

No. 640,985.

Patented Jan. 9, 1900.

H. AYLMER.
LIFE PRESERVER.

(Application filed July 25, 1899.)

(No Model.)

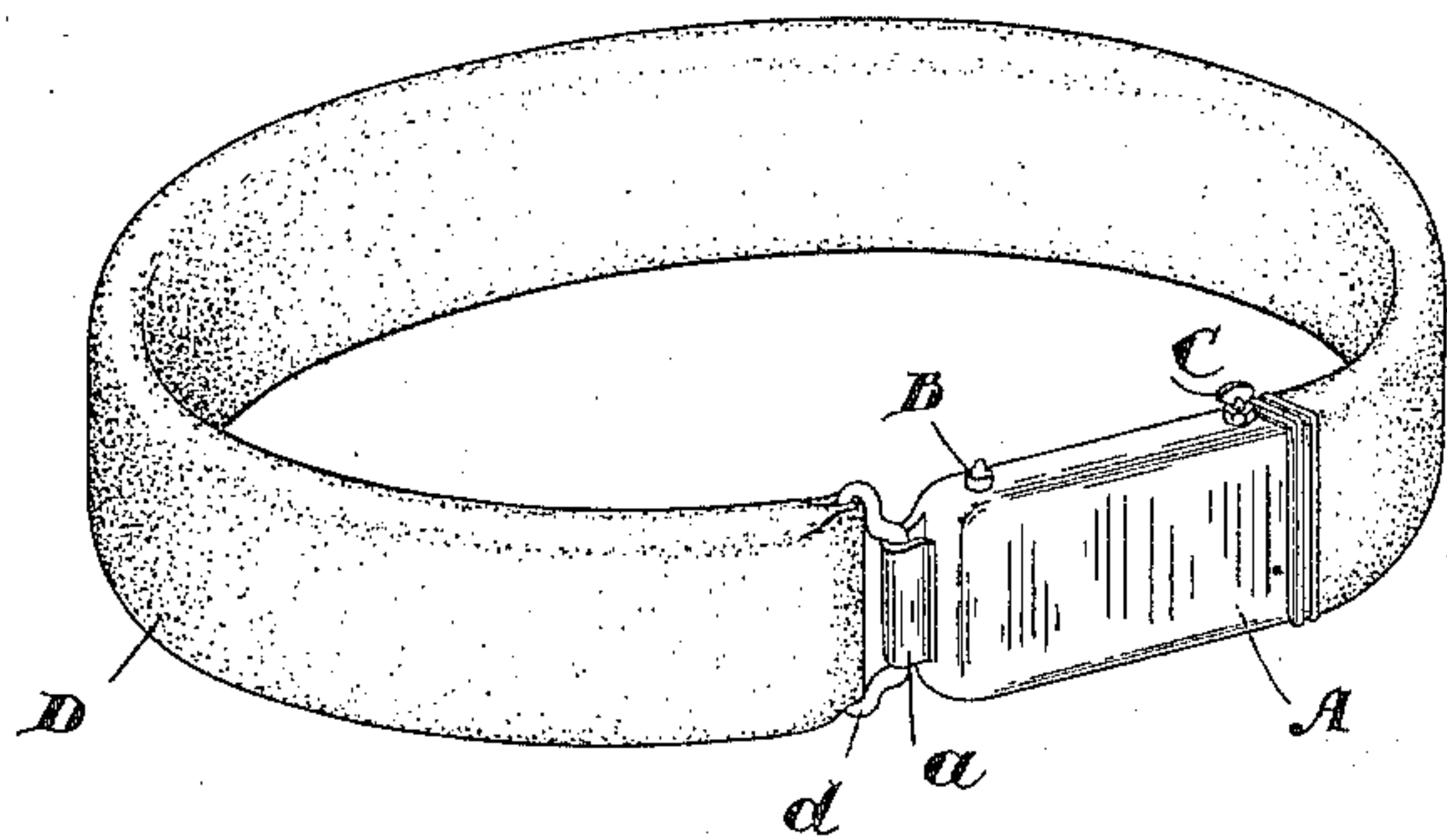


Fig. 1.

