R. E. CHEESMAN.

FIREMAN'S MASK.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 3, 1905.

911,476. Patented Feb. 2, 1909.

Fig. 1.

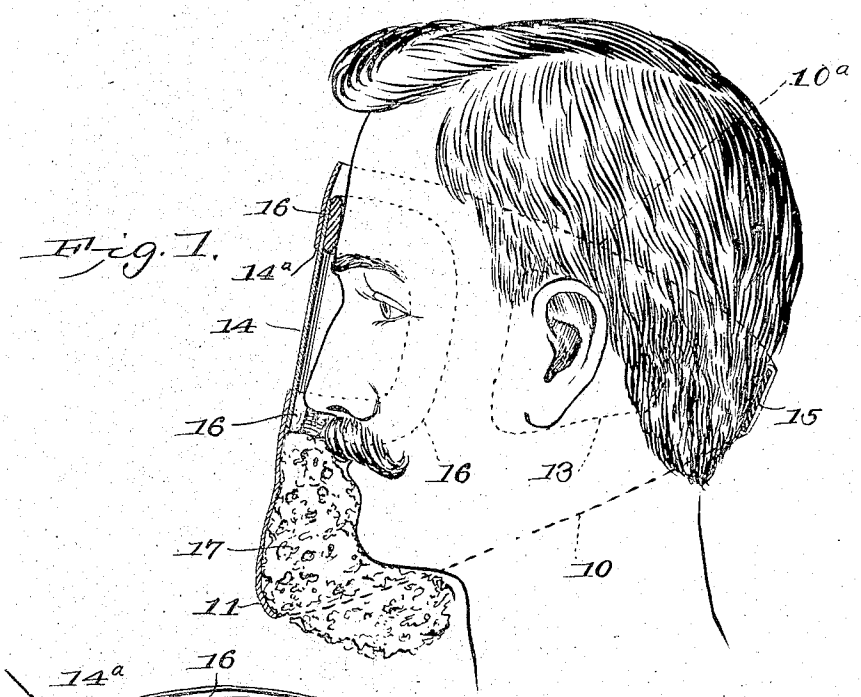
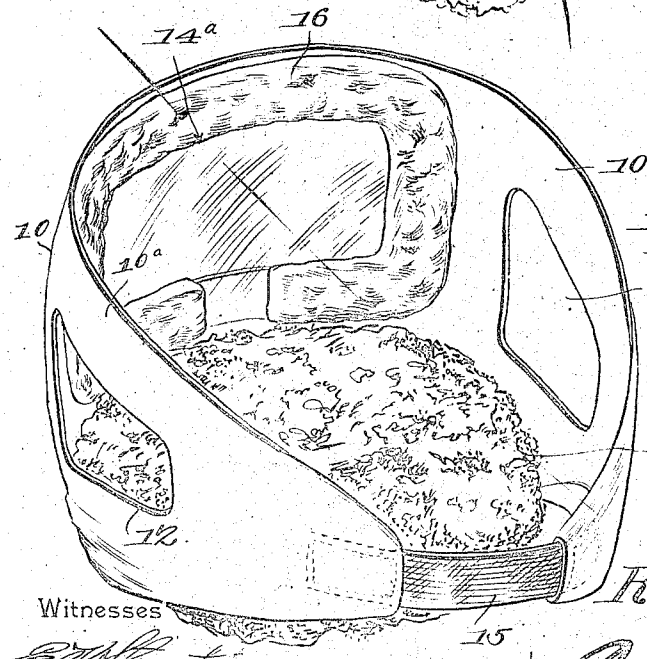


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROY EARL CHEESMAN, OF LA FAYETTE, INDIANA.

FIREMAN'S MASK.

No. 911,476. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 2, 1909.

Application filed March 3, 1905. Serial No. 248,364.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROY EARL CHEESMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at La Fayette, in the county of Tippecanoe and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Fireman's Mask, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to masks for use by firemen and others, to protect the eyes and the respiratory organs from the action of smoke and other noxious gases.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a mask which is simple in construction, cheap to manufacture, and which can be worn comfortably, the same concealing and covering only the minimum portion of the head of the wearer, and being so constructed and carried as to offer no hindrance to the passage of sound to the ears of the wearer.

