

L. BRAQUIER.
CONFECTION EXPLOSIVE SHELL.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 6, 1909.

950,591.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.

Fig. 1.

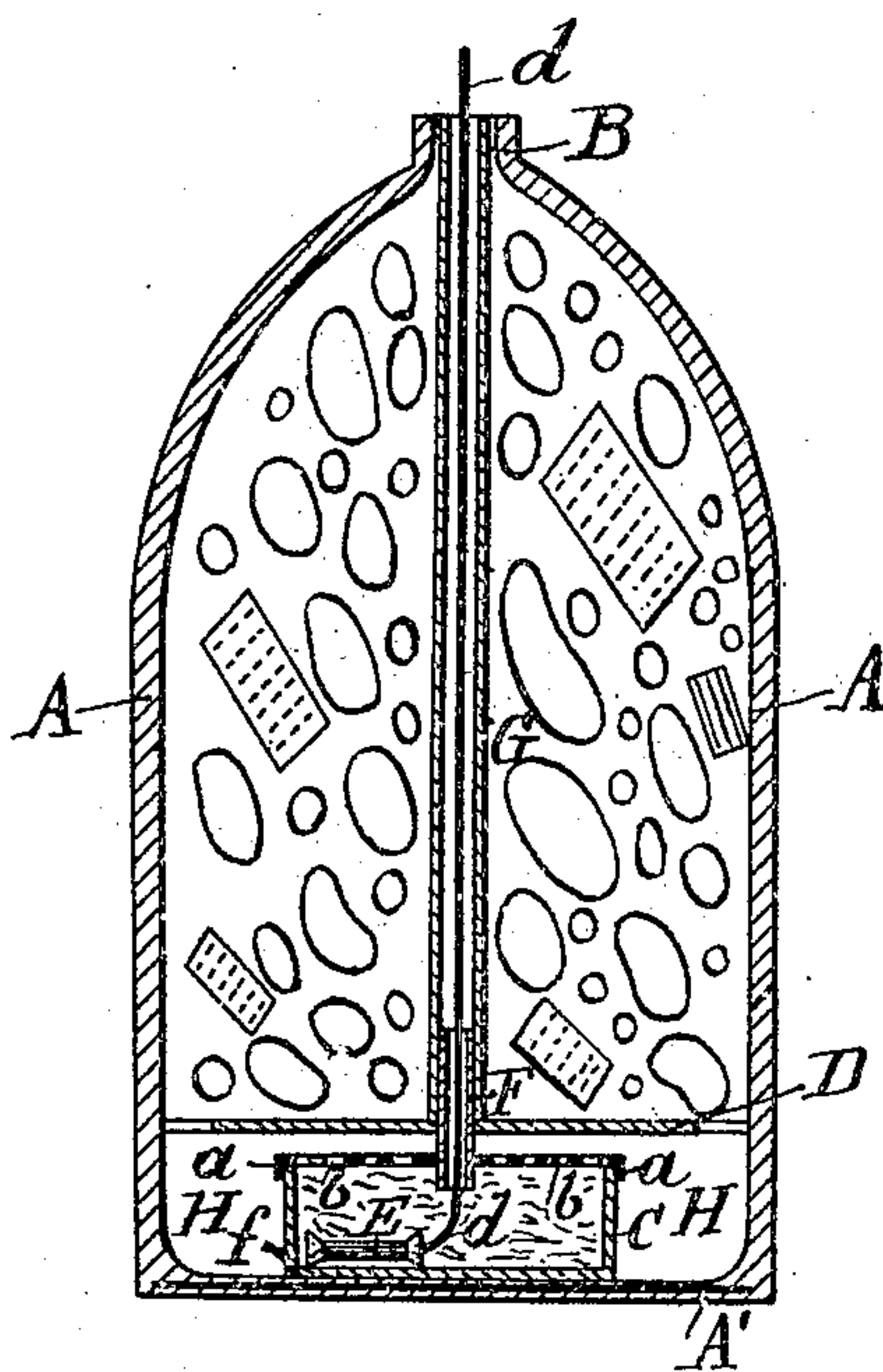
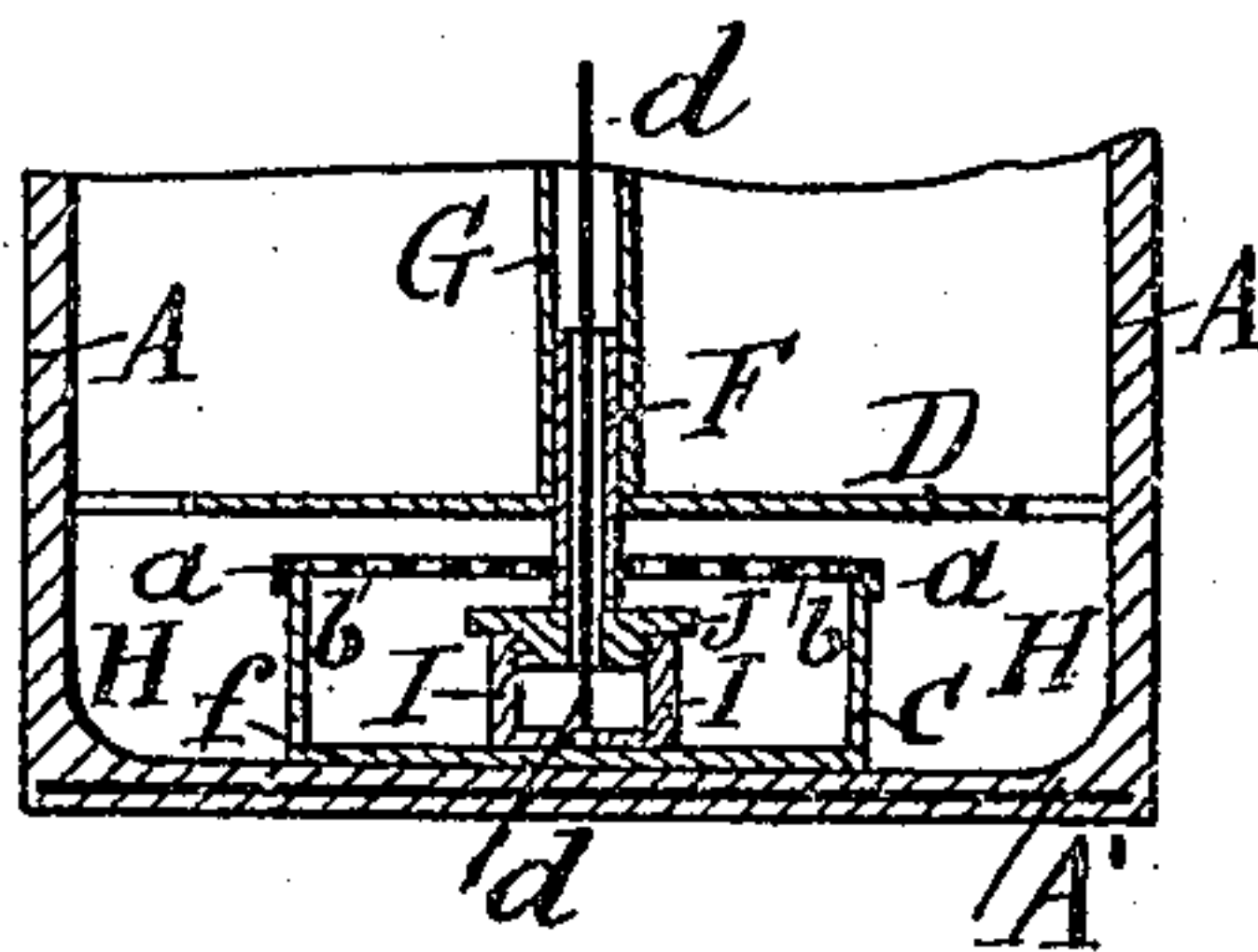


