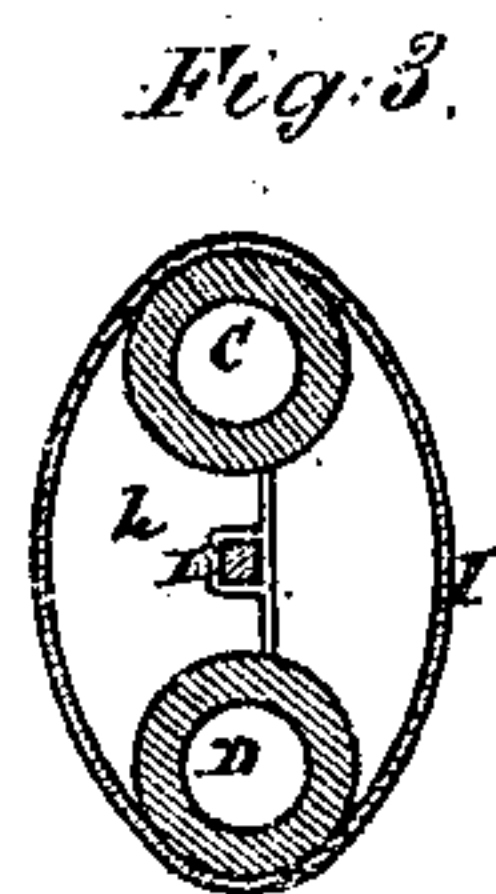
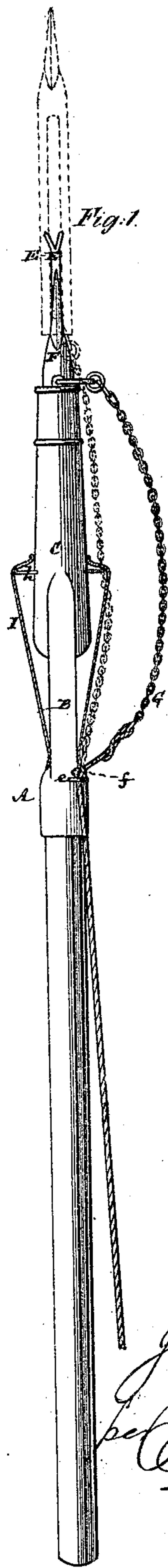
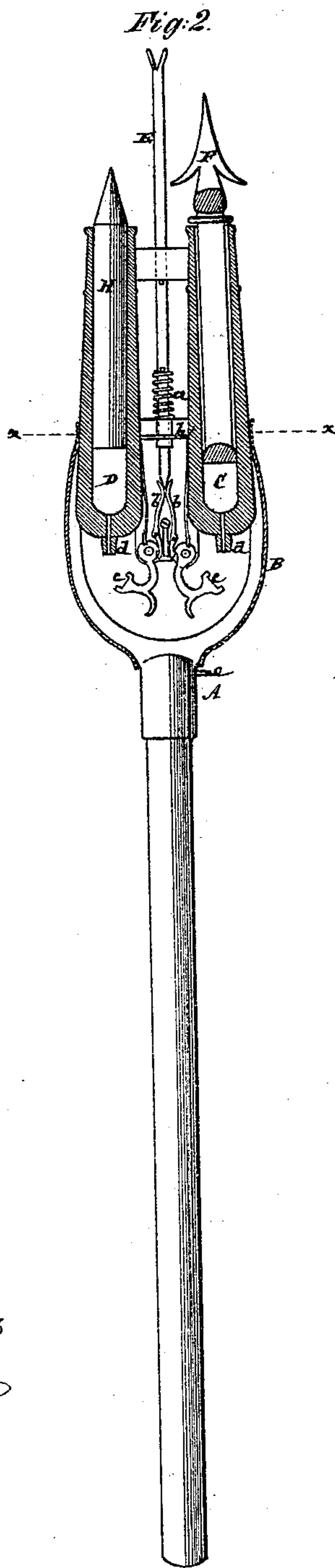


J. P. RECHTEN.

Bomb Lance.

No. 97,693.

Patented Dec. 7. 1869.



Witnesses:  
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# United States Patent Office.

JOHN P. RECHTEN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 97,693, dated December 7, 1869.

