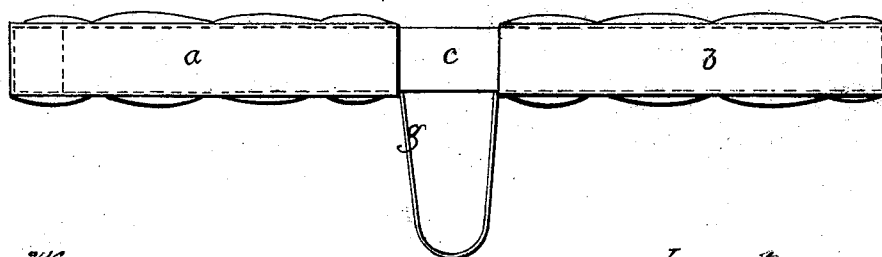
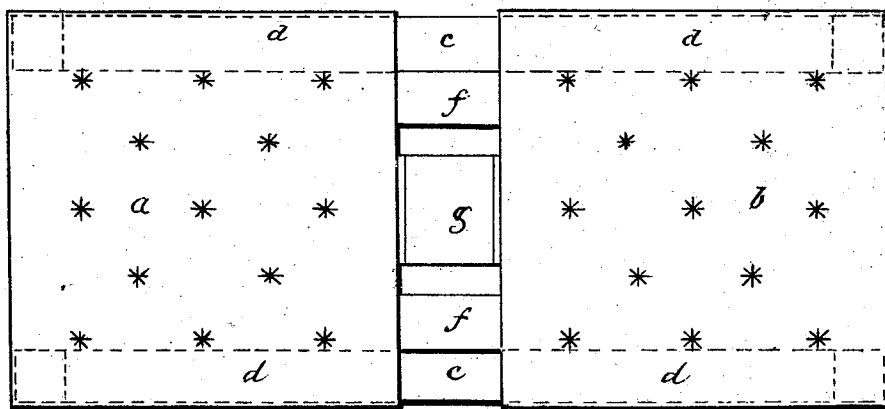
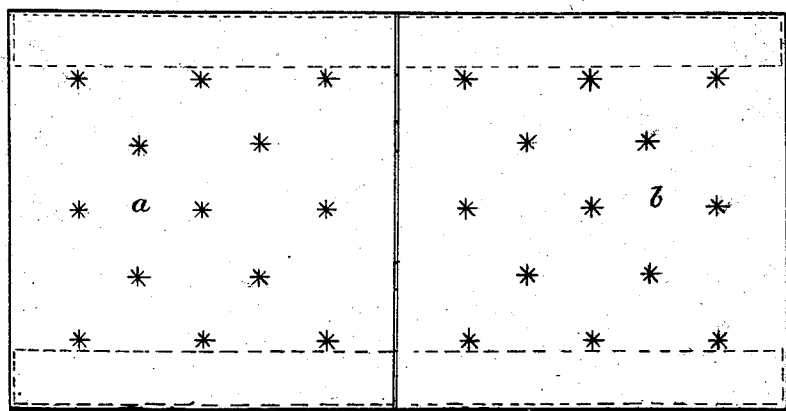


J. D. Greene.

Life Preserving Mattress.

Nº 93, 819

Patented Aug 17, 1869.



Witnesses:

*Francis Gould
M. W. Frothingham.*

Inventor.

J. D. Greene

United States Patent Office.

J. DURELL GREENE, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 93,819, dated August 17, 1869.

LIFE-PRESERVING MATTRESS.

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, J. DURELL GREENE, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Life-Preserver Mattress; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings, which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practise it.

My invention has reference to provision for saving lives in shipwreck, by means of life-preserving mattresses, or berth-mattresses made with buoyant sides that serve to float them and enable them to sustain persons, each mattress being so made that a person can be easily supported upon it without danger of being thrown from it into the sea.

It is in such a mattress that my invention consists, or in a berth-mattress made in two parts, and having at each side formed of or with a buoyant rail, this rail extending into and sliding in sleeves or pockets made in the corresponding adjacent sides or edges of the two sections of the mattress.

The drawings represent a berth-mattress embodying the invention.

a b denote the two halves of the mattress, stuffed like any common mattress.

Within the ticking, on each side edge of the mattress, is the piece of wood, cork, or other buoyant material *c*, each section of the mattress having, at its opposite sides, pockets *d*, into which slide the opposite ends of each rail *c*, the rail sliding freely in the pock-

ets, and enabling the two halves of the mattress to be drawn somewhat apart, or brought together.

It will be obvious that when brought together, the two halves form a substantial bed, the rails *c* forming a sort of frame-work for the mattress.

The two parts of the mattress are connected together by two flexible bands or strips *f*, which limit the extent of outward movement or separation of the sections *a b*.

At the centre of the mattress is a depending flexible band or strap, *g*, fastened at its opposite ends to the respective sections *a b*.

When the mattress is opened, this strap or band serves as a seat to be bestriden or sat upon by a person overboard, who attaches himself to the mattress by dropping his legs through the opening made by separation of the mattress sections, in which position the person may easily sustain himself for a great length of time, and as the construction adds but very little to the cost of the mattress, every passenger-carrying vessel can be readily provided with ever-ready life-preserving or buoyant mattresses, equal in number to the number of passengers carried, such life-preserving mattresses taking up no additional room, and requiring no skill to prepare them for use.

I claim a life-preserving mattress, having a construction substantially as described.

J. DURELL GREENE.

Witnesses:

J. B. CROSBY,
FRANCIS GOULD.