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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CONFECTION EXPLOSIVE SHELL.

950,591.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.

Application filed October 6, 1909. Serial No. 521,367.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEON BRAQUIER, a citizen of France, residing at Chateau du Coulmier, Verdun-sur-Meuse, Meuse Department, France, have invented new and useful Improvements in Confection Explosive Shells, of which the following is a specification.

The explosive articles of sugar and chocolate hitherto manufactured have many disadvantages which render their sale difficult and their use impossible and dangerous. The disadvantages occasioned by the explosion of the petard placed in the interior of the casing are as follows: The casing and the articles placed within it are blackened and receive a disagreeable odor from the smoke and flame produced by the explosion of the petard. This flame is communicated to the paper which composes the petard and to other articles liable to catch fire; these, if thrown upon a table by the explosion, may burn the table cloth and the garments of people surrounding said table, which is somewhat dangerous. Independently of the disadvantages hereinbefore enumerated, as the interval of time between the moment of lighting the fuse and that of the explosion is very short, the audience does not experience the thrill of anxiety and surprise, for which purpose this kind of explosive surprise articles are made.

Now this invention has for its object to prevent the flame produced by the explosion burning articles placed in the petard, and the smoke from blackening and communicating its odor to the walls of the casing and to its contents, by the use of an improved arrangement of petard, and the internal arrangement of the explosive articles of sugar and chocolate.

In order to allow of the invention being better understood reference will now be made to the accompanying drawing, in which the invention is shown, as an example, applied to an article having the form of a shell.

In this drawing:—Figure 1 is a sectional view of the invention, and Fig. 2 is a part sectional view showing a modification.

This shell is composed of a casing A of sugar and chocolate surmounted by a neck B. A box C of metal or cardboard, the lid *a* or bottom *f* of which is perforated with holes *b—b*, rests on the base A' of the casing A. Above the box C there is a disk D,

the diameter of which is equal to or smaller than that of the shell. This disk D is placed directly on the lid of the box C, or it may be separated therefrom for a space of some millimeters, by means of three supports of cardboard or other available material resting on the said lid. The gas produced by the explosion is thus released in the chamber H.

In the interior of the box C, a petard E is placed, as illustrated by Fig. 1, or any other explosive device, such as the one represented as an example in Fig. 2. That device is constituted by a metallic capsule or socket I into which the explosive material is placed; it is surmounted by a screw regulating plug J. This socket and its plug J are perforated each one with a hole for passing the fuse *d*, and serving as an air-hole for the evacuation of gases when the deflagration takes place. In each case, in the device or petard, the fuse *d* which is fixed thereto crosses two central tubes F and G fitting into one another, and goes out afterward through the neck B of the shell. As will be seen, the tube F extends into the box C and through the partition D into the end of the tube G, thus strengthening the interior construction of the device.

In order to cause the shell to explode, a light is applied to the fuse, which by reason of its length burns for about thirty seconds, and during this time keeps the audience in suspense and anxious to know what is going to emerge from the interior. When the fuse is consumed up to the device or petard, the latter ignites in its turn, explodes, and the gas expands in the chamber H and bursts the casing of the shell, which distributes its contents around it. At the moment when the combustion of the powder or explosive material, contained in the device takes place, the smoke and gas which are released therefrom pass through the holes *b—b* of the box C where they are broken and then come to expand into the chamber H, leave there the last residues of combustion, and provoke the bursting of the casing A of the shell. The smoke and smell of the powder or explosive material and the flame thus do not come into contact with the envelop or casing A, nor with the sweets and fancy articles contained in the shell.

In order to prevent the casing bursting at the bottom A' metal wires or other suitable substances are placed inside thereof, the ends of which wires are fixed in the walls of the

casing. The bottom being thus made stronger, when the explosion takes place, the bursting of the casing A is produced in the upper part and not at its base.

5 It is quite evident that a disk D may be employed, the diameter of which is equal to or smaller than that of the shell and which is adapted to be carried by supports. The box C may also be of any suitable form, and
10 be, if necessary, replaced by a simple explosion chamber provided at the base of the shell and over all its surface, the walls of which are perforated with holes like those in the lid, or they may be imperforate. This
15 box may also be reversed, that is to say, that the perforated lid may be placed on the bottom A' of the shell. In the interior of the box C a suitable substance is placed in which a portion of the smoke produced by
20 the petard is concentrated. The internal walls of the chamber H may be coated with non-inflammable paper.

The invention resides in the following:

1. A confection explosive shell comprising a casing made of edible material, confection within the casing, an explosive device 25 also within the casing, and a fuse extending from the explosive device through the casing.

2. A confection explosive shell comprising a casing, a partition dividing the interior of 30 said casing into two chambers, confection located in one chamber, a box having a perforated top located in the other chamber, an explosive device in said box, and a fuse leading from said explosive device through the 35 box and casing.

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

LEON BRAQUIER.

Witnesses:

EDOUARD WATTIER,
JOSEPH LECOCQ.