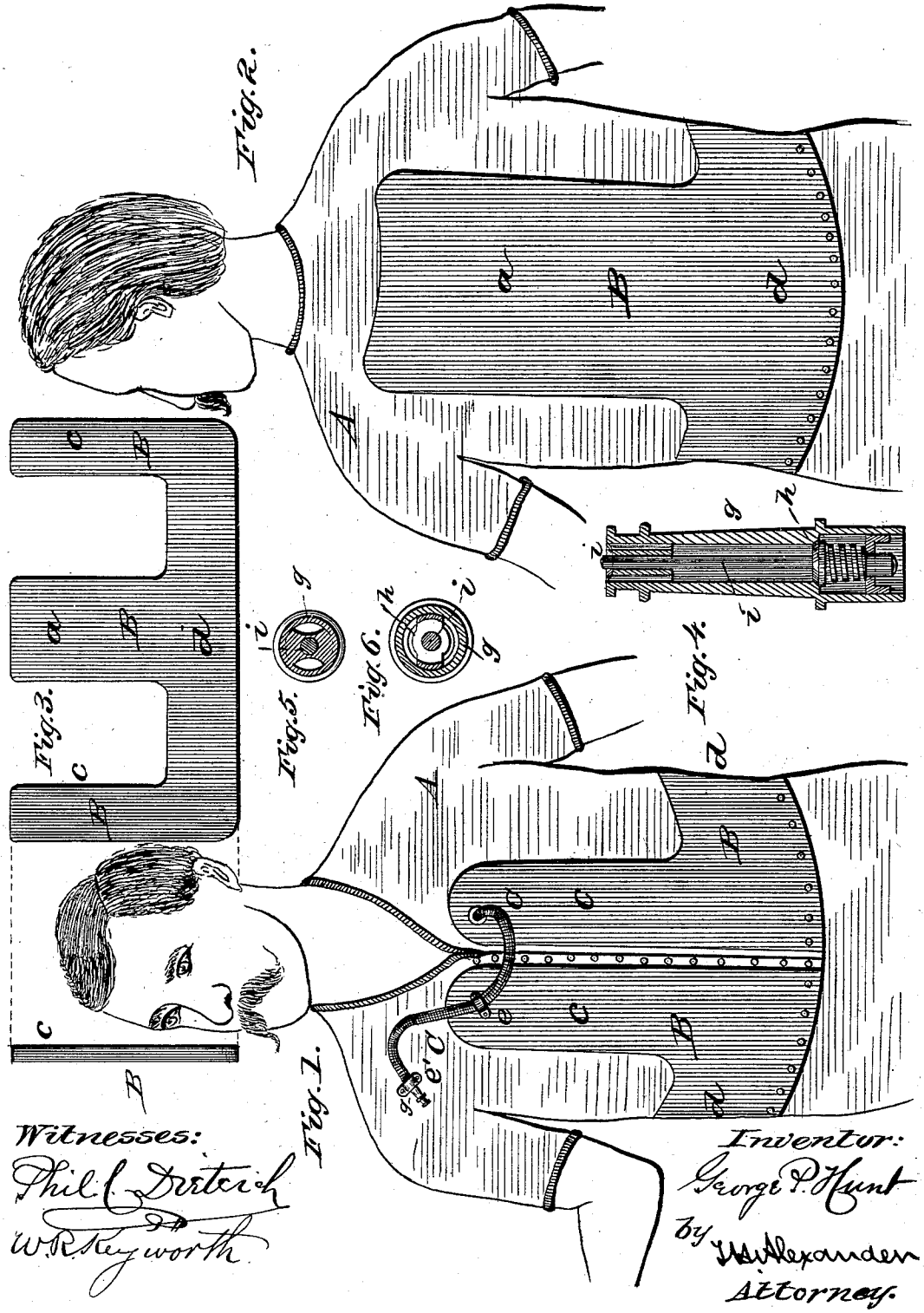
(No Model.)

G. P. HUNT.

LIFE PRESERVER.

No. 278,240. Patented May 22, 1883.



Witnesses:
Phil. L. Dieterich
W. R. Keyworth

Inventor:
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by Wm. Alexander
Attorney.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer. Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE P. HUNT, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, AND JOSEPH J. WALTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 278,240, dated May 22, 1883.

Application filed October 16, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. HUNT, of San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Preserving Jackets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the jacket as applied. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 3 shows a form of sack. Fig. 4 is a central vertical section of the valve. Figs. 5 and 6 are transverse sections of the same.

The object of my invention is to provide an ordinary bathing-jacket with a light flexible air-tight sack, which is suitably adapted in shape and size to the front, sides, and back of the jacket, and which is provided at the breast with a flexible tube and a mouth-piece having a spring-actuated valve in it, whereby the wearer of the jacket to which the sack is secured can easily inflate the latter from his lungs, whether he be in the water or on land, as will be understood from the following description.

In the annexed drawings, A designates the body of an ordinary bathing-jacket, which is provided with sleeves and adapted to be buttoned in front, and, if desired, provided with buttons around the bottom for the attachment of the pants.

B designates an air-proof sack, which is preferably made of india-rubber, of the form, when spread out flat, shown in Fig. 3. This form gives a broad back portion, *a*, a transverse bottom or skirt portion, *d*, and two narrow breast portions, *c c*. This sack is made double, and the inner thickness is suitably secured to the cloth jacket, so that it will partly cover the back, the sides, and the breast, as shown in the drawings, Figs. 1 and 2; but the arms should be left entirely free.

To one of the breast portions *c* of the sack a tube, C, is suitably attached, so as to communicate with the interior of the sack. This tube is preferably passed through two loops, *e e'*, so that while it will be out of the way of the wearer of the jacket when it is not in use, it can be conveniently and instantly brought into use for inflating the sack with air.

To the end of the tube C a mouth-piece is secured, which consists of a metal tube, *g*, in which is applied a valve, *h*, opening inward, or into the sack through tube C. The stem *i* of this valve works through suitable guides, and one end of this stem slightly protrudes beyond the end of the mouth-piece, as shown in Fig. 4, so that by pressing this stem inward with the teeth the valve *h* will leave its seat and the sack B can be quickly inflated with air from the lungs. By releasing the valve a light spring and the pressure of air in the sack will shut the valve against its seat and prevent the air in the sack from escaping. If at any time it is desired to empty the sack of air, this can be done by pressing on the valve-stem and compressing the sack.

Owing to the peculiar shape of the sack and its distribution about the body of a person wearing the jacket, it will not incommode a bather either when it is inflated with air or collapsed; and as the sack is secured to the outside of the jacket the latter will form a lining for it, and protect the breast and back of the wearer from sudden chilliness when entering or leaving the water.

Having described my invention, I claim—

The combination of the single-ply jacket A, the air-holding band *d*, the air-holding back-piece *a*, the air-holding breast-pieces *c c*, the flexible tube C, the loops *e e'* therefor, the mouth-piece *g*, tongue-pin *i*, and a valve and spring applied to this pin, all constructed and adapted to operate substantially in the manner and for the purposes described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE PURDY HUNT.

Witnesses:
C. H. H. HALL,
JOHN CORWINE.