(No Model.)

S. PEMBERTON.

LIFE PRESERVER.

No. 390,803. Patented Oct. 9, 1888.

Fig. 1

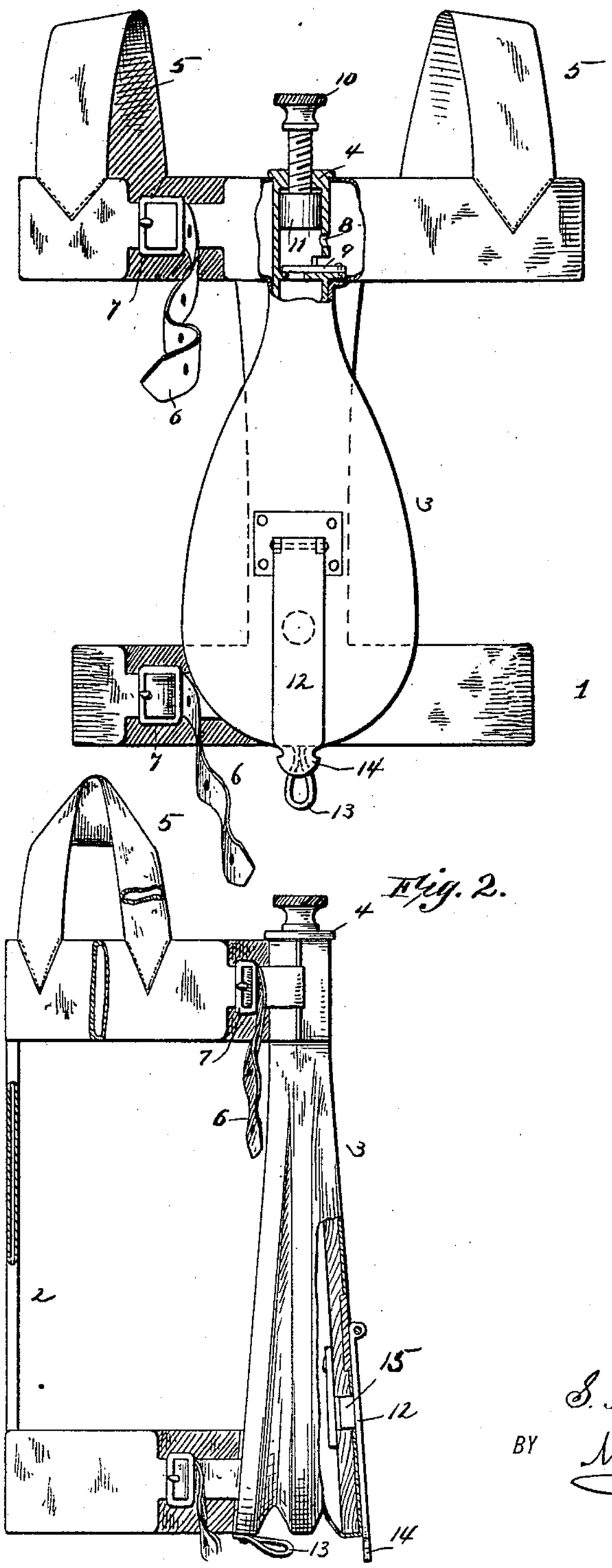

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

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SAMUEL PEMBERTON, OF ALPENA, MICHIGAN.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 390,803, dated October 9, 1888.

Application filed May 11, 1888. Serial No. 273,556. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL PEMBERTON, of Alpena, in the county of Alpena and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Life-Preserver, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to life-preservers, and has for its object to provide a life-preserver which may be easily and securely fastened to the body, and will be simple in construction and effective in use.

The invention consists in a life-preserver constructed and arranged as hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the views.

Figure 1 is a front view of the invention, partly broken away. Fig. 2 is a side view thereof with parts broken away.

In the construction of this invention the several parts are formed of rubber or other suitable water-proof material which is capable of being inflated. Two belts or bands, 1, are employed, connected at the rear by a pipe, 2, and each belt 1, having one end fastened to a bellows, 3, the nozzle 4 of which extends through the upper belt 1. The latter is formed with shoulder-straps 5. The lower belt is narrower or smaller than the upper belt, and the pipe 2 tapers from the upper to the lower belt, thereby inflating the parts so as to properly balance the wearer. By this arrangement when the life-preserver is attached to the body the upper belt 1 will encircle the body beneath the arms, the lower belt 1 will encircle the body at a point about opposite the lower end of the bellows or where it is attached thereto, and the pipe 2 will extend up the back of the wearer, while the bellows will be located in front.

The belts are fastened by straps 6 and buckles 7, or other suitable fastening devices. The belts 1 and shoulder-straps 5 are inflated by air passing from the bellows 3 through a lateral opening, 8, in nozzle 4, communicating with the upper belt 1. When the inflation is complete, the reacting valve 9 in nozzle 4 is locked by means of a thumb-screw, 10, with headed end 11, which is brought down tight against valve 9. The bellows 3 being then empty are held in closed position, so as to lie flat against the body by means of a bar, 12, pivoted to the bellows, and secured by a loop, 13, thereon slipped over the headed end 14 of bar 12. The latter, extending over the opening 15, through which air is admitted to the bellows, serves also to cover the same and prevent the admission of water. It will thus be seen that a simple and effective life-preserver is provided, which can be easily secured to the body and inflated.

I do not desire to limit myself to the specific construction and arrangement of parts herein set forth, as they may be varied without departing from the essential features of the invention.

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

1. A life-preserver consisting of two hollow belts connected together at one side by a tube and at the opposite side by a bellows, the said bellows communicating with one of the said belts and forcing air through both of the belts, substantially as described.

2. A life-preserver consisting of two hollow belts, the upper one of which is provided with hollow shoulder-straps communicating therewith, a tube connecting the belts at one side, and a bellows connecting them at the opposite side, the said bellows being in communication with one of the belts and forcing air throughout both belts and shoulder-straps, substantially as described.

3. A life-preserver consisting of an inflatable harness formed of the belts 1, pipe 2, connecting the same, bellows 3, secured at its ends to belts 1, and having loop 13, pivoted bar 12, having head 14, and extending over receiving air-vent 15 of bellows, and nozzle 4, extending through one of the belts 1, and having opening 8, and thumb-screw 10, with head 11, located above valve 9, substantially as described.

4. In a life-preserver, the combination, with two belts connected together by a tube at one side, of a bellows connected to each belt and having a nozzle extending through and communicating with one of the said belts, a discharge-valve in said nozzle, and a thumb-screw in the end of the nozzle for locking the discharge-valve when the belts have been inflated by the bellows, substantially as described.

SAMUEL PEMBERTON.

Witnesses:

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MICHL. O'BRIEN.