

W. Williams.

Life Preserving Mattress.

N^o 44.
31,048

Patented Jan. 1, 1861.

Fig. 1.

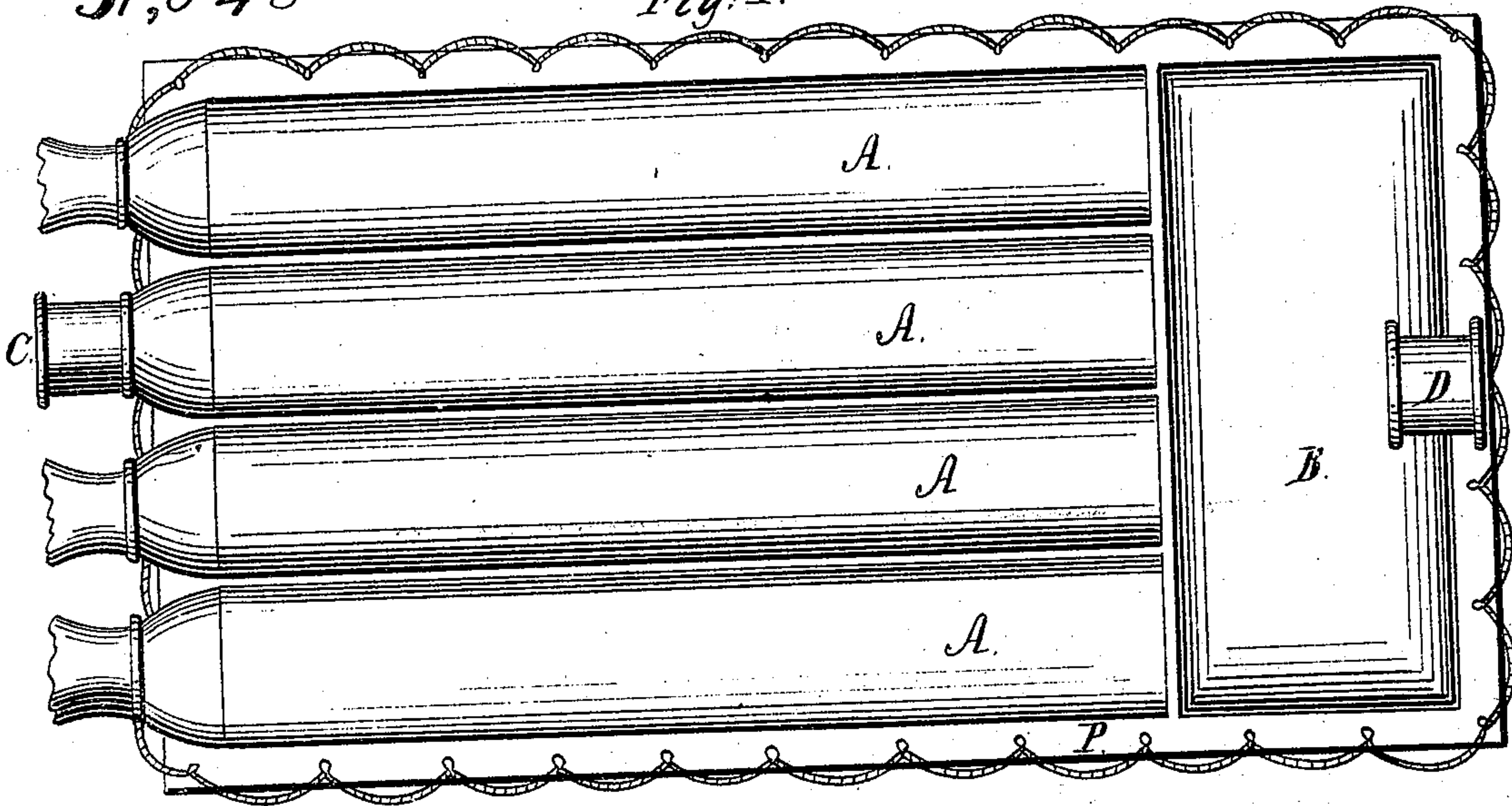
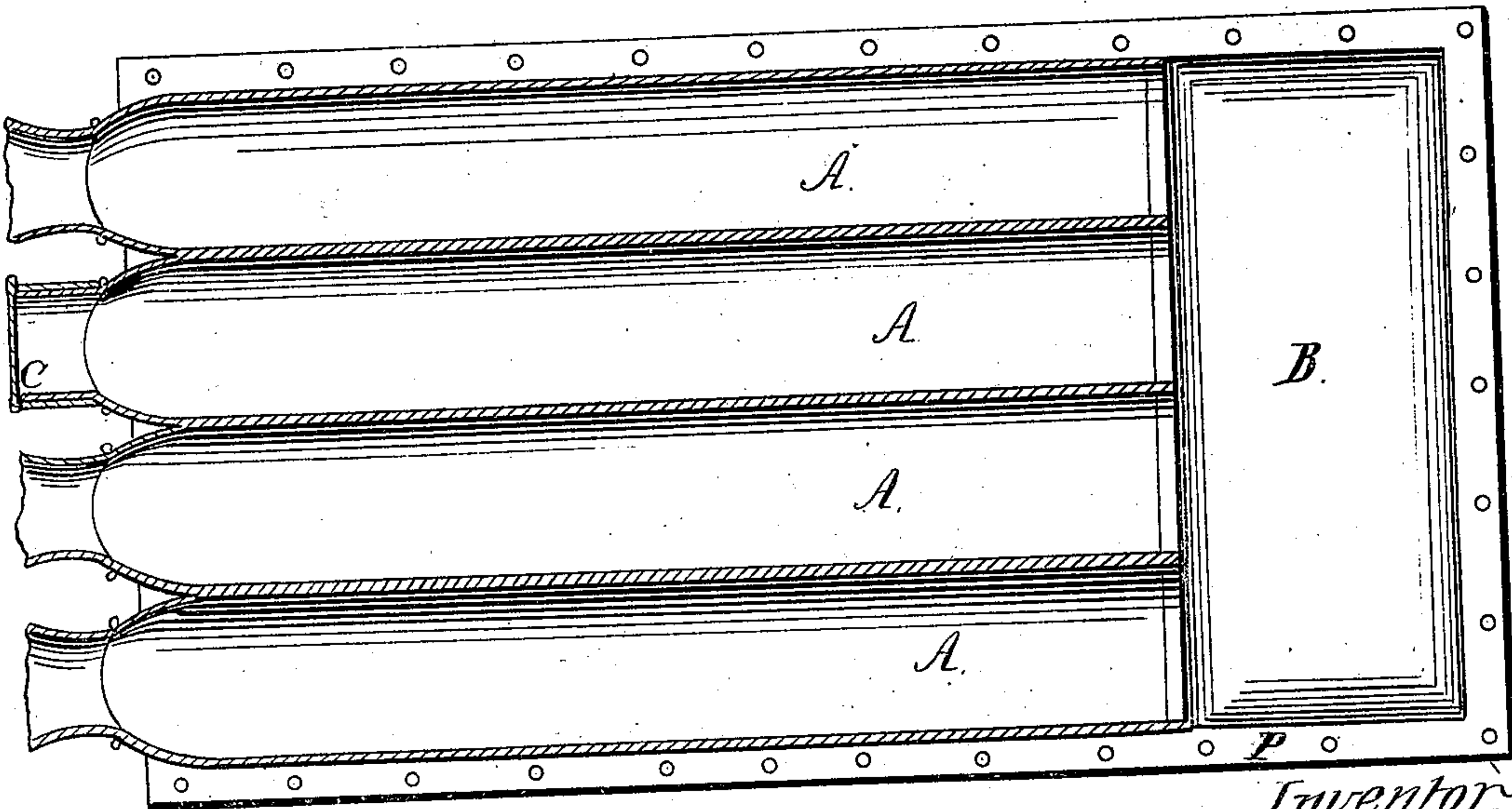


