No. 691,341. Patented Jan. 14, 1902.

C. GORE.

LIFE PRESERVER.

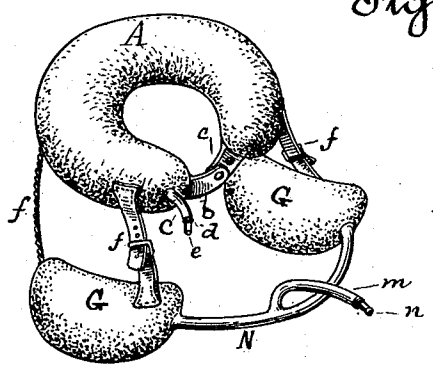
(Application filed Apr. 17, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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CHARLES GORE, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 691,341, dated January 14, 1902.

Application filed April 17, 1901. Serial No. 56,310. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES GORE, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and a resident of the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Preservers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of said invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it most nearly appertains to make, use, and practice the same.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple, cheap, and effective device that can be readily secured upon a person and which will support the body in the water, so that his head will remain above the surface; and it consists of an inflatable collar which can be secured around the neck of the person and then be inflated. In connection with said inflatable collar I employ a pair of inflatable arm-pads which fit under the armpits of the person and which are connected with the collar, so as to form a support for it, all as hereinafter more fully described.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents my life-preserver applied upon a human figure. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the collar, harness, and armpit-pads.

Let A represent an impervious bag of india-rubber or other suitable material which is made long enough to pass around the neck of a person and under the chin like a collar. At the ends of the bag I provide a snap-fastening *b c*, by which the two ends of the bag can be connected together when the collar has been put in place around the neck of the person. A flexible or other tube C extends from the collar at any suitable point, and this tube has a stop-cock *d* and mouthpiece or nozzle *e*, by means of which the collar-bag can be inflated by blowing the breath into it. Connected with this collar A on each side is a cord *f* in the form of a loop, which will pass from the collar down under each armpit and then up to the collar again, and an inflatable bag or pad G is connected with the cord, so as to be held under each armpit by the cord. This cord and bag can be made continuous in the form of a loop, so that the arm of the person can be thrust through it, or straps can be used and buckles employed for fastening them together, so that they can be buckled together on the person or unbuckled to remove them.

The two armpit-bags G are connected together by a tube N, which preferably passes across the breast of the person, and a separate flexible inflating-tube, with stop-cock *m* and mouthpiece or nozzle *n*, is used for inflating these bags in the same way the collar is inflated. This inflating-tube can be connected with either of the bags or with the connecting-tube N.

The inflated collar can be used independent of the armpit-pads and harness for some purposes, especially when it is used by persons who are learning to swim or who swim for diversion. The chief value of this device lies, however, in its compactness, simplicity, and ease of adjustment upon the person. Travelers can carry it in a coat-pocket like a handkerchief, and in case of shipwreck it is quickly adjusted and will keep the body afloat with the head above the surface of the water even should death intervene from exhaustion.

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

1. A life-preserver comprising an inflatable collar adapted to fit around the neck of the person; means for attaching the ends of the collar; inflatable armpit pads or bags connected with the collar by a harness or cords and means for inflating the armpit-pads independent of the collar-bag, substantially as described.

2. A life-preserver comprising an inflatable collar adapted to fit and be fastened around the neck; means for inflating the collar; armpit-pads connected with the collar by cords or harness; a tube connecting the armpit-pads and means for inflating the armpit-pads, substantially as described.

CHARLES GORE.

Witnesses:
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