(No Model.)

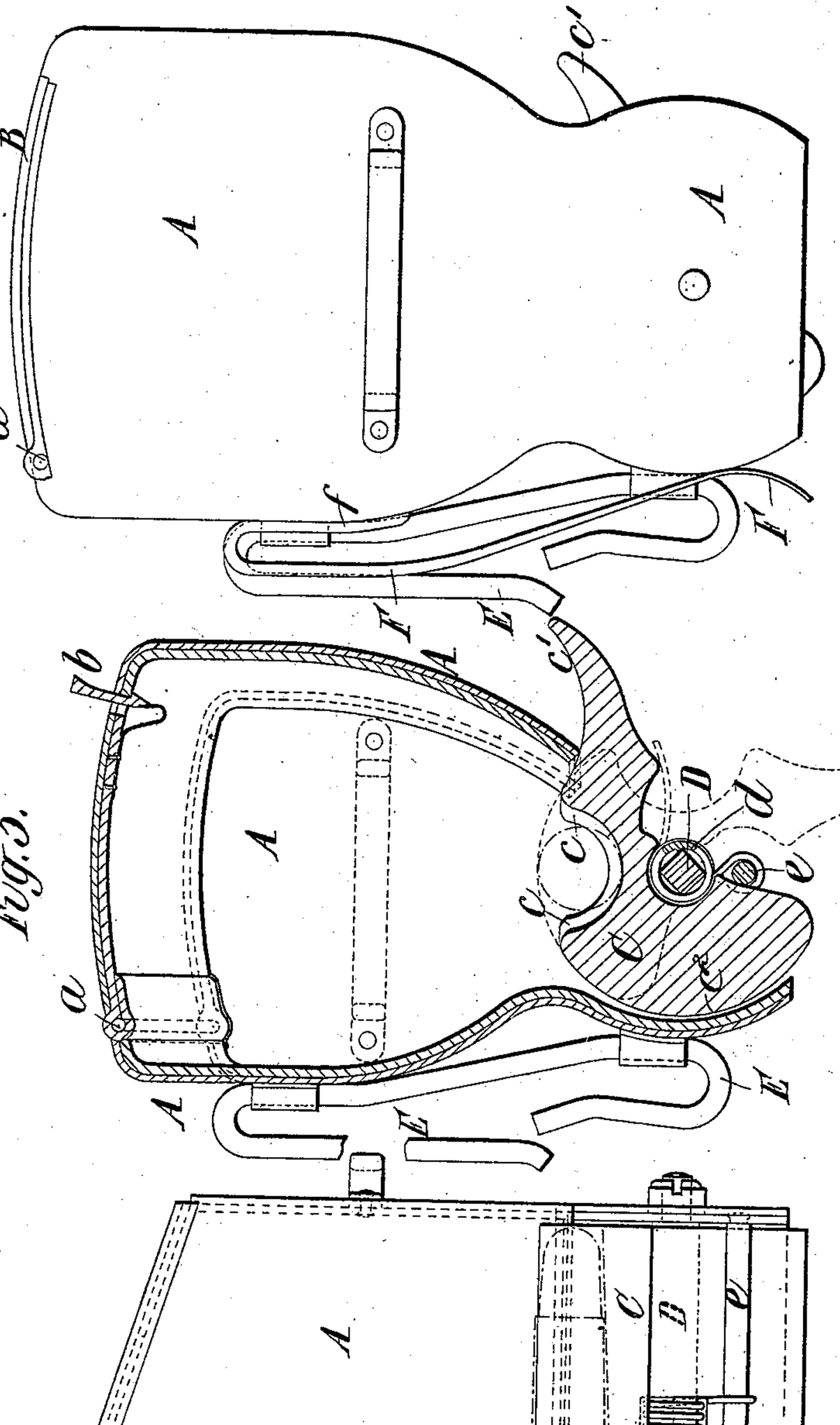
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

# J. J. SPEED.

## CARTRIDGE HOLDER.

No. 372,181. Patented Oct. 25, 1887.

Fig. 2.




Witnesses:
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(No Model.)

