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textbook illustrations

WILLIAM B. JENSEN
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

Galibert's Patent Respiratory Apparatus

"Various ingenious propositions have been made to enable persons to go with impunity into an atmosphere containing carbon dioxide or other dangerous gases, or to attend on large voltaic batteries where nitrous fumes are evolved. The most practical and thoroughly useful contrivance is that of M. Galibert, and called by him the "Patent Respiratory Apparatus," being a most important and valuable invention for the protection of life and property against danger arising from fire, also of persons exposed to danger from exhalations of gas, foul air in mines, sewers, etc., etc . . .

A reservoir, of the capacity of five cubic feet, made of stout canvas, and fireproof, is filled with air by means of a small bellows belonging to the apparatus, and placed on the back of the operator, as shown in the drawing, being suspended from braces passed over his shoulders, and further held in position by a belt round the body. There are India-rubber tubes, the two ends of which are inserted in the reservoir, the operator holding the other end in his mouth by means of a mouthpiece of horn to which they are attached, thus enabling him to breathe freely from the supply of air drawn through the tubes from the reservoir, without any inconvenience from dense smoke or poisonous gases.

The eyes of the operator are covered with goggles, so fitted as to effectually protect them from any gas or smoke, and the nostrils are closed by a small and simple instrument for that purpose.

The fire department of Paris has provided all its stations with the respiratory apparatus of M. Galibert . . . ."

Literature Cited

Pepper, J. H., "Cyclopaedic Science Simplified: Chemistry," Fredrick Warne & Co., London, 1869, pp. 584–585.