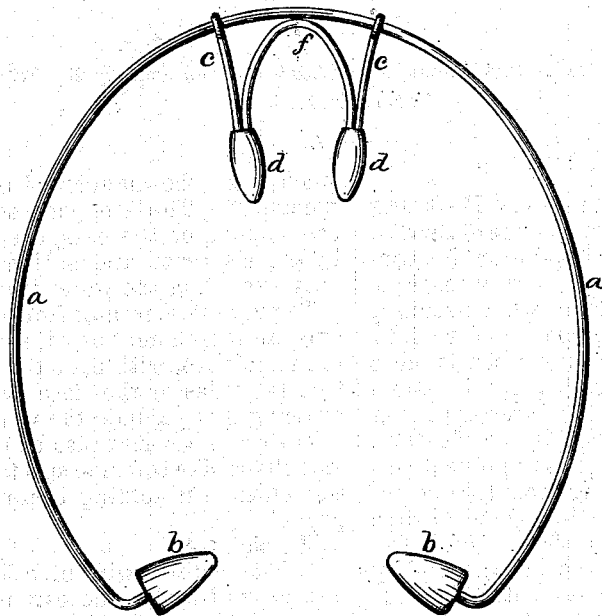


A. HACKETT & J. H. COATS.

BATHERS' APPLIANCES.

No. 186,422.

Patented Jan. 23, 1877.



Witnesses:

Frank Matchette  
W<sup>m</sup> H. Matchette,

Inventors:

Almerin Hackett,  
Joseph Harvey Coats.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALMERIN HACKETT AND JOSEPH H. COATS, OF SPARTA, WISCONSIN.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BATHERS' APPLIANCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **186,422**, dated January 23, 1877; application filed October 24, 1876.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ALMERIN HACKETT and JOSEPH H. COATS, of the village of Sparta, in the county of Monroe and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful machine or device for the use of persons while bathing, and more especially for those who dive into or under the water, which invention is more fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

The object of our invention is to prevent persons, while bathing or diving, from taking water into the ears and nostrils, which always produces disagreeable sensations, and is frequently injurious. This we accomplish by the means of a metallic-wire or other spring-frame, of proper size, which is bent in circular form, as shown in the drawing, *a a*, to fit the head of the bather. Attached to the ends of the wire are conical-shaped ear-stoppers *b b*, made of rubber or other suitable composition, about three-eighths of an inch in diameter at the base, which fit the opening of the ears.

When the protector is used it is adjusted

much after the manner of wearing common spectacles. The stoppers, being inserted in the opening of the ears, are kept in position by the elasticity and spring of the wire, totally excluding the water from the ears.

To prevent the water from entering the nostrils, an attachment of wire, *c c f*, is affixed to the main wire, with pads *d d* at the ends, fitting the sides of the nose, and slightly compressing it to exclude the water.

The protector may also be made with joints and slides, like common spectacles, for greater convenience in folding it up to carry in the pocket.

We claim—

1. The metallic-wire or other spring-frame *a a*, provided with the ear-stoppers *b b*, substantially as and for the purposes described.
2. The spring-frame *a a*, provided with ear-stoppers *b b* and the spring attachment *c c f*, substantially as set forth.

ALMERIN HACKETT.  
JOSEPH H. COATS.

Witnesses:

FRANK MATCHETTE,  
WM. H. MATCHETTE.