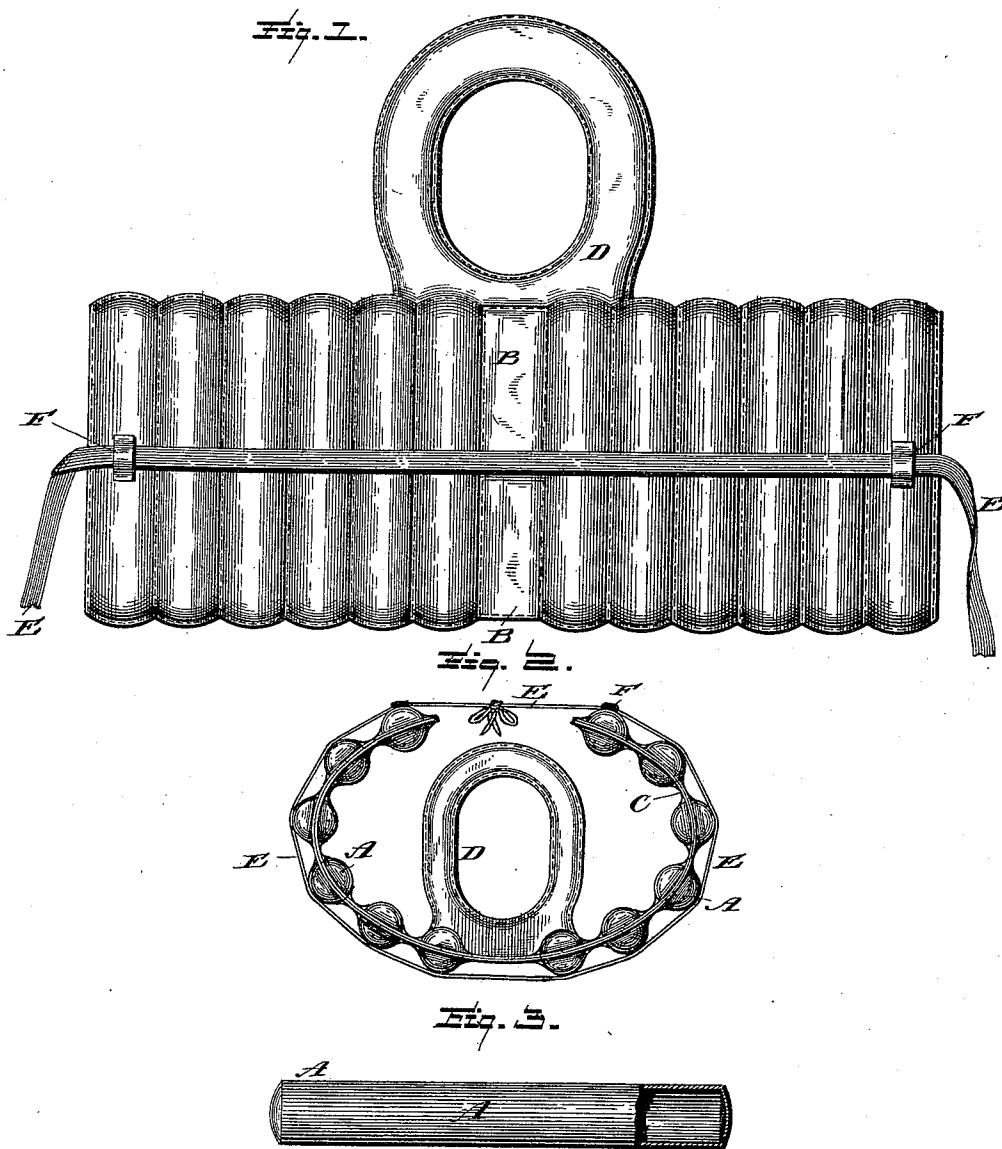


(No Model.)

F. POWERS.
LIFE PRESERVER.

No. 436,318.

Patented Sept. 9, 1890.



Witnesses
L. C. Hills.
C. S. Champion.

Inventor
Frank Powers.
E. B. Stocking
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK POWERS, OF CLINTON, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
LAFAYETTE LAMB, OF SAME PLACE.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 436,318, dated September 9, 1890.

Application filed July 2, 1889. Serial No. 316,302. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK POWERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clinton, in the county of Clinton, State of Iowa, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Preservers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention has relation to an improvement in life-preservers, the main objects of the invention being to provide a life-preserver of extreme buoyancy and simplicity of construction at a minimum cost, and whereby it will indicate by its construction to persons
15 unaccustomed to their use the manner of applying it to the person.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a life-preserver constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan of the same; and Fig. 3 is a side elevation of one of the hollow floats, a portion
25 of the end being broken away to show the construction.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

30 The floats A are made, preferably, of hollow cylinders of sheet metal, so as to combine the greatest buoyancy with the least weight. The sheets B and C, of canvas or other suitable material, are sewed together by parallel
35 lines of stitching to form pockets for the reception of the floats A. These pieces of cloth are also sewed together along their edges to completely inclose the floats. The neckband D is preferably formed integral with the plies
40 of material B and C, and is filled with air or other buoyant substance, so as to render it buoyant and adapt it to serve as a rest or support for the head of the wearer. The strap, belt, or cord E passes through the loops
45 F, and is tied, buckled, or fastened in any

other suitable manner to hold the life-preserver firmly around the body. Opposite the band of connection of the neckband D with the body of the preserver, I omit the pockets and floats, uniting the plies B and C at this
50 point, as shown clearly in Figs. 1 and 2. This renders the preserver more comfortable to the wearer and leaves the neckband freer to move in all direction, thus obviating any danger of
55 any undue pressure around the neck of the wearer. A life-preserver constructed in this manner is very easily attached to the body and is of maximum buoyancy, and by its peculiar construction, especially in regard to
60 the neckband, readily suggests the manner of applying it upon the person for use.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A life-preserver consisting of cylindrical floats, two plies of material, as canvas, 65 stitched together by parallel lines of stitching to form pockets for said floats, and also stitched along their edges to completely inclose the floats, an encircling strap or band E, and a neckband formed integral with the
70 plies B and C and filled with a buoyant filling, substantially as shown and described.

2. A life-preserver consisting of two plies of material, as canvas, stitched together by parallel lines of stitching to form pockets for the reception of floats, floats in said pockets, an encircling strap or band, as E, and a neckband D, filled with a buoyant material, formed integral with the plies of material, said plies
75 being united at their junction with the neckband, with a pocketless space opposite said neckband, substantially as shown and described.

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

FRANK POWERS.

Witnesses:

ROBT. R. BALDWIN,
A. D. SALLEE.