

(No Model.)

J. G. EISELE.
SWIMMING APPARATUS.

No. 465,657.

Patented Dec. 22, 1891.

Fig. 1.

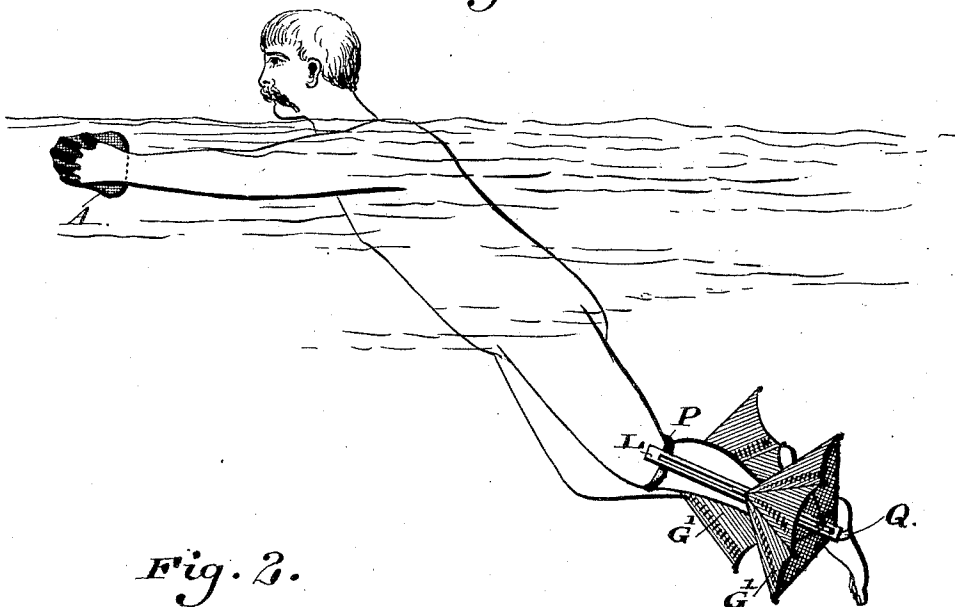
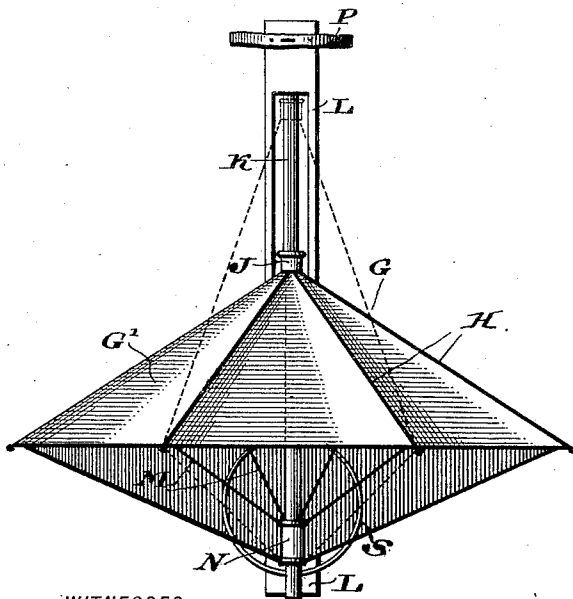


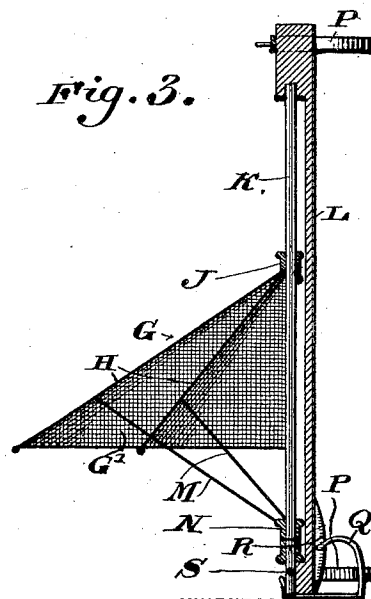
Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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Fig. 3.



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SWIMMING APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 465,657, dated December 22, 1891.

Application filed July 13, 1891. Serial No. 399,315. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. EISELE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Swimming Apparatus, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in swimming apparatus, and has for its object devices adapted to be attached to the hands and legs of a swimmer to assist him in his movements in the water; and for this purpose it consists, first, of a novel device adapted to be attached to the lower portion of the leg of the swimmer and which will automatically fold or close when the leg is drawn forward and expand when the leg is pushed back.

It further consists of the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a swimmer with apparatus embodying my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 represent side views at right angles to each of the leg portions of the apparatus as embodied in my invention.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a glove constructed of any flexible water-proof material, adapted to be secured to the front or palm of the hand and the wrist, whereby it may be contracted or folded so as to offer little resistance when the hand is being pushed forward in the water, and expanded when the hand is pressed backward against the water.

A glove which may be used in this apparatus is shown, described, and claimed by me in Letters Patent No. 458,888, September 1, 1891, and needs no further description at this time.

The foot or leg portion G of the apparatus consists of a folding or pyramidal structure G', of suitable material, preferably of a celluloid fabric, having the ribs H, which are secured at their upper ends to a collar J, movable on a guiding-bar K on a bracket L. To the said ribs H are secured the stretchers M, which are also connected with a collar N, fastened to said guiding-bar. The bracket L is provided with the straps P for fastening it to the leg of the wearer. On the lower end of

the bracket L is secured a stirrup or support Q for the foot of the swimmer, and on the side of the bracket is a cushion or pad R to protect the ankle of the wearer.

S designates a wire brace or support secured to the bar K, serving to strengthen the same.

It will be apparent that when the leg is drawn up in the act of swimming the impact of the water against the outer surface of the part G' will cause the collar K to move on its guiding-bar M so as to fold the same, and when the leg is pushed backward against the water the latter enters the same, so that the part G is extended, the collar K moving down the guide, whereby a larger surface of the part G' is presented or brought in contact with the water and greater resistance is obtained, thus giving a greater impulse or force to the motion of the leg.

It will be understood that different-sized gloves and leg-pieces may be used, according to the size or strength of the wearer.

The devices herein described will greatly assist a swimmer in his movements in the water, accelerating his speed without any material increase of force expended.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a swimming apparatus, a bracket or support adapted to be applied to one side of the leg, and a folding and unfolding web secured at one end to and guided on one side of said bracket or support, said parts being combined substantially as described.

2. In a swimming apparatus, a bracket or support adapted to be applied to one side of the leg, a folding and unfolding pyramidal web secured to one side of said bracket or support and guided thereon, and means for securing the said bracket or support to the leg, said parts being combined substantially as described.

3. In a swimming apparatus, a foot-piece consisting of a folding structure having ribs secured to a collar, a bracket having a guiding-bar, and stretchers secured to said ribs and to a fixed collar on said bar, said collar being movable on said guide, said parts being combined substantially as described.

4. In a swimming apparatus, a bracket with

a guiding-bar thereon, a collar movable end-
wise on said bar, ribs with a web thereon se-
cured to said collar, stretchers secured to said
ribs and guiding-bar, and a stirrup or foot-
5 support secured to said bracket, said parts
being combined substantially as described.

5. In a swimming apparatus, a foot or leg
piece having an unfolding and folding part,

a stirrup or foot-support at the lower end of
said leg-piece, and an ankle cushion or pad co-
adjacent to said stirrup, said parts being com-
bined substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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