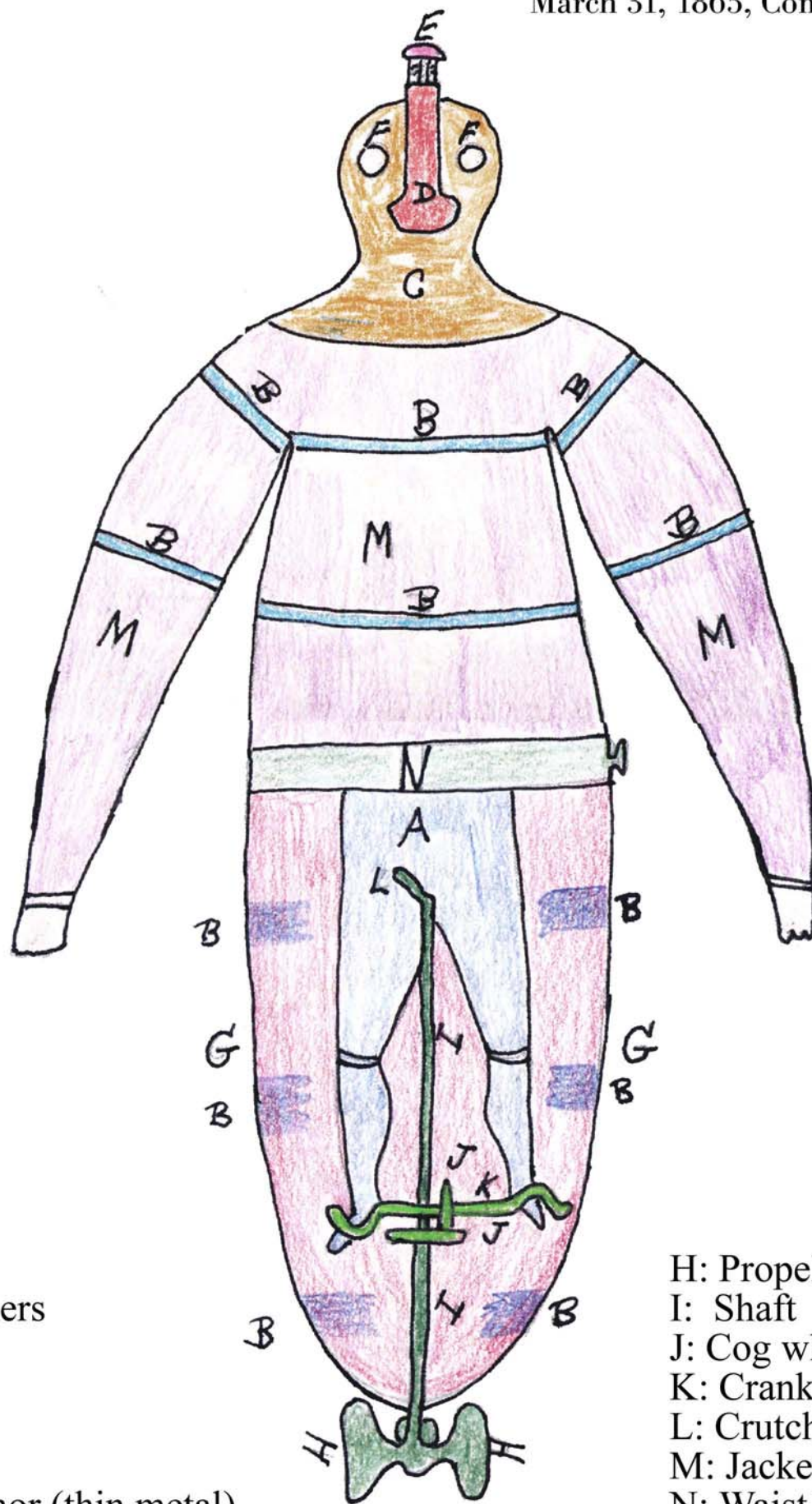


Wilson Submarine Armor, 1865

“The lower part of the body is seated on the crutch “L” with feet attached to the crank “K.” The lower part of the armor, “G,” to be made in conical form of thin metal so far as the waist band “N.” The jacket, “M,” to be made the same as the common armor with hoops on the inside as at “B,” of thin metal, to keep the dress clear of the body for ventilation. The jacket must be covered with canvas on the outside and coated with oil to prevent injury and attached to the metal part “G” at the waist belt “N.” The helmet “C” to be made of metal as the common armor, with eye-lights, as at “F.” The air pipe “D,” with valve “E,” to be stopped at any time necessary. The shaft “I” will go to the crutch “L” on which the man is seated, with a cog wheel at “J.” The crank “K,” also with cog wheel, will turn the propeller “H” and give sufficient motion to propel the armor through the water, which can be guided by the hands.”

- A. J. Wilson, diver and boatswain on the CSS *Fredericksburg*
March 31, 1865, Confederate Navy Records



Legend:

- A: Diver
- B: Thin metal stiffeners
- C: Helmet
- D: Air supply pipe
- E: Air valve
- F: Eye-lights
- G: Lower part of armor (thin metal)

- H: Propeller
- I: Shaft
- J: Cog wheel
- K: Crank
- L: Crutch
- M: Jacket
- N: Waist belt



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