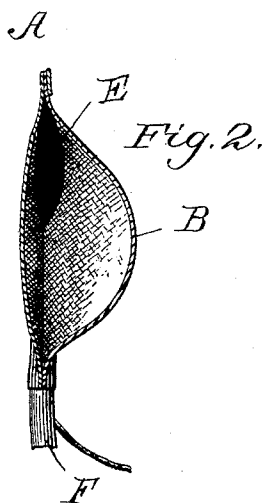
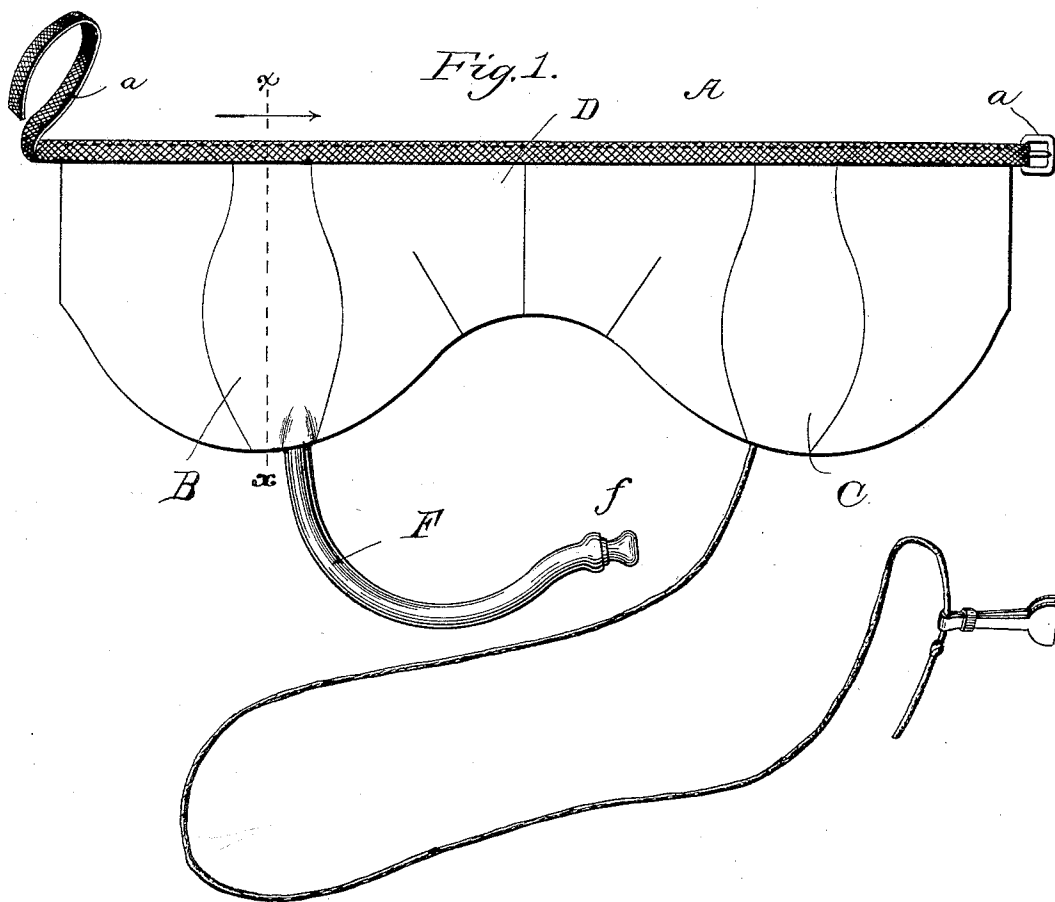


(No Model.)

J. CORLIN.
LIFE PRESERVER.

No. 462,892.

Patented Nov. 10, 1891.



Witnesses:
A. C. Cherry
A. H. Sauer

John Corlin
Inventor:

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN CORLIN, OF SPARTA, MICHIGAN.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 462,892, dated November 10, 1891.

Application filed December 11, 1890. Serial No. 374,400. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN CORLIN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the township of Sparta, county of Kent, and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Life-Preserver, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in life-preservers; and it has for its object to provide a preserver the buoyant power of which is confined within a sack so constructed as to allow the same to be fitted around the chest and back, and which, when inflated, buoys the person up and at the same time allows a free movement of the arms.

With these objects in view the invention consists in a flexible band composed of rubber cloth and provided with back and front communicating air bags or chambers and other details of construction herein pointed out, illustrated in the drawings, and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a life-preserver constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same on the line *xx* of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates a flexible body-band adapted to pass around the body beneath the arms, and is provided with the straps and buckles *a*, that firmly secure the same to the body of the wearer. On opposite sides of the band—the front and back, according to the position in which the same is worn—are the inflatable air-chambers B and C, which when filled give buoyance to the wearer. Between said air-chambers and the portion that comes between the arms the band is reduced to a narrowed portion or neck D, between the walls of which is formed the air-passage E, communicating with both of the air-chambers and provides an additional chamber in itself which assists in the buoyance of the preserver.

Communicating with one of said air-chambers is the flexible air-supply tube F, provided on its end with a valved nipple *f* and by means of which air is supplied to both chambers through the communicating passage.

It can be readily seen that the preserver can be easily inflated, and when the air is withdrawn from the same it leaves it in a flattened condition that permits of its being worn without trouble or inconvenience when not used, and is applied to the body around the chest and fastened under the arms opposite the narrow portion or neck D of the band, thus placing the air-chambers in the front and back of the wearer, with the communicating passage under the arms, and providing by this construction and arrangement a device that while assisting to float a person at the same time allows a free movement of the arms.

The operation and construction of my preserver are thought to be apparent without further description.

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

A life-preserver composed of a single flexible band adapted to be secured around the chest and under the arms of the wearer and provided with separated and independent bulb air-chambers adapted to be inflated and expanded only on the back and in the front of the wearer, a reduced portion or neck between said chambers, and a narrow air-passage between the walls of said neck and communicating under the arms with the front and back air-chambers, substantially as specified.

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

JOHN CORLIN.

In presence of—

A. B. CHENEY,
A. H. SAUR.