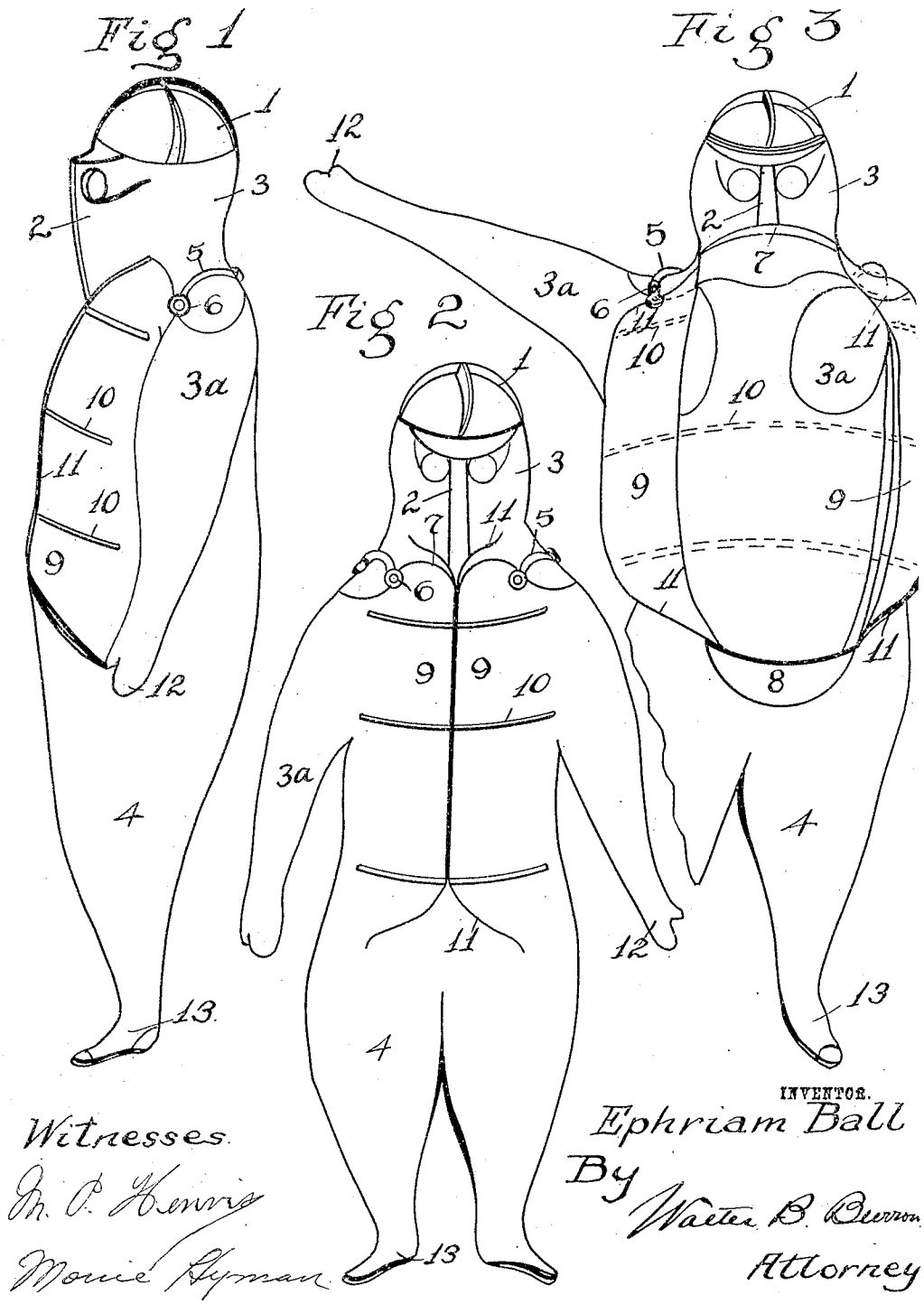
No. 875,976. PATENTED JAN. 7, 1908.

E. BALL.

FIREPROOF AND PROTECTING GARMENT.

APPLICATION FILED APR 16, 1907.



Witnesses.

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EPHRIAM BALL, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

FIREPROOF AND PROTECTING GARMENT.

No. 875,976. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 7, 1908.

Application filed April 16, 1907. Serial No. 368,455.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that EPHRIAM BALL, citizen of the United States, residing at Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, has invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fireproof and Protecting Garments, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to garments made of fireproof materials.

The object of the invention is to provide a dress of incombustible material which may be placed upon the body quickly and completely shield the male or female wearer from heat, gases and smoke.

With my invention firemen may enter a burning building to rescue an inmate without endangering themselves.

Further objects and advantages will be more fully described herein and specifically pointed out in the claims recourse being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the garment. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same and Fig. 3 is a front view showing the garment open so as to permit a person to get into it through an opening.

In the drawing like reference numerals indicate similar parts in all the views:—

1 is the armored cap or top portion provided with ribs or flanges which protect the head of the wearer from falling bricks, plaster and the like.

2 is a vizor made V shaped and is provided with mica covered projecting peep holes or spectacles and by its shape permits the wearer to see sidewise as well as directly in front.

The above mentioned parts form a helmet or hood usually made in one piece the lower portion of which extends over both shoulders.

3ª are the sleeve and 4 the trousers portion of the garment made in one piece.

5 are shoulder straps or reinforcements, 6 being rings for permitting the person equipped with the invention to be suspended or let down by ropes.

The hood or helmet and shoulder covering are usually made of aluminium covered suitably with asbestos or other refractory material, the rest of the garment being made of a more pliable fireproof material.

7 is the upper flap and 8 the lower while 9 are the side self closing flaps all adapted to cover the opening by which the garment is put on and thoroughly envelops the body and protects it from external heat and flame.

The body portion of the garment is provided with spring steel ribs or stiffening rods 10, 11 being a stiffening edging along the outer portion of the side flaps 9, as shown.

The sleeve portions 3ª have glove or mitten extremities 12 while the leg portions 4 are provided with foot coverings 13, having thick fireproof soles as are also the palms of the mittens which have an additional layer of non-combustible material to prevent a too rapid wear.

Upon having donned or entered the garment and the flaps 7, 8 and 9 being held open the action of the spring ribs, closes them, permitting the flaps to clasp the body.

By having resilient means or springs 11 the use of straps buckles and other fastening means are dispensed with so that the garment may be quickly adjusted without the loss of time occasioned by buckling or fastening the same.

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

1. A non-combustible garment having an opening therein and spring controlled flaps or coverings adapted to close said opening.

2. A non-combustible garment having an opening, flaps covering the opening, spring means for closing said flaps, and a reinforcing lining on the edges of said flaps.

3. A non-combustible garment having an opening in the front thereof, of spring controlled flaps adapted to close said opening, a reinforcing strip around said flaps and shoulder straps having edges or rings therein.

4. A fireproof garment having an opening, flaps adapted to close said opening, resilient means for closing said flaps and an armored hood or cap provided with a convergent front portion.

5. A one piece fireproof garment provided with an opening self closing flaps adapted to close the opening, shoulder straps provided with fastening means and a hood or vizor having rib projecting means, and a flattened extension on said hood provided with projecting eye glasses or peep holes.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EPHRIAM BALL.

Witnesses:
MORITZ BENJAMIN,
ISADORE BENJAMIN.