

R. P. PARROTT
PROJECTILE.

No. 175,742.

Patented April 4, 1876.

Fig. 1.

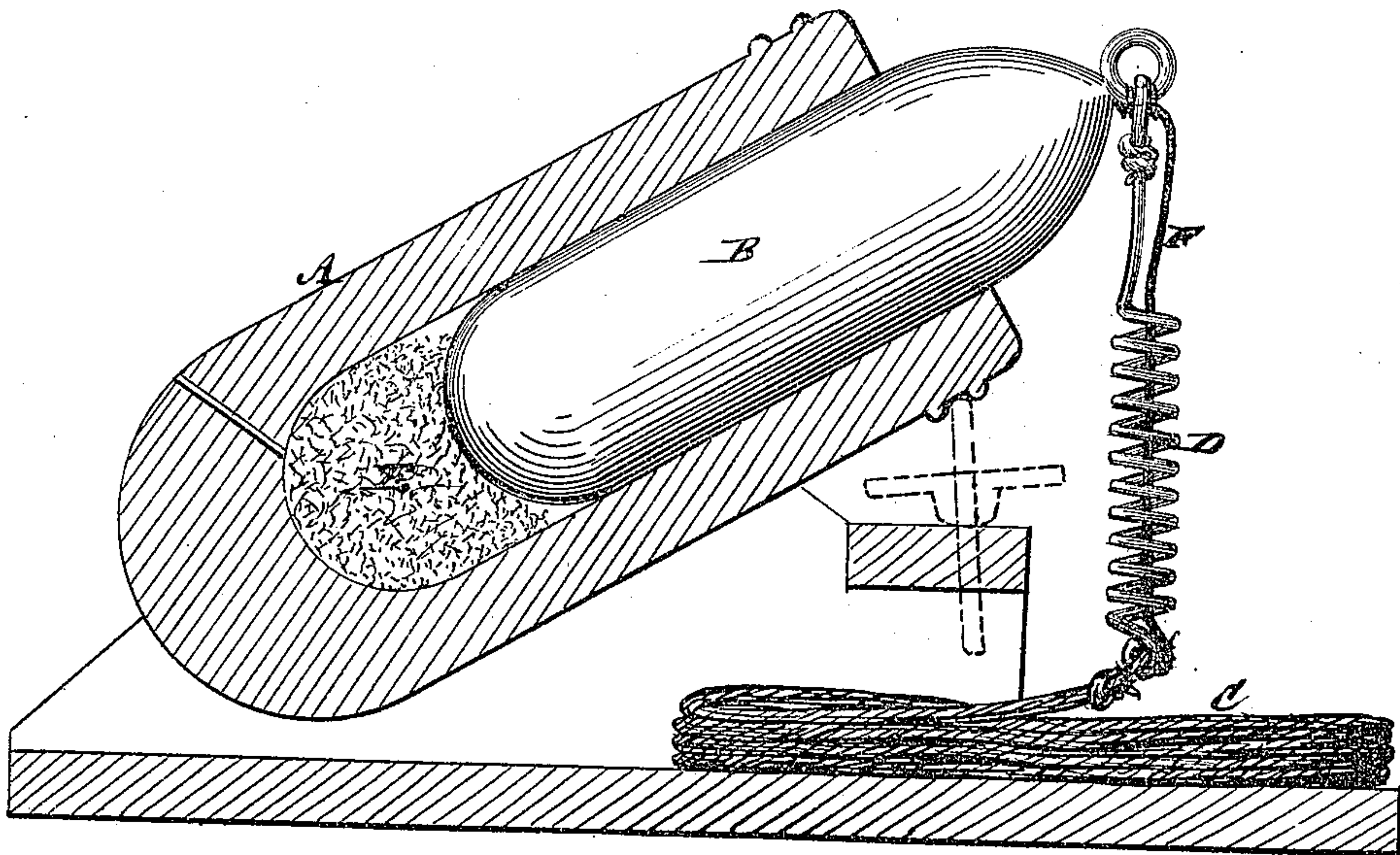
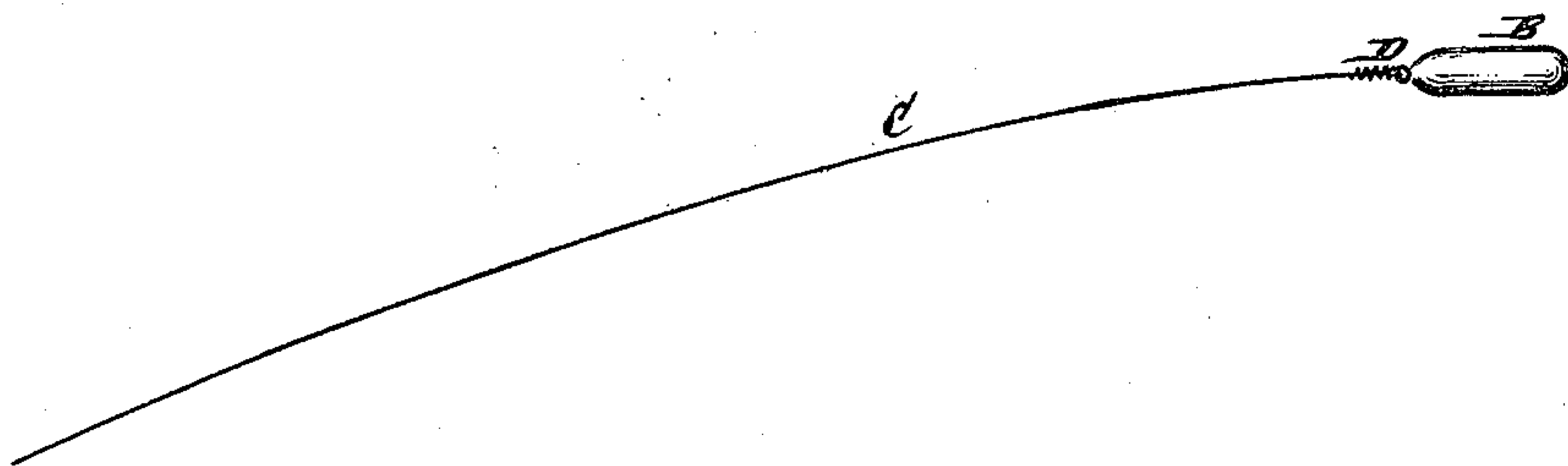


