

C. WELDON.
Shot-Cartridges.

No. 151,327.

Patented May 26, 1874.

Fig. 1

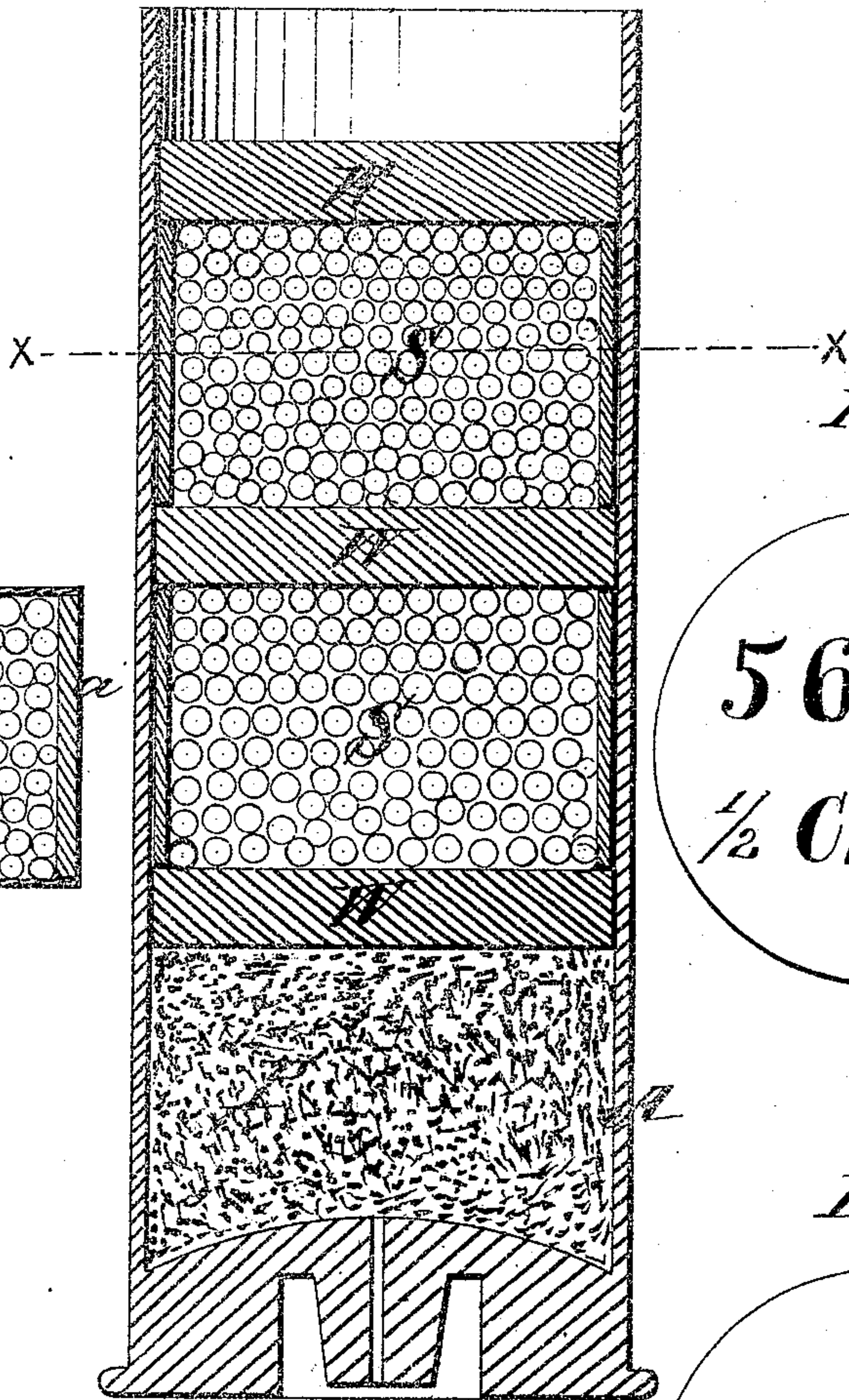


Fig. 3

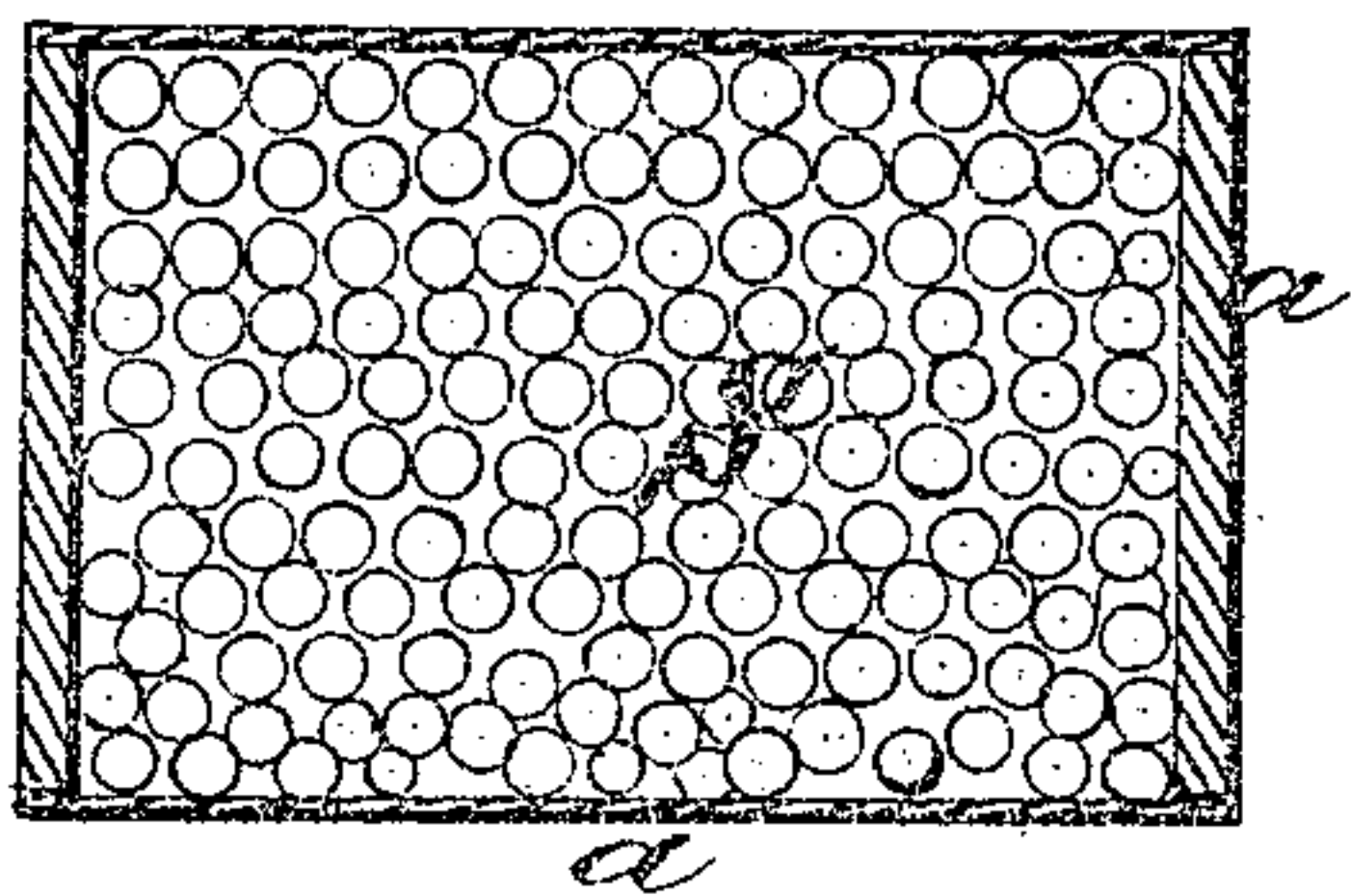


Fig. 4

