

(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 1.

E. RICE.

COMBINED MILITARY GARMENT AND BELT.

No. 523,177.

Patented July 17, 1894.

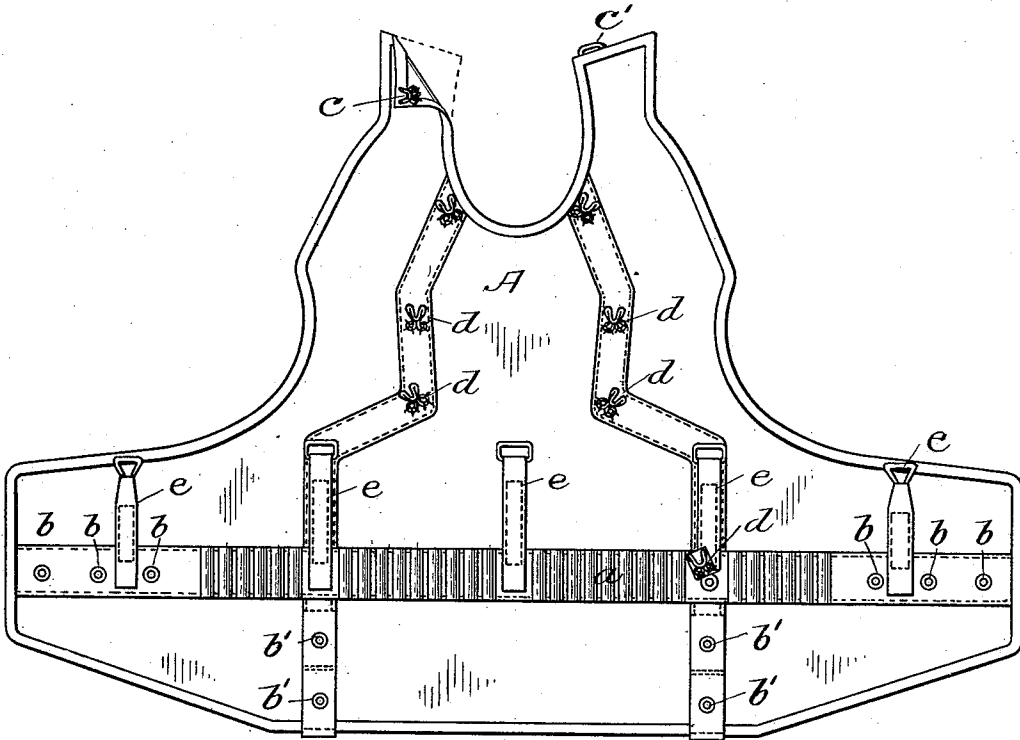


Fig. 1.

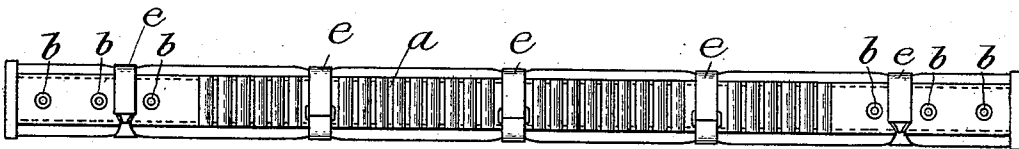


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

Heald Smith

C. B. Keppin

INVENTOR

Edmund Rice

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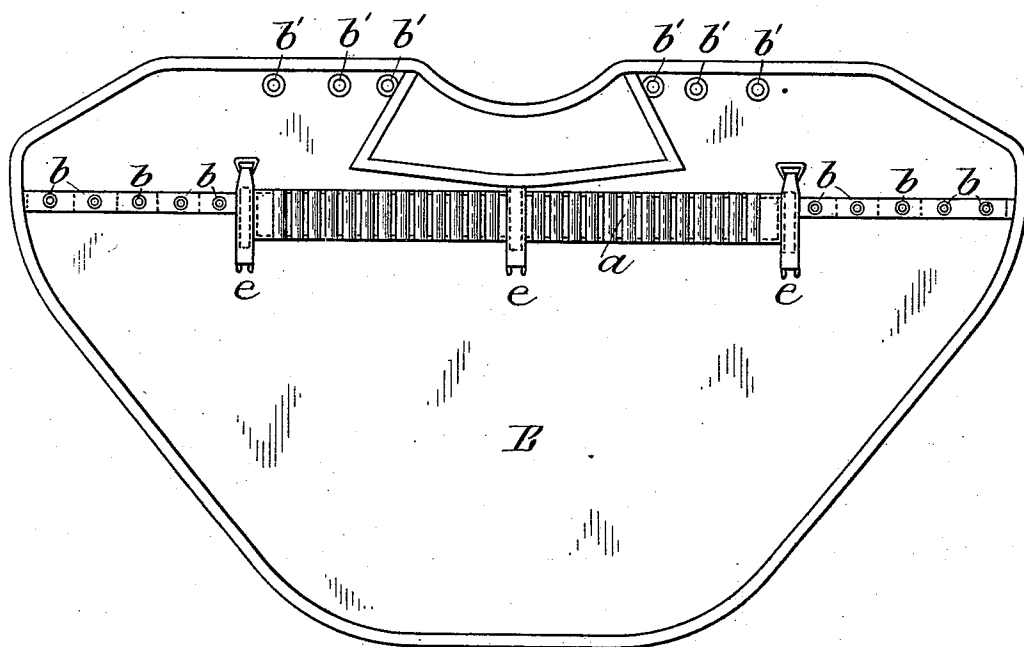


Fig. 3.

