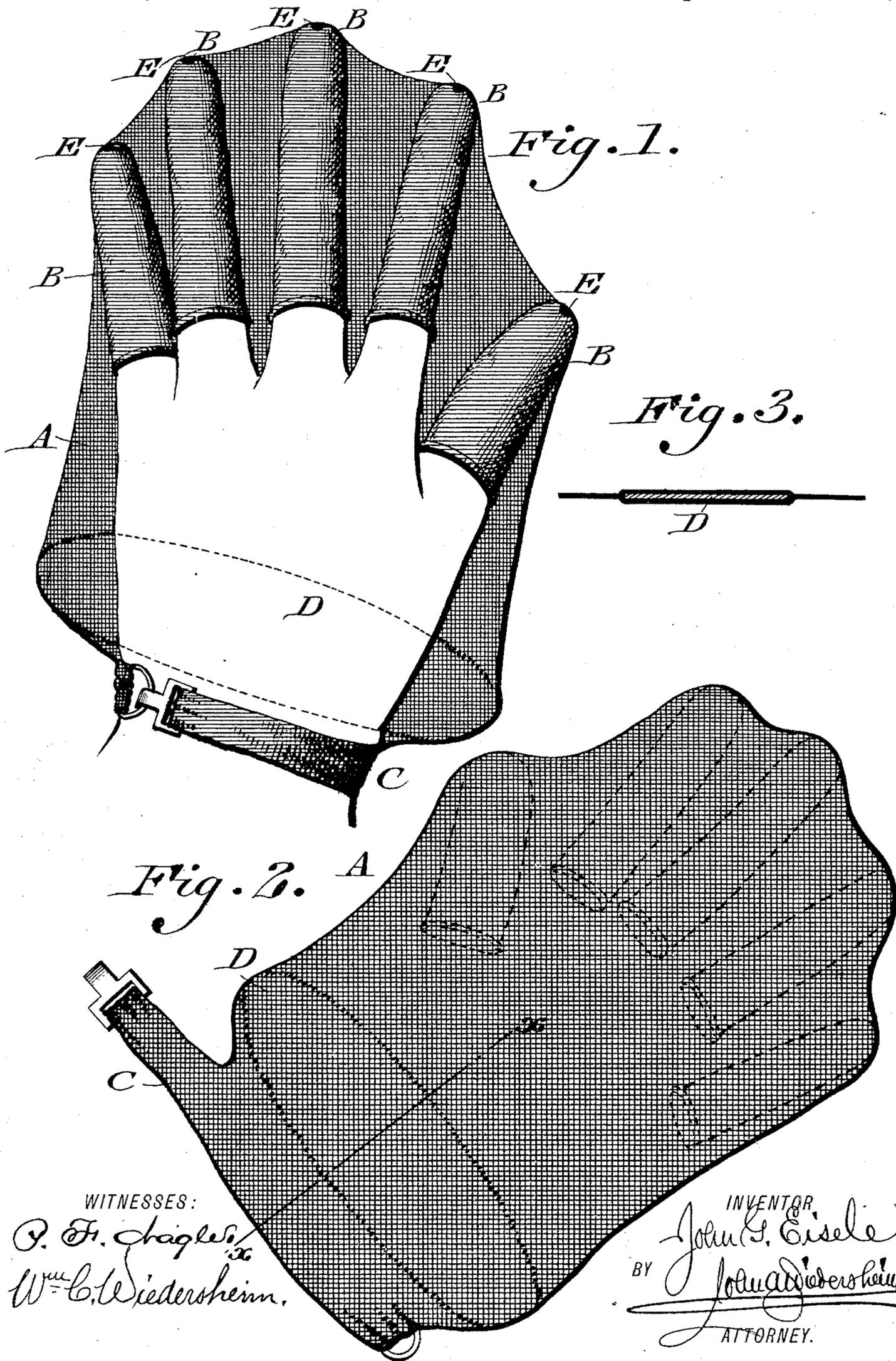


(No Model.)

J. G. EISELE.
SWIMMING GLOVE.

No. 458,888.

Patented Sept. 1, 1891.



WITNESSES:
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JOHN G. EISELE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

SWIMMING-GLOVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 458,888, dated September 1, 1891.

Application filed November 17, 1890. Serial No. 371,671. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. EISELE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Swimming-Gloves, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings.

My invention consists of a swimming-glove formed of an elastic web and fingers secured thereto, whereby said web presents a broad and comparatively flat surface for impact with the water, and the hand is on the back of the web, so as to most conveniently operate the glove and present no obstacles to the water.

It also consists of means for stiffening the glove near the wrist portion thereof and preventing contraction of said portion.

Figures 1 and 2 represent perspective views of opposite faces of a swimming-glove embodying my invention. Fig. 3 represents a section of a portion on line $x x$, Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a web of soft rubber or other elastic material, and B designates finger-pieces, stalls, or pockets secured thereto and adapted to receive the thumb and fingers of the hand, said pockets being on the back of the web.

Connected with the wrist end of the web is a strap C for securing the glove to the wrist of the wearer.

Embedded in the web near the wrist portion is a piece D of rigid material, the same being shown in section in Fig. 3 and dotted in the other figures.

It will be seen that when the hand is moved during swimming the web presents a broad surface to the water, and the latter is prevented from escaping between the fingers, thus facilitating the swimming operation and easing the same. The web is also comparatively flat and the hand is on the back of the same, so that there is no projection on the face of the web to resist the traction of the same on the water, and owing to the said hand being uncovered on its back its freedom of action is not restricted. The piece D prevents the closing of the web at the wrist portion and also preserves the width of the same, besides strengthening said portion where con-

siderable strain is occasioned. The web stretches as the hand is distended and contracts as the same is closed. By this provision I am enabled to use thin and light elastic material for said web. In the tips of the pieces B are openings E for admitting of the escape of water therethrough and also providing for ventilation.

I am aware that it is not new to form a swimming device of an elastic glove which is adapted to cover the hand and fingers and a flexible web covering the spaces between the fingers, and such I do not claim; but I am not aware that it is old to form a glove of an elastic web with sections of finger-pieces connected therewith, leaving the back of the hand uncovered; neither am I aware that it is old to form the fingers open at both ends, whereby any water entering the same can freely escape therefrom; neither is it thought to be old to provide a web at the part thereof which is adapted to be attached to the wrist of the wearer with a stiffening-piece, whereby the portion thereof between the fingers and wrists is kept extended or spread out, and thereby presenting a flat surface, against which the palm of the hand may bear.

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

1. A swimming-glove consisting of a web with separate finger portions secured thereto, wrist-fastenings on said web, and a stiffening-piece connected with said wrist portion to extend the web beyond the sides of the hand, the portion of the web between the finger-pieces and wrist being plain and uncovered, said parts being combined substantially as described.

2. A swimming-glove consisting of an elastic web with finger and thumb pieces open at both ends secured on the back thereof and provided with a fastening-strap at the wrist portion thereof, said portion having a stiffening-piece embedded therein, and the portion of the web between the finger-pieces and the stiffening-pieces being plain and without covering, said parts being combined substantially as described.

JOHN G. EISELE.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. WIEDERSHEIM,
A. P. JENNINGS.