H. Olsen's
Swimming Apparatus.

No. 74,931. Patented Feb. 25, 1868.



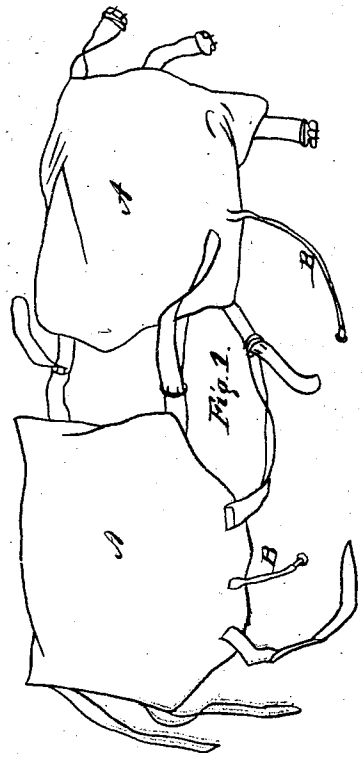


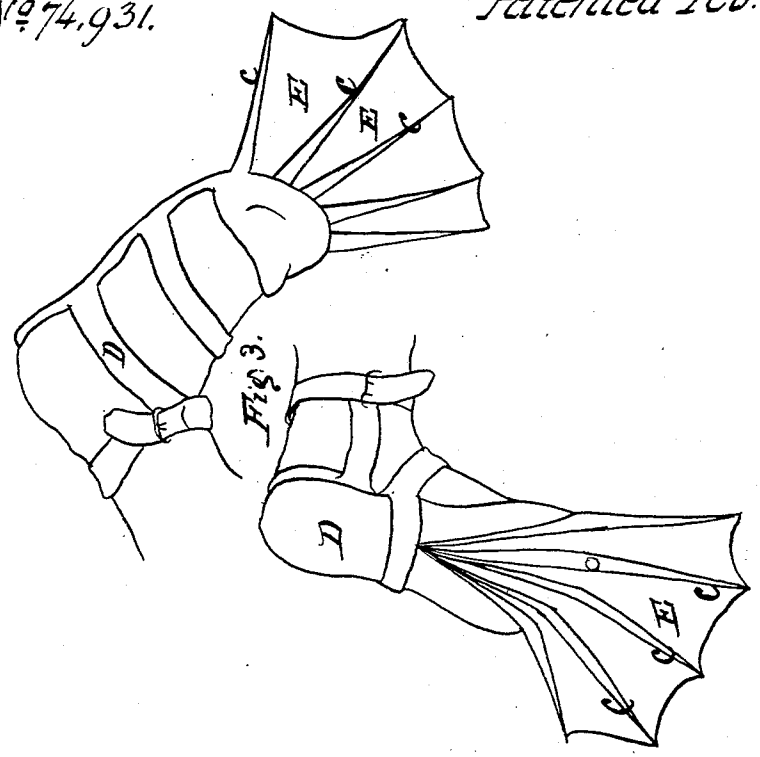
Fig. 1.

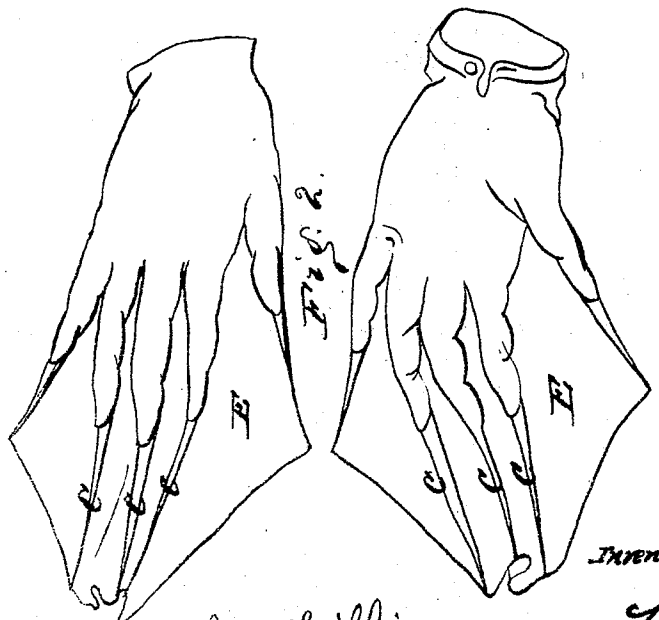
Witnesses { E. W. Griffin
W. H. Fuller

Inventor:
Hakon Olsen

H. Olsen's
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Witnesses

E. W. Griffin

W. H. Fuller

Inventor

Halvor Olsen

United States Patent Office.

HALVOR OLSEN, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Letters Patent No. 74,931, *dated February* 25, 1868.

COMBINATION OF LIFE-PRESERVING AND SWIMMING-APPARATUS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, HALVOR OLSEN, of the city and county of San Francisco, and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Life-Preservers and Swimming-Apparatus; and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a view of the floats.

Figure 2 represents views of the finned gloves.

Figure 3 represents views of the finned sandals.

Figure 4 represents a swimmer in the water, with the floats, gloves, and sandals attached to his person, as in use.

Similar letters of reference, where they occur in the figures, denote like parts of the apparatus in all cases.

The object and purpose of this invention is to afford a safe and easy mode of rapid motion in the water, which not only adds to the safety of the swimmer, but the pleasure of rapid motion through the water; and my invention consists in the combined use of breast and back-floats, so arranged as to be under the easy and ready control of the user, with finned gloves for the hands and finned sandals for the feet, so that, whilst the person floats on the water, he may propel himself along by the ribbed fins upon the gloves and sandals.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawing.

A A, fig. 1, represent two floats, furnished with tubes, B B, by which they may be inflated. These floats are united by straps or bands, and one, moreover, furnished with straps and buckles, or their equivalent fastenings, by which they may be attached to the body of the user, one of the floats being upon or over his back, and the other upon or under his breast. The bags or floats may be made of rubber or rubber cloth, or any other air-tight material.

The gloves are shown at fig. 2. They are made to fit the hand, fingers, and thumb, in the usual way. From the tips of the fingers project ribs, C C C, of any suitably flexible material, such as tough wood, whalebone, or light steel, and these ribs are united by fins or webs, E, of cloth (India rubber, by preference,) of any suitable kind to form propellers. The sandals D are made to fit and be fastened upon the feet, and they, too, are furnished with ribs C, and fins or webs E, uniting them, for making propellers for the feet, or to be used on the feet.

The object of the double float is, that the swimmer may turn and swim upon his back, and maintain his easy floating position in that way, as in the other shown. The propellers, composed of the ribs and webs, have sufficient flexibility to open and close in the act of resisting or being resisted by the water, as in swimming, without the use of hinged joints, which corrode and clog.

In fig. 4, the swimmer is represented, with the floats, gloves, and sandals, and their appliances, attached to his person, as when in use.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combined use and application of the floats, and the extended ribbed and webbed gloves and sandals, constructed and attached to the user, in the manner and for the purpose herein described and represented.

HALVOR OLSEN.

Witnesses:

A. B. STOUGHTON,

P. E. WILSON.