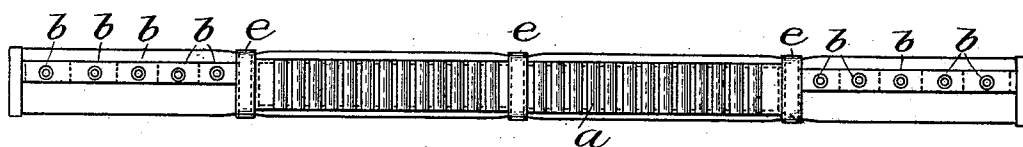


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

Wm. A. Smith

C. B. Lippin

INVENTOR,
Edmund Rice

(No Model.)

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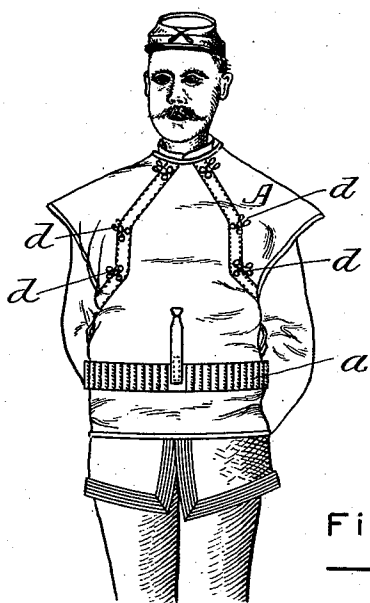


FIG. 5.

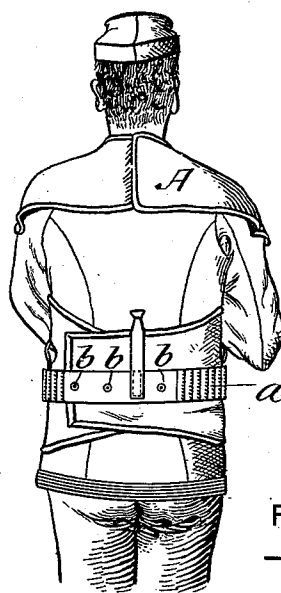


FIG. 6.



FIG. 7.



FIG. 8.

WITNESSES.

Heathorn

C. B. Hopper

INVENTOR.
Edmund Rice

(No Model.)

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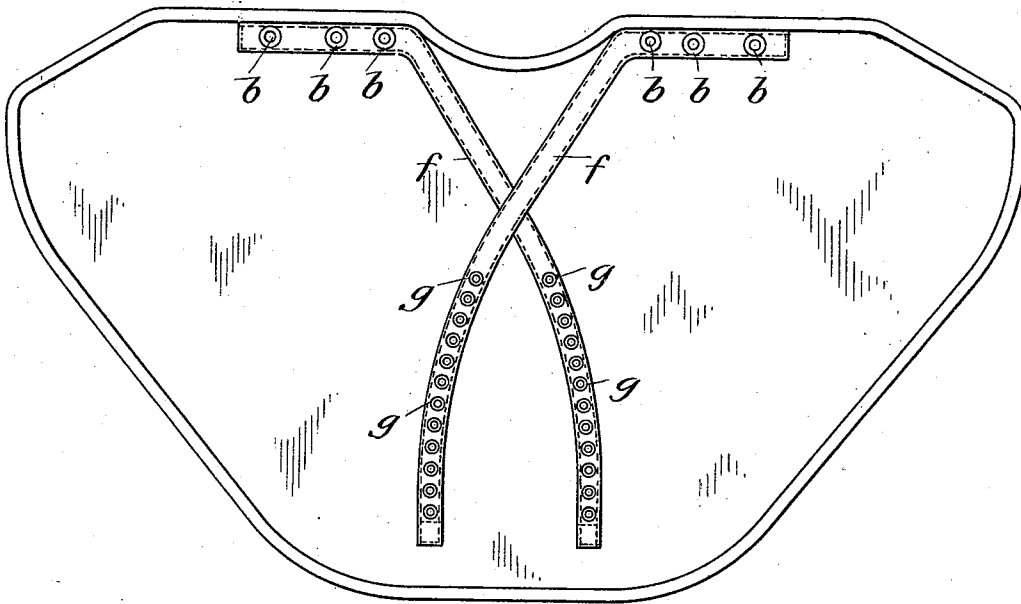


FIG. 11.