Another object is to provide a mask which can be held in place without the necessity of tightly binding it as heretofore, the ears of the wearer being utilized to assist in supporting the mask in proper position upon the head.

A still further object is to provide simple and efficient means for supporting a moist cellular object, such as a sponge, in place, where it will filter the air before it can be inhaled by the wearer of the mask.

Another object is to provide means whereby only a small part of the mask will contact directly with the face of the wearer, this contacting portion being formed of an insulating material.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawings:—Figure 1 is a central vertical section through the mask, the same being shown in position. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the mask.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 10 designates the body of the mask, the same being formed of a suitable heavy fabric, tapered from its center toward its ends, said reduced ends being connected by an elastic strap 15, designed to yieldingly hold the body of the mask in contact with the head of the wearer, the said body and the strap being so proportioned as to extend completely around the head. The end portions of the body are formed with openings 12 and 13 designed to receive the ears of the user, the straps 10^a formed above these openings 12 and 13 and extending longitudinally of the body, being designed to rest on the ears, as shown particularly in Fig. 1. The body has a substantially rectangular opening 14^a, across which extends a sheet of transparent material 14, such as mica, the edge portions of this sheet being concealed by a pad 16, of flannel, felt, or other soft insulating material, said pad serving to contact with the face of the wearer and to extend above and around the eyes and terminating at the sides of the nostrils. It will be seen that the pad thus constitutes a shield for preventing gases from entering the space back of the sheet 14, inasmuch as said pad rests firmly throughout its length upon the face of the wearer. As shown especially in Fig. 1, the lower portion of the body 10 is slightly inturned, as indicated at 11, this inturned portion constituting a supporting ledge on which rests a sponge 17, or other absorbent cellular filtering device. The sponge is sufficiently large to bear comfortably around the chin, so as to fill all of the space within the lower front portion of the mask.

When it is desired to use the mask the band 15 is stretched so as to permit the body 10 to be placed around the head with the opening 14^a and the sheet 14 in front of the eyes and nose and with the ears extending into the openings 12 and 13. Inasmuch as the straps 10^a rest on the ears, they constitute efficient means for supporting the mask upon the head and it therefore becomes unnecessary to bind the mask against the face as tightly as would otherwise be necessary. After the parts have thus been placed in position, a sponge, 17, saturated with liquid, is placed in the space between the chin and the lower front portion of the mask, and is supported in this position by the ledge 11. The pad 16, as heretofore stated, contacts throughout its length with the face, and only a narrow space is formed between the ends of this pad through which air is admitted from the sponge to the space inclosed by the pad 16. Air is free to pass through the sponge and into the space surrounded by the pad 16, and is filtered as it passes through the sponge and before it can be inhaled. Inasmuch as the sponge is supported solely by the ledge 11, it will be seen that the same can be readily re-

moved whenever it is desired to clean the sponge.

What is claimed is:—

A mask comprising a body having tapered end portions, there being ear-receiving openings within said end portions, the upper edges of said openings being disposed to rest upon the ears of the wearer, an elastic connection between the end portions of the mask, there being a central opening within the body, a transparent sheet extending across said opening, a pad upon the edge portions of said sheet and the inner surface of the body, said pad being disposed to bear throughout its length against the face of the wearer to form a confined air space surrounded by the pad for the reception of the eyes and nose of the wearer, the ends of the pads being spaced apart at the nose-receiving portion of said space, there being an inwardly directed supporting ledge integral with the lower portion of the body, and a removable filtering device detachably supported upon the ledge for filling the space between the mask body and the chin of the wearer, the space between the ends of the pad constituting a passage for establishing communication between said filtering material and the confined air-space.

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

ROY EARL CHEESMAN.

Witnesses:

JOHN W. WARNER,

DAVID H. FLYNN.