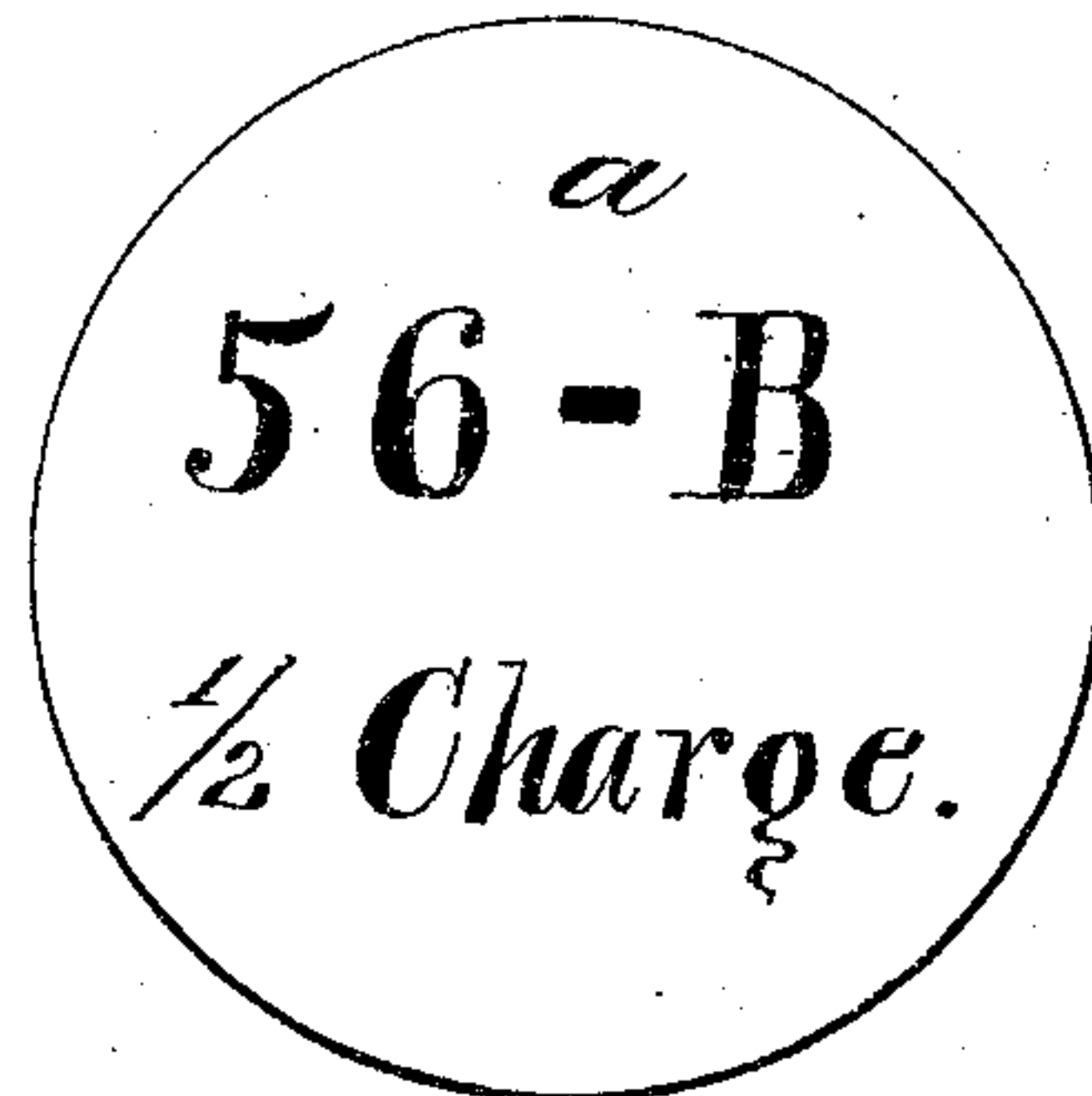
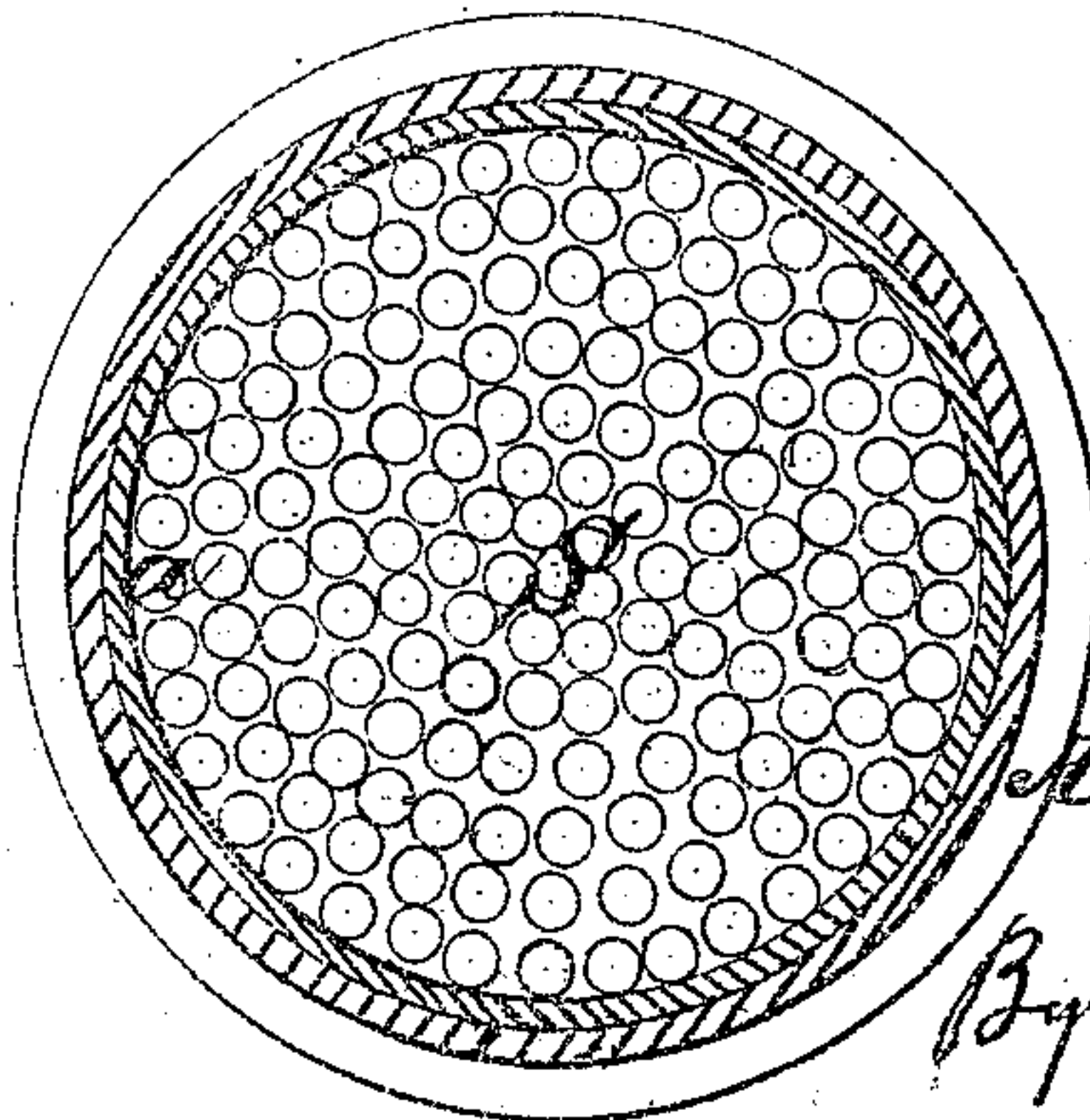