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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IMPROVEMENT IN PROJECTILES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 175,742, dated April 4, 1876; application filed March 6, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT P. PARROTT, of Cold Spring, in the county of Putnam and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combined Projectiles and Life-Lines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms part of this specification.

This invention relates to those means for saving life by establishing communication from the shore or elsewhere with a vessel which has been wrecked, in which a shot or projectile having a line attached to it is thrown from a mortar. Ordinarily, a round shot, having the line attached to it by a coiled wire, has been used for said purpose, but there has always been a difficulty in reaching a distant vessel, as the charge of powder, if increased, is apt to break the line at its attachment to the shot.

In order to get greater range without thus exposing the line to breakage or disconnection, numerous attempts to attain the desired end have been made with an elongated shot, which, owing to the reduced resistance it presents to the air over or as compared with the round shot, has a greater range for a given charge of powder. But in the previous use of elongated shots for the purpose, practical difficulties have arisen, either as regards the disposition or connection of the line and in other respects, which have involved so much complication or otherwise been so defective that objections have been raised to the use of them.

My invention not only obviates these defects, but combines, in the use of an elongated projectile for the purpose named, cheapness, facility, and efficiency. Thus I use a simple or plain elongated projectile, having no groove cut lengthwise in it for reception of the line, as in a certain other method, but I attach the line by its coiled wire to the point or front end of the elongated projectile, as inserted in the mortar, so that, when firing, the check which is produced as the shot feels the draw of the line causes the shot to be turned over end for end. This, by reason of the elongated form of the shot, materially eases the strain

or reduces the first shock upon the line's attachment to the shot, and the shot which draws the line after it goes perfectly true to its destination.

In this way, or by these means, I get a long range, and avoid breakage of the line's attachment to the shot, also secure a true travel for the latter.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a longitudinal section of a mortar with an elongated projectile, having a life-line attached, and as about to be thrown, the whole being constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a view on a reduced scale, showing the projectile after it has been turned end for end as it first feels the draw of the line upon it, and showing said shot with its attached line in the course of its flight.

In Fig. 1, A is the mortar; B, the elongated projectile, having the line C connected, through the interposition of a spring or coiled wire, D, with the forward end of the shot as the latter is inserted in the mortar; and E is the charge of powder by which the projectile with its attached line is thrown from the mortar, said line being laid in a loose coil outside of the mortar. In Fig. 2 the same letters apply to like parts, but the shot has been turned end for end as it first feels the draw upon the line.

It is not necessary that the coiled wire D should of itself be the spring or only spring interposed between the end of the projectile and the line, inasmuch as a rubber strip or spring, F, may be independently applied to connect the line with the projectile and such elastic strip or spring be passed through the coiled-wire connection D.

I claim—

The combination with the elongated projectile B of the line C and interposed spring or coiled wire D, applied to connect the line with that end of the elongated projectile which is forward or outermost when the projectile is inserted in the mortar, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

ROBERT P. PARROTT.

Witnesses:

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