

(No Model.)

T. E. RICHET.
FIREMAN'S MASK.

No. 409,428.

Patented Aug. 20, 1889.

Fig. 1.

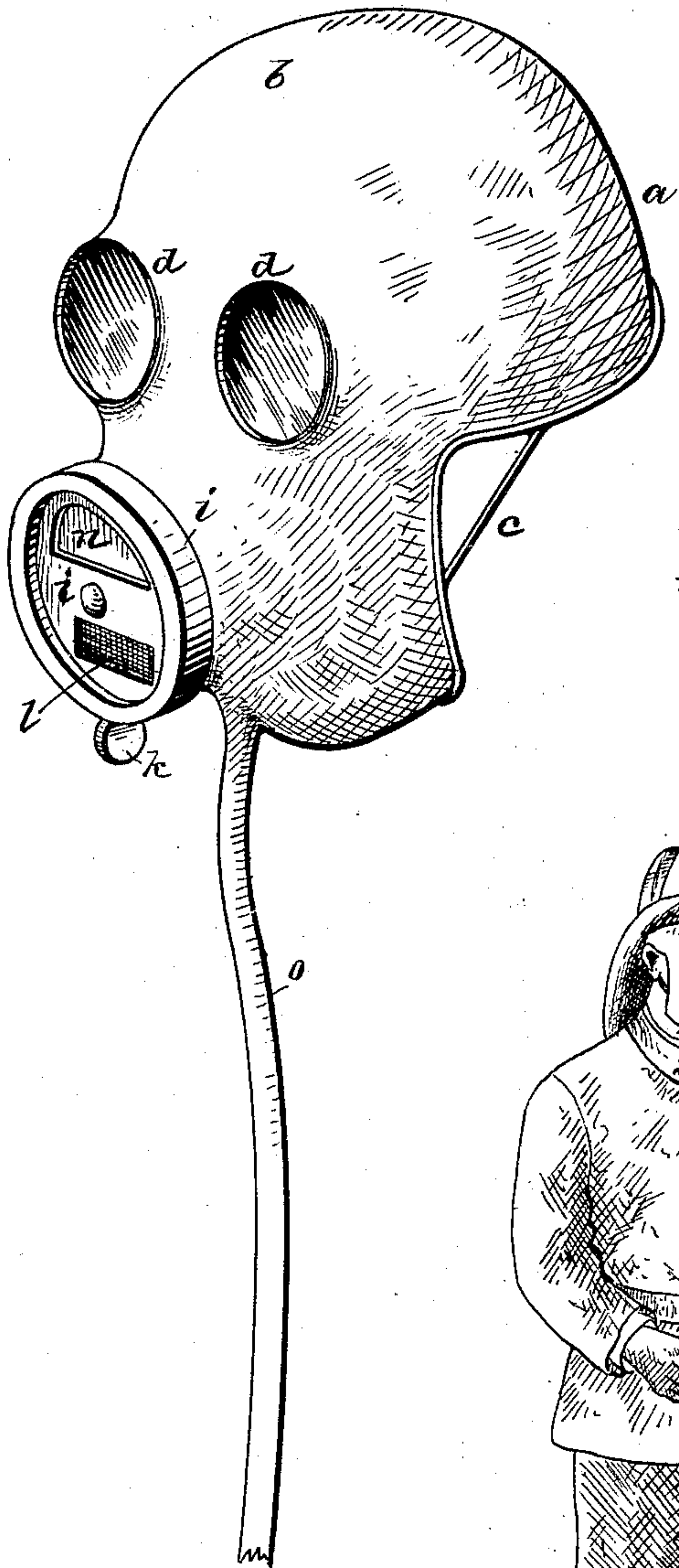


Fig. 2.

