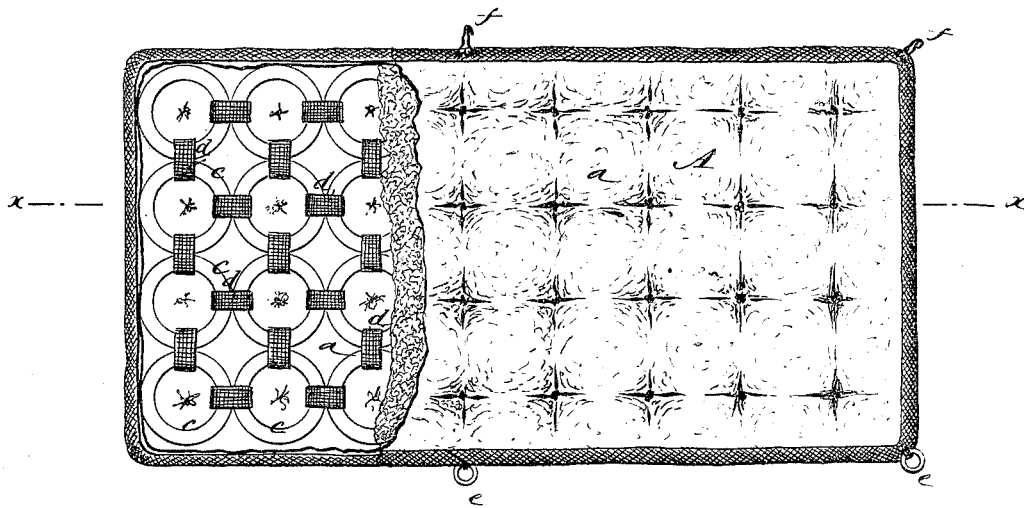


C. P. ROOD.  
Life-Preserving Mattress.

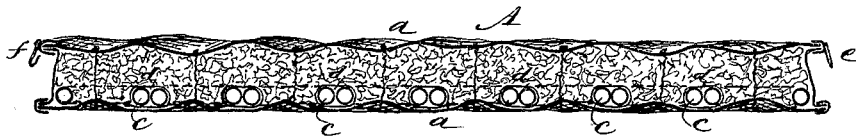
No. 220,425.

Patented Oct. 7, 1879.

*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



WITNESSES:

*C. Neveu*  
*E. Sedgwick*

INVENTOR:

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*Munroe*  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES P. ROOD, OF LA FARGEVILLE, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN LIFE-PRESERVING MATTRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,425**, dated October 7, 1879; application filed April 19, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES P. ROOD, of La Fargeville, in the county of Jefferson and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Life-Preserving Mattress, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to furnish a mattress adapted for use on shipboard, and constructed so that it may be used as a life-preserving raft when required for such purpose; and the invention consists in the combination, with a mattress of usual character, of water-tight cells or compartments, that render the mattresses buoyant in water, and fit them for use as a raft singly or by connecting a number of them together.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a top view of one of my improved mattresses partially broken open to show the construction. Fig. 2 is a section on line *x x*.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The mattress *A* consists of the outer coverings *a*, of woven or other flexible material, such as ticking, stuffed with elastic material of any usual kind.

Contained within the mattress, between the stuffing material and the under covering *a*, are hollow rings *c*, of rubber or other suitable material, which rings are connected together by bands *d*, to form ranges of air-cells extending the full width and length of the mattress.

By this construction the mattress, in its outward appearance and form, is adapted for

ordinary use on shipboard without risk of injury to the air-cells; and in case one or more rings are ruptured the buoyancy of the mattress will not be materially affected. I prefer small rubber rings, as shown, but do not limit myself to any particular size, form, or material.

At one side of mattress *A* eyes or rings *e* are attached, and at the opposite side hooks *f*, by which a number of the mattresses can be connected together to form a raft of more or less extended surface.

These life-preservers, when used singly or connected together, can be launched more readily than boats, and without the danger of loss by upsetting.

The described construction gives more buoyancy than can be had from cork or other materials with the same extent of surface.

The mattresses are not an extra appliance, requiring special room for storage, but take the place of the usual mattress, and naturally will always be on hand in sufficient number and accessible when wanted as life-preservers.

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

In combination with a mattress, the tubular rings *c*, connected together and forming ranges of air-cells, substantially as described and shown, and for the purposes specified.

CHARLES P. ROOD.

Witnesses:

T. D. FLANSBURGH,  
HOMER W. BEARDSLEY.