FIG. 9.



FIG. 10.

WITNESSES
Heath Smith

C. B. Heppner

INVENTOR
Edmund Rice

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMUND RICE, OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

COMBINED MILITARY GARMENT AND BELT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 523,177, dated July 17, 1894.

Application filed May 17, 1894. Serial No. 511,616. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDMUND RICE, a citizen of the United States, and an officer in the United States Army, residing at Chicago, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Military Garments, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to combined military garments and belts, shoulder straps, and similar devices, adapted to be worn upon the person to support articles to be carried, and the objects in view are to provide a belt with extensions or flaps, which, when spread, adapt the device for use as a garment, either for citizens or soldiery; and furthermore to provide the device with supporting or suspending appliances, which may be used when the article is used as a belt or shoulder strap, or as a garment, and to provide means for fastening the device to the person when used in either capacity.

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

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a view of the device with the flaps or extensions spread, as when in use as a garment. Fig. 2 is a view of the device folded and adapted for use as a belt or shoulder strap. Fig. 3 is a view of the device provided with extensions or flaps of different form from those shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a view of the same with the extensions or flaps folded. Fig. 5 is a front view of the device shown in Fig. 1 in use as a garment. Fig. 6 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 7 is a front view showing the manner of using both of the devices illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, as garments. Fig. 8 is a view of said devices shown in Figs. 1 and 3, illustrating the manner of using the same respectively as a belt and a shoulder strap. Fig. 9 is a view showing the manner of using said devices as shoulder straps. Fig. 10 is a side view showing the manner of using one of the devices as a garment, and the other as a strap. Fig. 11 is an inside view of the device shown in Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate corre-

sponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The construction or form of the flaps or extensions, which are used in connection with the improved belt, is an immaterial feature of my invention, in that it may be varied to suit the desired shape of the garment when extended.

In Fig. 1 I have shown flaps A, which are constructed to form a chest and loin protector, adapted especially for use in the military service, but which may be worn by others engaged in out of door occupation. In Fig. 3, on the other hand, I have shown the device provided with extensions or flaps B, which are constructed to form a cape, adapted to be worn around the shoulders. It should be understood however, that I do not limit myself to any particular form of flaps or extensions.

The belt or strap proper is shown at *a*, and when the device is designed for use in the military service, said belt or strap is preferably provided with receptacles for cartridges. This belt is provided near its extremities with series of eyelets *b*, adapted to facilitate the fastening of the device around the waist or over the shoulder by means of hooks, lacings, or other means in common use for this purpose, and therefore not illustrated in the drawings. The belt or strap proper is further provided at intervals with flexible straps or holding devices *c*, adapted to be extended around the flaps or extensions when the latter, are rolled, or folded, contiguous to the belt or strap proper, in order to hold said flaps or extensions in a compact roll or bundle resembling a belt or strap.

Referring to the form of my invention which is shown in Fig. 1, the extremities of the upper flap are provided with a hook *c*, and an eye *c'* to facilitate the fastening of the garment around the throat of the wearer, and secured to the flaps are strengthening bands, to which are attached hooks *d* and eyelets *b'*, adapted to be used to support a haversack, canteen, or other article, which the wearer desires to carry.

Referring to the form of my invention which is illustrated in Figs. 3 and 11, the flaps are provided with eyelets *b'*, to facilitate fasten-

ing around the throat of the wearer, and with bands or straps *f* provided with eyelets *g* adapted to support a haversack, canteen, &c.

It will be understood that the specific construction of the means for securing the ends of the belt or strap together, when the device is used as a belt or strap, and the means for supporting or suspending articles to be carried by the wearer, whether the device is in its folded or extended condition, may be varied without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention, and that the particular shape of the flaps or extensions, and of the means for holding such flaps or extensions when folded may be modified to suit the particular use for which the improved belt is designed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A belt or strap provided with flaps or extensions adapted to be spread to form a garment, substantially as specified.

2. A belt having a body portion, and flexible flaps or extensions, said flaps adapted when extended to form a garment and when folded to lie contiguous to the body portion, substantially as specified.

3. A belt provided with flaps or extensions

adapted to be spread to form a garment, and means for holding the flaps or extensions when folded, substantially as specified.

4. A belt provided with terminal fastening devices and having flaps or extensions provided with means for holding the same in position when in use as a garment, substantially as specified.

5. A belt provided with flaps or extensions and short straps attached to the belt and adapted to secure said flaps or extensions when folded, substantially as specified.

6. A belt provided with flaps or extensions and supporting or suspending devices attached to the said flaps or extensions and adapted to be engaged with articles to be carried, substantially as specified.

7. In a belt, the combination of a body portion, flaps or extensions adapted to be folded contiguous to the body portion, and supporting or suspending devices adapted to be exposed when the flaps or extensions are folded, substantially as specified.

EDMUND RICE.

Witnesses:

FRED. A. SMITH,
C. B. HEPPIN.