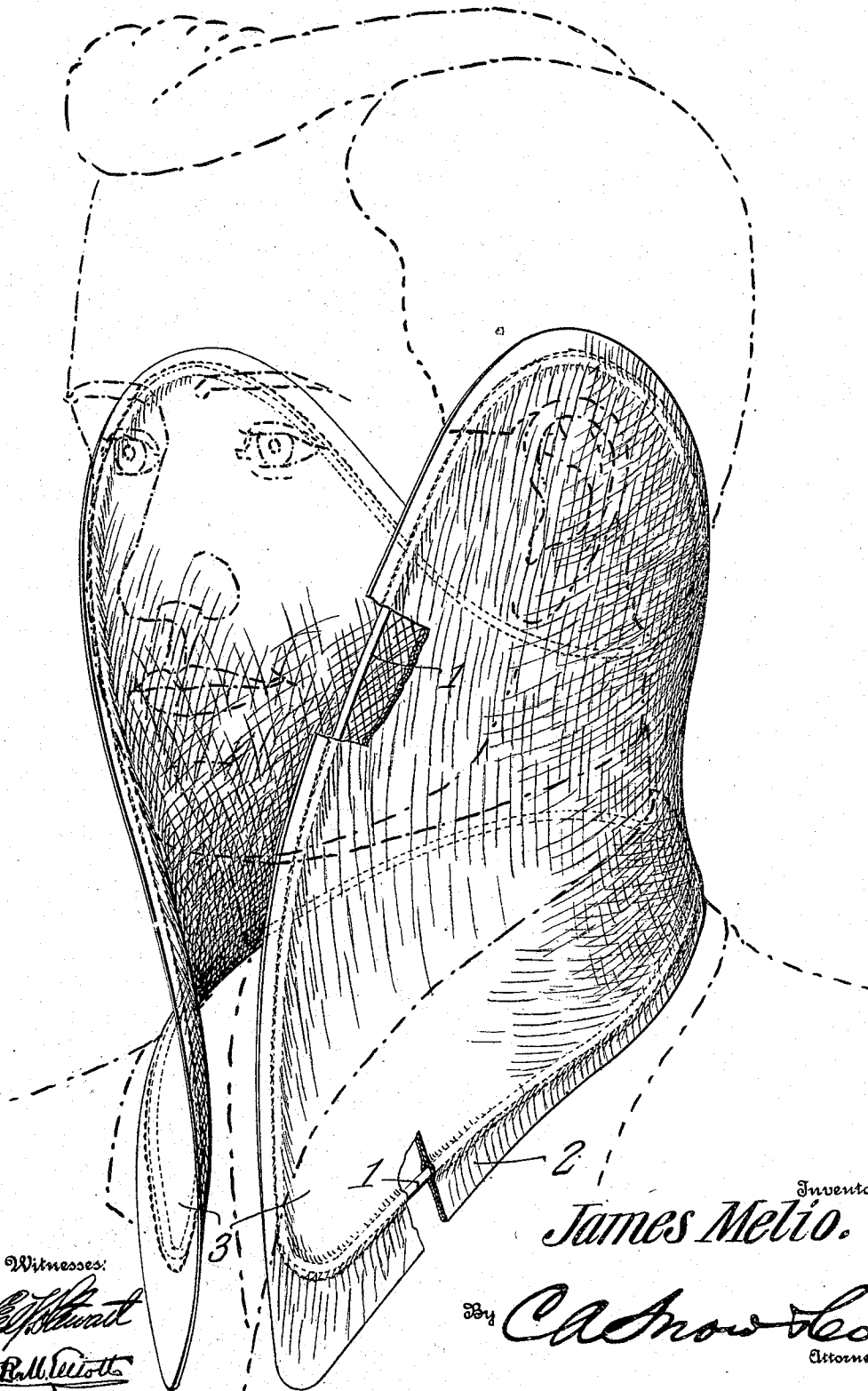


J. MELIO.
COMBINED EAR MUFF AND NECK PROTECTOR.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1909.

932,487.

Patented Aug. 31, 1909.



Witnesses:

[Signature]
[Signature]

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES MELIO, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

COMBINED EAR-MUFF AND NECK-PROTECTOR.

932,487.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 31, 1909.

Application filed March 13, 1909. Serial No. 483,223.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES MELIO, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Combined Ear-Muff and Neck-Protector, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ear muffs.

The object of the invention is in a ready and practical manner, with perfect comfort in use, and without interference with the hat or cap of the wearer, effectively to protect the ears and back of the neck of the user from cold, and further to render unnecessary the employment of strings, pins or fastening devices of any class to retain the article in position, but in lieu thereof to cause the article to be self-adjusting and self-retaining in place.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the invention consists, generally stated, in a combined ear muff and neck protector embodying a resilient frame shaped to conform to the back of the neck, the sides of the face to above the temple lines, the cheeks, sides of the chin and upper anterior portions of the chest, and a shield or protective material, of a contour corresponding to the frame and secured thereto.

The invention consists further in the various novel details of construction of a combined ear muff and neck protector, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, the figure is a view in perspective of an article constructed in accordance with the present invention, showing the same positioned upon the neck and shoulders of a human being.

The article comprises a frame constructed from an endless piece of resilient wire, and a single or multi-ply shield secured to the frame, and constructed from any material suited to the purpose, such as cloth, quilted fabric, felt, or animal pelts, or a combination of any two thereof.

The frame, as stated, is constructed from a length of resilient wire, and this is bent to conform to the shape of the back of the neck, the sides of the face to above the temple lines, the cheeks, the sides of the head, and upper anterior portion of the chest, and by reason of the character of the frame, will be caused closely but yieldingly to contact with these parts.

The shield, which may be made of any one or more of the materials above designed, is secured in any suitable manner to the frame, and preferably extends beyond the same in order to provide smooth surfaces for contact with the skin. By reason of the peculiar shape of the frame, there will be no interference between it and the hat or cap of the wearer, and moreover there will be such close contact between the protector and the parts of the wearer with which they co-act, that these will be thoroughly protected against cold.

The forwardly extending flaps are important, inasmuch as they serve in an effective manner to protect the throat, and thus largely enhance the value of the article.

What is claimed is:

1. A self-retaining combined ear muff and neck protector embodying an integral resilient frame shaped to conform to the back of the neck, the sides of the face to above the temple lines, the cheeks, the sides of the chin and upper anterior portions of the chest, and a shield of protective material of a contour corresponding to the frame and secured thereto.

2. A self-retaining combined ear muff and neck protector embodying an integral resilient frame shaped to conform to the back of the neck, the sides of the face to above the temple lines, the cheeks, the sides of the chin and upper anterior portions of the chest, and a shield of protective material, of a contour corresponding to the frame and secured thereto and projecting marginally therefrom.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a protector comprising a frame consisting of an endless resilient wire presenting downwardly and forwardly projecting points from which extend a lower portion shaped to rest on the wearer's shoulders and pass around his neck, and an upper portion rising sharply from the points and approaching the lower portion at about the center thereof, and a covering secured over said frame and corresponding to the same in shape.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES MELIO.

Witnesses:

JOE BASILE,
TECUDINO ROTONDO.