## IMPROVEMENT IN GUN-HARPOONS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN P. RECHTEN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Gun-Harpoons, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal view, as seen from the outside, of a gun-harpoon, constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2, a longitudinal sectional view of the same, taken at right angles to fig. 1; and

Figure 3, a transverse section, through the line *xx*, in fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention embraces, in a weapon designed to be thrown by the hand, a main stock or handle, carrying a barrel or barrels, charged with explosive material, and a suitable device or devices for capturing or killing, and holding on to the whale, by explosion of the charge or charges, on the weapon striking or entering the fish.

In this connection, the invention includes a pair of such barrels, the one of which carries a harpoon, inserted as a projectile therein, and made fast to the tow-line, that has the stock of the entire weapon loosely hung on or connected with it, while the other barrel carries a bomb that explodes on entering the fish, the charges in said barrels being ignited by percussion-caps, struck by hammers, as the same are liberated from seres, operated by a sliding rod or point, arranged to first come in contact with the fish, or any other suitable firing-devices may be used.

The forward portion of the tow-line has a stop arranged on it, for operation, in connection with an eye or loop, or other suitable projection, on the stock of the weapon, whereby only the necessary amount of slack may be payed out for the harpoon, in being shot into the fish, to drag along with it, to secure its proper or full entry, thereby relieving the harpoon, while being fired, of much unnecessary dead weight, as regards pull on the whole line, or any large portion of it.

Referring to the accompanying drawings—

A represents the main stock or handle of the weapon, bowed at its forward end, as at B, and carrying within it, on opposite sides of such bowed portion, barrels C and D, also, a central or intermediate sliding rod, E, that is pressed outward by a spring, *a*, to form a point or projection in front of the weapon, and which, on being forced inward, that is done by striking the fish, when throwing the weapon, serves to operate seres *b b*, and liberate hammers *c c*, that, striking caps placed on the nipples *d d* to the barrels C D, explode the charges in the latter.

The one of these barrels, which are loaded with any suitable explosive material, carries, as its projectile, a harpoon, F, that has the front end of the tow-line G secured to it, said tow-line running back through

a suitable eye or guide, *e*, in or on the main stock A, so that, on the whale running off with the harpoon, and the tow-line being payed out, the entire weapon may be recovered on the taking of the fish.

In connection with this loop *e*, or, it may be, any other suitable projection on the stock A, is a stop, *f*, on the forward portion of the tow-line, so arranged, that in handling the weapon to throw it, the tow-line may be drawn up along the stock, till arrested by said stop *f*, which measures out the necessary slack to the line in front of the loop *e*, to allow of the weapon F being shot by the explosion of the charge in the barrel C, (as hereinbefore described,) without dragging on the rest of the line, whereby the harpoon is relieved of much dead weight, by not having, when fired, to pull on the whole line, or any considerable portion of it, even.

This feature in the action of the weapon is clearly shown by full and dotted lines in fig. 1 of the drawing.

The other (D) of these barrels carries a bomb, H, that, on being fired into the whale, explodes and kills the fish, at the same time, or thereabouts, that the harpoon F enters the whale to hold on to it, after being wounded, and as it makes away with, or attempts to make away with the line.

The forward portion of the stock A, or its bow part B, is of a box-like character, being provided with a partition, *h*, connecting the two barrels C and D, so that a water-proof casing, I, may be made to encircle and enclose the after portion of the barrels, and protect the percussion-caps on the nipples and lock-portions of the barrels from exposure to or injury by water during the use of the weapon, said covering being of an opening or removable description, to admit of after-access, as required.

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the main stock or handle to a hand-weapon, of the description herein referred to, of a harpoon, connected with the tow-line of the weapon, and arranged to operate as a projectile from a barrel carried by the main stock, and provided with suitable firing-contrivances, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of the barrels C and D, the sliding rod or firing-point E, the harpoon F, for operation in connection with a bomb, H, the tow-line G, and the main stock A, essentially as herein set forth.

3. The combination, with the barrels C and D, and sliding rod or firing-point E, of the seres *b b* and hammers *c c*, substantially as shown and described.

4. The stop *f* on the tow-line G, in combination with the harpoon F and loop or eye *e*, on the main stock A, essentially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

Witnesses:

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