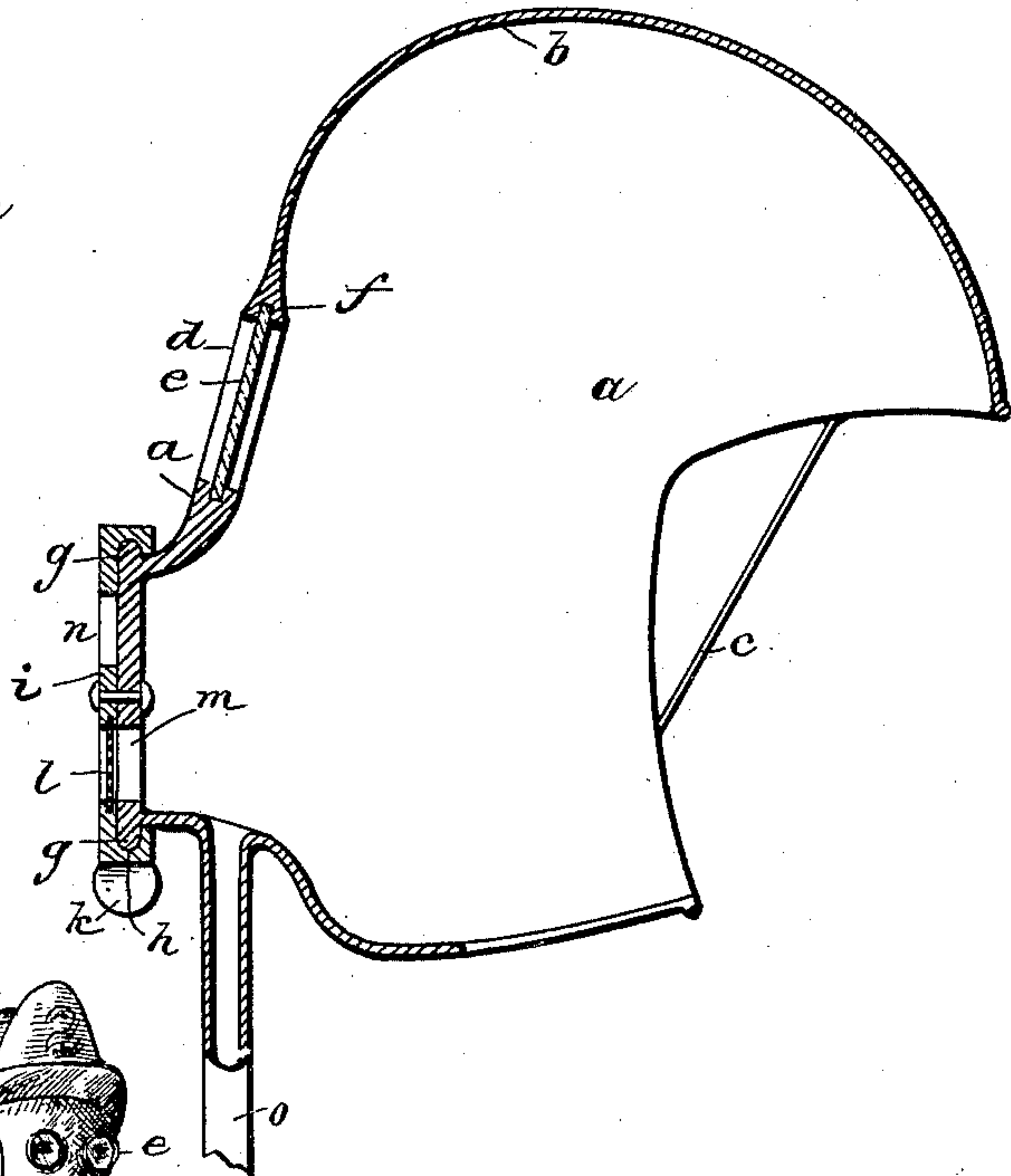
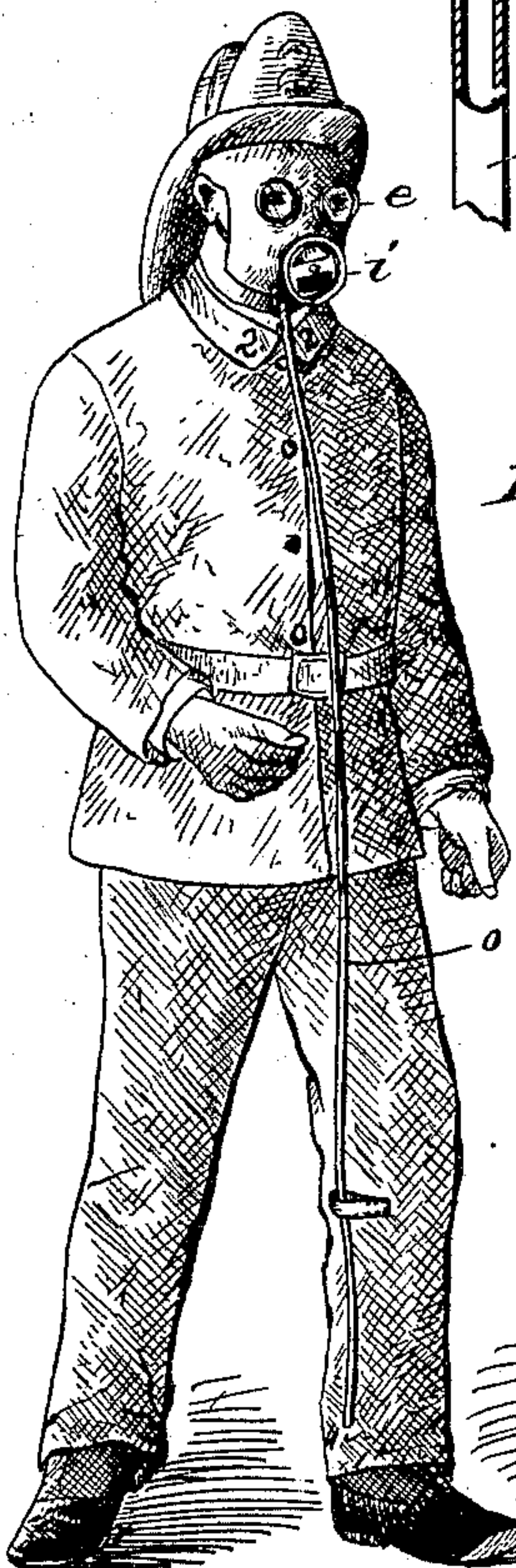