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
William Jacobus
Randolph Boyle Jr.

Inventor:
William Williams
By his Atty.
Amos Broadwater.

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Fig. 3.

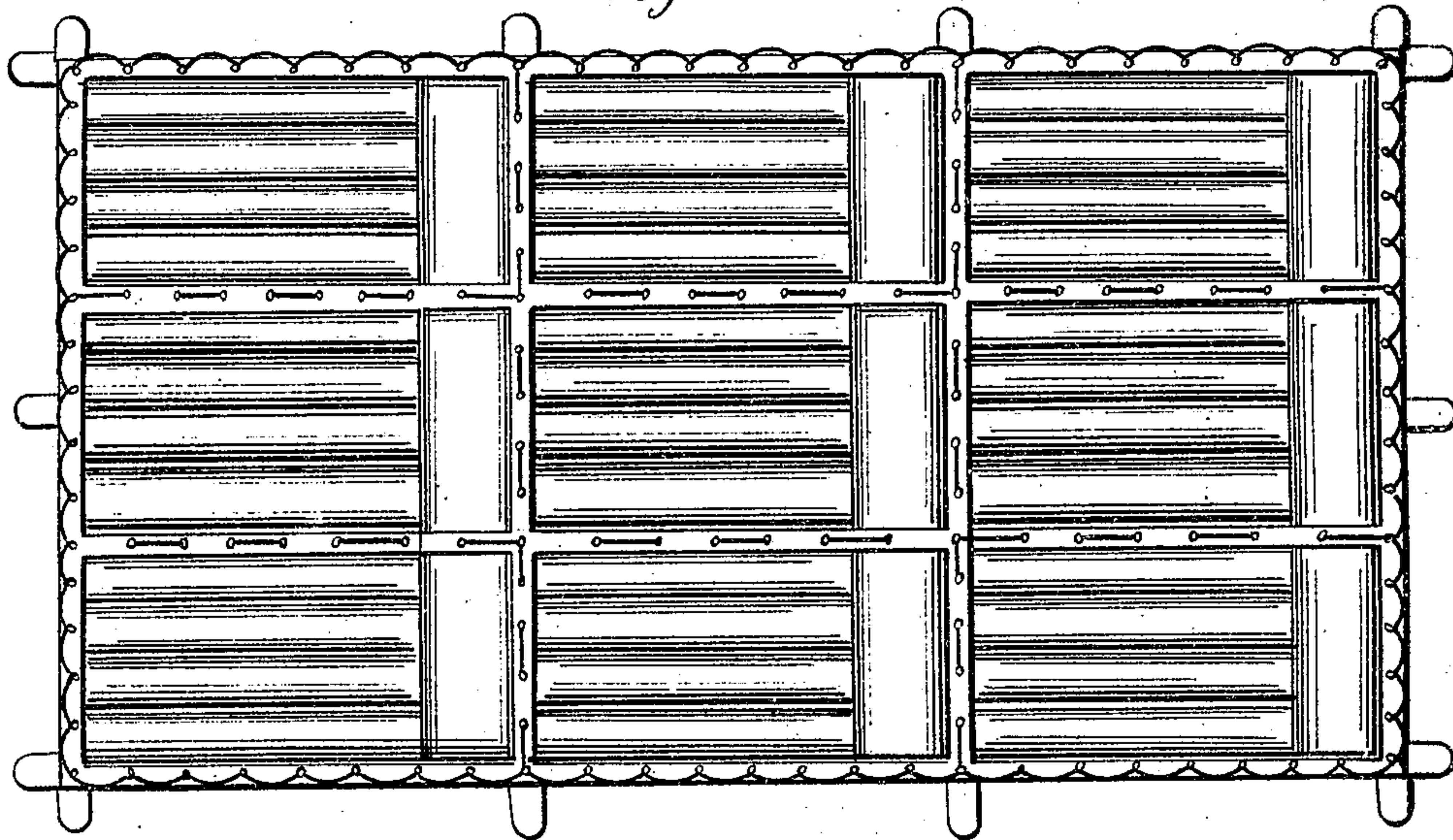
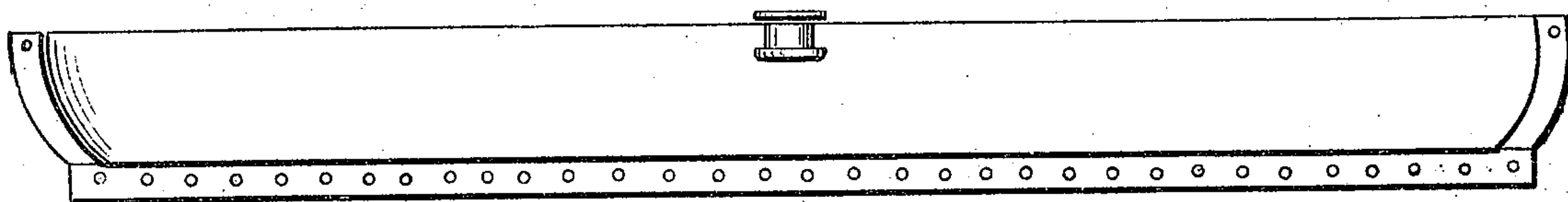


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
William Jacobus
Randolph Coyle Jr.

Inventor:
William Williams
By his atty
Amos Brodway

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND RICHARD D. GOODWIN, OF SAME PLACE.

FLOATING MATTRESS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 31,048, dated January 1, 1861.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WILLIAMS, of the city and county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented an Improved Life-Preserving or Floating Mattress; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of my said improved mattress. Fig. 2 a horizontal section through the same, and Fig. 3 represents a top view of a number of the said mattresses, lashed together, to form a raft or bottom of a scow, the sides of which are shown by Fig. 4.

The object of my invention is to make a mattress which shall at once serve the purpose of an easy bed and an efficient life preserver, and which can be made in a raft or boat, by lashing a number of them together. This object I propose to effect by making first a series of india rubber tubes or flues. (Shown in the drawing by A A & C.) These tubes I unite longitudinally to form the body of the bed or mattress, and their upper ends I make to open in a pouch or bag B made of the same material, which serves for the pillow or bolster. The lower end of the said flues I close air and water tight, by either lashing them with a cord or introducing in their ends a metal mouth piece, into which I screw a stopper, shown by C. In the upper side of the bolster I

fix a mouth piece D which is in the nature of a valve, through which air is to be introduced to inflate the mattress. The mattress having been made in manner aforesaid, and inflated, is to be covered with canvas, so as to leave a flange P all around the edge of the mattress, or the said flange may be made on the outside edge of the outside flues and around the out edge of the bolster, and of the said material that the flues and bolster are made of. Through this flange eyelet holes are to be made as shown and through these eyelet holes a small rope is to be laced, whereby two or more of the mattresses may be lashed together so as to form a raft as shown in Fig. 3. This raft may be converted into a scow by applying the inflated gunwales shown by Fig. 4 to the edge thereof. The said gunwales are made and inflated the same as the mattress. The flues may be used to store anything in and rigging may be fixed in the scow or raft to sail it by.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The arrangement of the continuous flange P; with its eyelets, and cord laced through the same, and the inflated gunwale, with the mattress the whole to be made substantially in the manner described.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

C. E. GRAY,
H. S. FIRMAN.