Fig. 5



Fig. 2



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES WELDON, OF WINCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOT-CARTRIDGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 151,327, dated May 26, 1874; application filed March 25, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES WELDON, of Winchester, in the State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Shot-Cartridges, which are designed chiefly for the use of sportsmen; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the construction and use of the same.

For a more complete understanding of this description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, which, in order to represent the several parts more fully, are made on a greatly-enlarged scale.

On these drawings, Figure 1 represents a section through said cartridge longitudinally. Fig. 2 is a cross-section along the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of one of the tubes charged with shot. Figs. 4 and 5 are top and bottom views of one of these tubes when charged and closed with paper, as hereinafter described.

This invention is more particularly adapted to breech-loading shot-guns, though with some modifications, which will naturally suggest themselves, it may be used to good advantage with muzzle-loaders. I use for this purpose a shell or external case, such as is in common use. It is to be made of any suitable material, though brass or copper is preferable for this purpose. Neither in this respect, nor in the mode of inserting the powder therein, nor in the method of communicating fire thereto, do I lay claim to any novelty; but, instead of embodying the shot in a single mass, I divide them into two or more partial charges, each of which is placed within a tube of proper length and shape, in the manner represented in the drawings, in which—

A represents the shell or external case, and *a* the tubes for the partial charges of shot. The powder is shown at P, the shot at S, and the wads at W. These shot-tubes I generally construct of thick, strong paper, though they may be made of copper or other material. They should be cylindrical in form and of the right diameter to fit the external case, and to slide readily into the same. Upon the powder in the shell is first placed a closely-fitting wad. A like wad is to be placed between each two of the shot-tubes, and another over

the whole, as shown in the drawings. These shot-tubes may be prepared and filled with shot beforehand, having paper or other substance pasted over the open ends so securely as to prevent all danger of leaking or bursting; or these tubes may be left empty, with one or both ends open. In this case, after the wad has been placed over the powder, an empty tube or cup, with an open end upward, is inserted and filled with shot. The like process is repeated above the second wad, and so on, if more than two such shot-tubes are used, until the shell is fully charged.

The object of thus inserting the shot within a tube is to prevent them from scattering too much when the gun is discharged. The tube will hold them together for a considerable distance, and, when they finally separate, they will move forward in about the same manner as though discharged at the point of such separation. Experiment has fully proved the utility of this arrangement.

I am aware that shot have heretofore been inserted in a tube and placed within a shell in a manner similar to that herein proposed, but in all such cases only a single tube has been used, and all the shot were inserted in one mass. When fired in this manner they are subject to what is termed "balling" or "clubbing"—that is to say, they become so jammed and welded together that they fly wholly or partially as a slug or ball. If they strike the game, which will be highly improbable, they tear it in pieces, so as to render it comparatively worthless; but, by the method above proposed, this mischief is avoided, while, at the same time, the shot are prevented from scattering to any greater extent than is desirable.

What, therefore, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A cartridge for shot-guns, wherein the shot are contained in two or more tubes, having a wad between each two of said tubes, the powder, shot, and wads being inserted in a shell or case, substantially in the manner and for the purpose above set forth.

CHARLES WELDON.

Witnesses:

GEO. S. ROWE,
HENRY GAY.