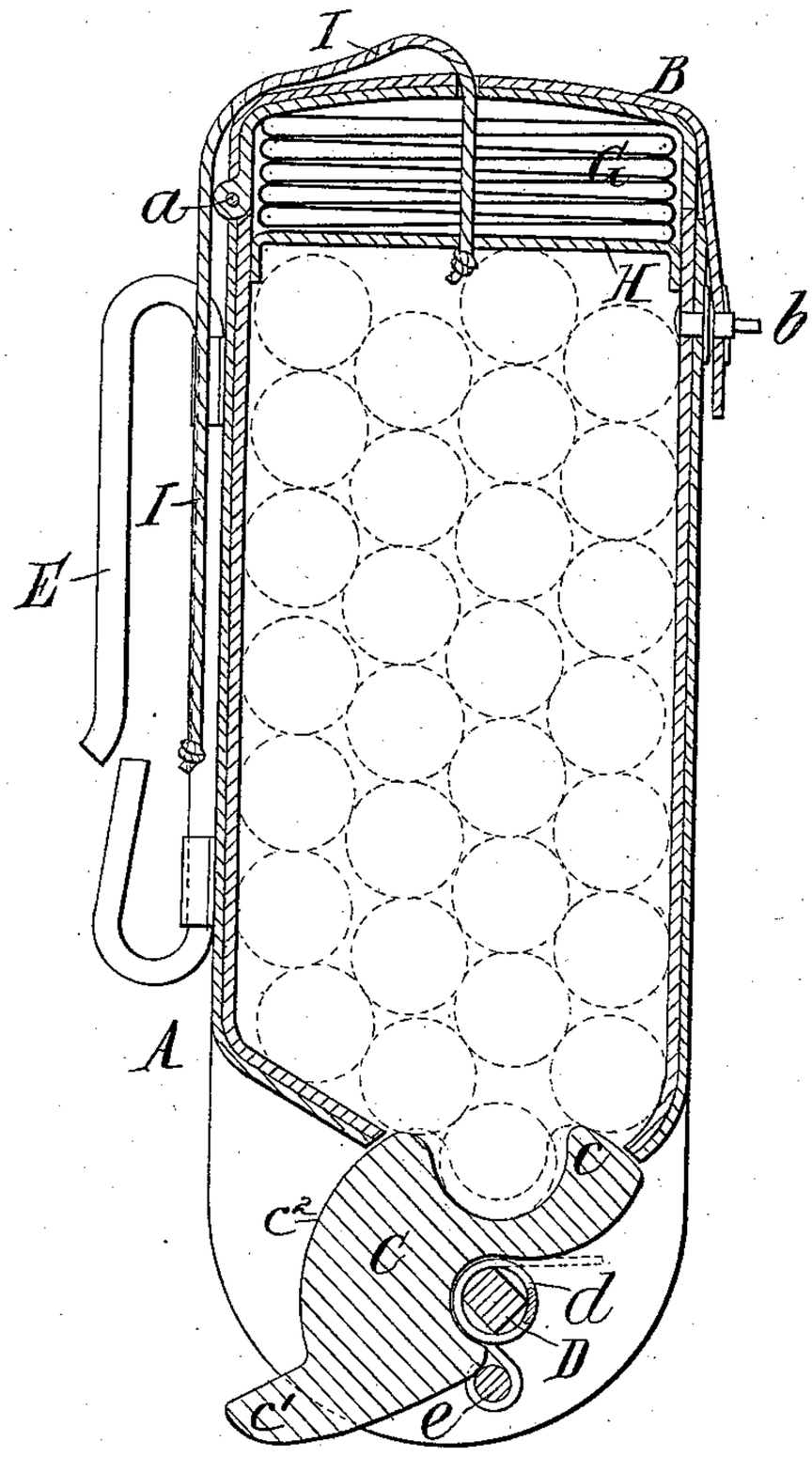
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

# J. J. SPEED.

## CARTRIDGE HOLDER.

No. 372,181. Patented Oct. 25, 1887.

*Fig. 4.*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH JAMES SPEED, OF WALTHAM CROSS, ENGLAND.

## CARTRIDGE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 372,181, dated October 25, 1887.

Application filed July 21, 1887. Serial No. 244,879. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH JAMES SPEED, mechanical engineer, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, and a resident of Waltham Cross, England, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cartridge-Holders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to cartridge boxes or holders designed to be attached to a belt or strap fastened around the soldier or other person, so that he can conveniently take a cartridge therefrom and insert it in a fire-arm.

The main object of my said invention is to provide for facilitating the withdrawal or removal of the cartridges one by one from such boxes or holders without the necessity for raising the lids or covers thereof.

Another object of my said invention is to provide means whereby when a soldier changes his position from standing or kneeling to lying down, or vice versa, he can very readily alter the position of his cartridge-box without entirely detaching the same from his belt, and may thus always keep the said box in the most favorable position for effecting the withdrawal or removal of the cartridges therefrom.

My said invention comprises the employment of an oscillating carrier which forms a part of the box or holder, and which, when operated by a soldier's hand, as hereinafter described, will transfer a cartridge from the said box or holder into the soldier's hand, and when released will automatically resume its normal position, ready to transfer another cartridge in like manner.