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS E. RICHEL, OF PORTLAND, OREGON.

FIREMAN'S MASK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 409,428, dated August 20, 1889.

Application filed May 15, 1889. Serial No. 310,834. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS E. RICHEL, of Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented a new and Improved Fireman's Mask, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a mask that will effectually afford protection against suffocation from the smoke in a burning building.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts, as will be described hereinafter.

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

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the mask. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section, and Fig. 3 is a view in full of a fireman with my mask on.

In the drawings, *a* represents the frame with the crown or cap *b* fitting close to the head of wearer. The lower part also fits close over the lower jaw to exclude the smoke and foul air. The mask is held in place by an elastic band *c* passing behind the ears. The mask is made of rubber or other flexible material, the face portion being heavier to give it some rigidity. At *d* there are two apertures, in which are inserted eye-lights *e* of mica or glass, permitting the wearer to view his surroundings. The lights *e* are held in the apertures by insertion in the circular grooves *f* in the face of mask. The mouth front is provided with flange *g*, which fits in the annular internal groove *h* in the shutter *i*, the latter being centrally pivoted, so that it may be turned on the mouth front by the finger-piece *k*. The shutter has an opening *l*, filled with sponge or other porous ma-

terial, which registers with opening *m* in mouth front and a semicircular opening *n*. The shutter may be turned to bring the opening *n* in line with the opening *m* when it is desired to talk. A flexible pipe *o*, which is connected with the lower part of the mask, drops over the breast and down the inner side of the leg to within a short distance of the floor, so that the air along the floor can pass up to the inside of mask.

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

1. The combination, with the body of the mask having a mouth-opening, of a shutter pivoted to the body and provided with two openings adapted to register with the mouth-opening, one of the said openings being fitted with porous material, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the body of the mask having the mouth-opening *m* and provided with the flange *g* around the said opening, of the pivoted shutter *i*, having an internal groove to receive the said flange and provided with the openings *l n*, the opening *l* being fitted with porous material, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. The herein-described mask, consisting of the body portion *a b*, provided with two sight-openings *d*, covered with glass or mica *e*, a mouth-opening *m* below the sight-openings, an apertured shutter *i*, pivoted above the mouth-opening and provided with two openings *l n*, the opening *l* being filled with sponge, and the flexible pipe *o*, connected to the lower part of the mask, as specified.

THOMAS E. RICHEL.

Witnesses:

ROBT. HOLMAN,
BENJ. HOLSKE.