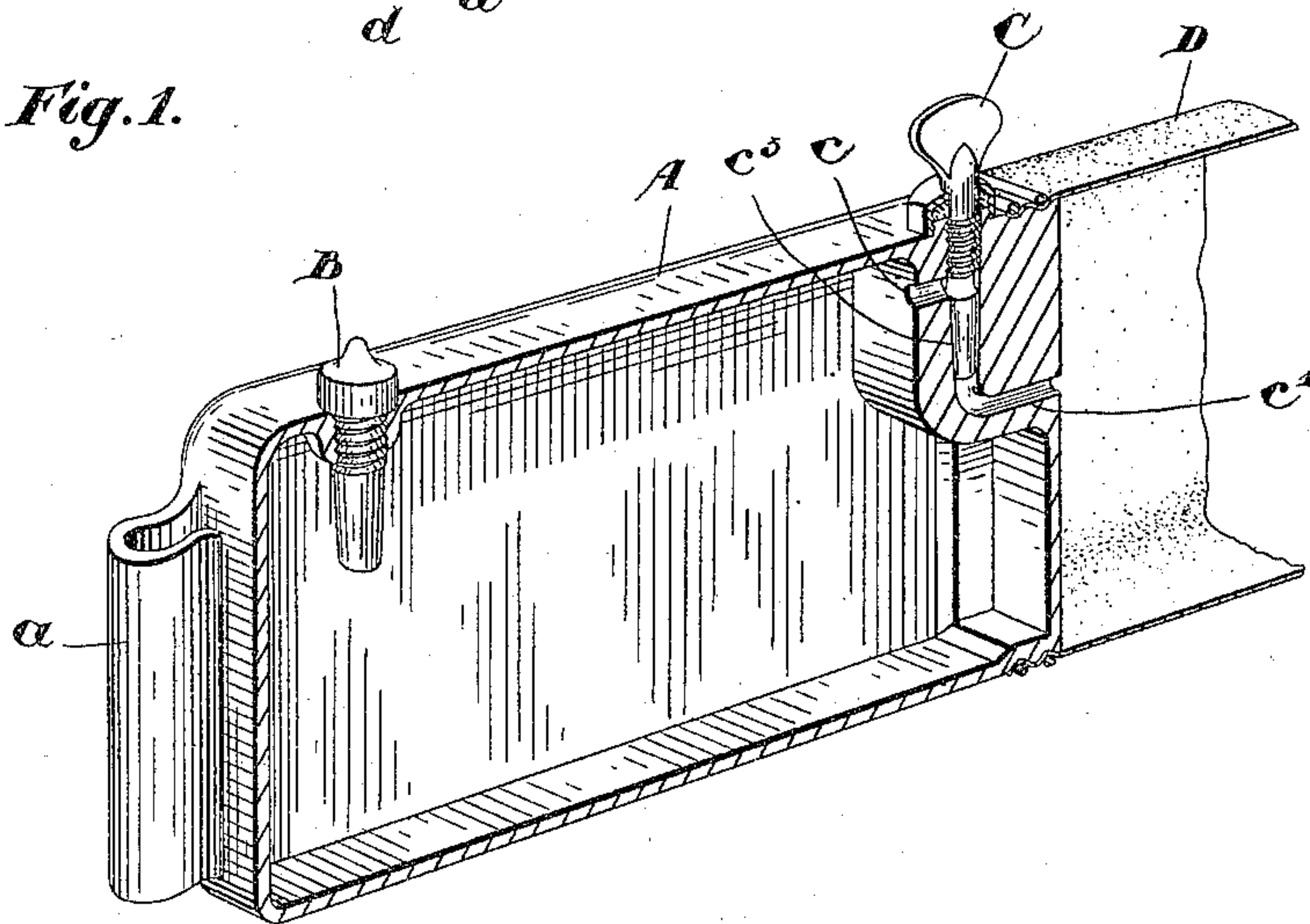


Fig. 2.

Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY AYLMER, OF RICHMOND, CANADA.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 640,985, dated January 9, 1900.

Application filed July 25, 1899. Serial No. 725,072. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY AYLMER, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Richmond, in the county of Richmond, in the Province of Quebec, Canada, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Life-Saving Appliances, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in life-saving appliances; and the object of the invention is to devise a means whereby air compressed in a suitable receptacle can readily be allowed to escape and inflate a belt or bag used in life-saving apparatus, thus obtaining a compact and easily-portable life-saving arrangement which can be made in a simple and inexpensive manner; and it consists, essentially, of an air-receptacle provided with a suitable air-valve to allow the air to be pumped in and a suitable air-cock for the egress of the air into a belt or bag, the parts being constructed in detail as hereinafter more particularly explained.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a life-belt with an air-receptacle attached. Fig. 2 is a sectional perspective view of the air-receptacle.

A is the air-receptacle, which has an ordinary air-valve B for the ingress of the air. An ordinary bicycle-tire air-valve may be used for this purpose.

C is an air-cock to prevent or allow the egress of the air through the channels *c* and *c'*, as may be desired. The channel *c'* opens into an air-tight expanding tube D, hermetically attached to the air-receptacle. I also show on one end of the air-receptacle a clasp *a*, which is made to catch the eye *d*, thus form-

ing a belt. In order to put my device in condition for practical use, I attach to the valve B a foot bicycle-pump of a suitable size, and after seeing that the air-cock C is firmly on its seat *c*³ I pump air into the receptacle A, and when a sufficient quantity of air is compressed in the receptacle A to expand the tube D, I detach the pump from the valve B. The belt is now in readiness to be used upon an emergency.

When the wearer wishes to make practical use of my device, he buckles the belt around his body, preferably underneath the arms, and turning the air-cock C the compressed air is released from the receptacle A and rushes through the channels *c* and *c'* into the expanding and air-tight tube D, thus forming a reliable life-preserver which can be filled and emptied of the air at the owner's pleasure.

Although I show that the air is compressed in the receptacle A by a bicycle-pump, it will be readily understood that this may be done by a regular compressing plant.

What I claim as my invention is—

A marine life-saving appliance comprising a hollow belt forming a continuous air-chamber, an engaging part secured to one end of said belt and a compressed-air receptacle secured to the opposite end thereof, having inlet-passages leading into the chamber, a valve for controlling the same and an engaging part secured to the end of the receptacle.

Signed at Richmond, Canada, this 19th day of July, 1899.

HENRY AYLMER.

Witnesses:

EDWARD J. FETHERSTONHAUGH,
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