My said invention also comprises the use of a spring-hook, in combination with a hook such as are ordinarily employed for fastening or securing the cartridge box or holder to the belt or strap.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 a rear elevation, of one form of my cartridge-box. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a central transverse section of another form or modification of my said cartridge-box.

A is the box or case, which has a lid or cover, B, connected therewith by a hinge-joint at *a*, and provided with a spring-catch, *b*, for fastening it. The said box or case is open at its lower end, as shown in Fig. 3.

C is the oscillating carrier, which is formed with a groove, *c*, adapted to hold a cartridge, as shown, and which is mounted upon a pin or bolt, D, fixed in the ends of the box or case A. A spiral or coiled spring, *d*, is placed upon the pin or bolt D. One end of this spring is secured to a pin or rod, *e*, fixed in the box or case A, and the other end thereof to the oscillating carrier C, so that when the said carrier is operated, as hereinafter described, the said spring will be wound up and compressed, (or unwound and extended,) and will by its reaction effect the return movement of the said carrier when the latter is released.

In the cartridge-box shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 the carrier C is formed with an extension, *c'*, which projects beyond the side of the box or case A, so that it may be easily depressed by the fingers. To get a cartridge out of the magazine, the carrier C must be turned upon or about the pin or bolt D, by depressing the extension *c'*, until the said carrier occupies the position indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 3. The cartridge contained in the groove *c* will thus be withdrawn or removed from the box or case A and brought into such a position that it will fall into the hand by which the carrier has been operated.

The surface $c^2$ of the carrier C is made concentric with the pin or bolt D. Therefore the remaining cartridges in the box A will be practically unaffected by the operation of the carrier C, as above described, and the said carrier will at all times close the aperture at the lower end of the box or case A. As soon, however, as the carrier resumes its normal position another cartridge will fall into its groove *c*.

E is a hook, which may be of any well-known or suitable description, and which is attached to one end of the box or case A in any convenient manner. This hook is intended for securing the cartridge-box to a soldier's belt.

F is a spring-hook, which is firmly attached at *f* to the other end of the box or case A, and the free end of which touches or is in close proximity to the side of the box or case A. This spring-hook may be readily caused to en-

gage with the belt or disengaged therefrom. By this means the cartridge-box can be secured to the belt for use while the soldier is standing or kneeling, and when the soldier has to lie down he can disengage the hook F from his belt and allow the cartridge-box to swing outward and rest upon the ground, so that the cartridges in the said box will be horizontal, or nearly horizontal, and readily accessible.

In the cartridge-box shown in Fig. 4 the extension *c'* of the carrier C is upon the opposite side of the pin or bolt D to that occupied by the extension *c'* in the cartridge-box shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. Therefore, to operate the carrier shown in Fig. 4, the extension *c'* must be raised instead of depressed by the fingers. By this arrangement I obviate the inconveniences which might arise from the projection of any part beyond the outer side of the cartridge-box.

G is a spring for insuring the downward movement of the cartridges in the box or case A whenever a cartridge is withdrawn therefrom by the carrier C and the said carrier is returned to its normal position. A follower, H, is arranged in combination with the said spring. A string or cord, I, is attached to this follower and is passed through a hole in the lid or cover B, so that when the cartridges have all been withdrawn from the box or case A the spring G can be compressed by pulling the cord I, and the lid B can then be opened to recharge the box or case A.

Obviously, other means than those above described for securing the cartridge box or holder to a belt or strap may be adopted, so that one end of the said box or holder may be readily detached from the said belt or strap for the purpose above specified without detaching the other end thereof.

What I claim is—

1. A cartridge-case to be carried on a belt, consisting of a case the bottom of which is entirely closed by an oscillating carrier having a cam-shaped or enlarged inner end and a groove on the top, in which a single cartridge rests, and acted on by a spring to return it to its closed position after a cartridge has been delivered, the enlarged end serving to stop the flow of cartridges while one is being delivered, as set forth.

2. The combination, with the box or holder A and its oscillating carrier C, having enlarged inner end, outwardly-extending arm, and groove in the top, of the pin or bolt D, for supporting said carrier, the pin or rod *e*, and the spring *d*, as and for the purposes specified.

3. The combination, with the box or case A, of the hook E near one of its ends and the spring-hook F at or near the other end, and whereby one end of the box may be readily detached from the belt without detaching the other end thereof, as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOS. JAMES SPEED.

Witnesses:
W. R. LOWMAN,
A. STANLEY.