A. D. LAWS.

Implement for Capping and Uncapping Cartridges.

No. 220,979. Patented Oct. 28, 1879.

Fig. 1.

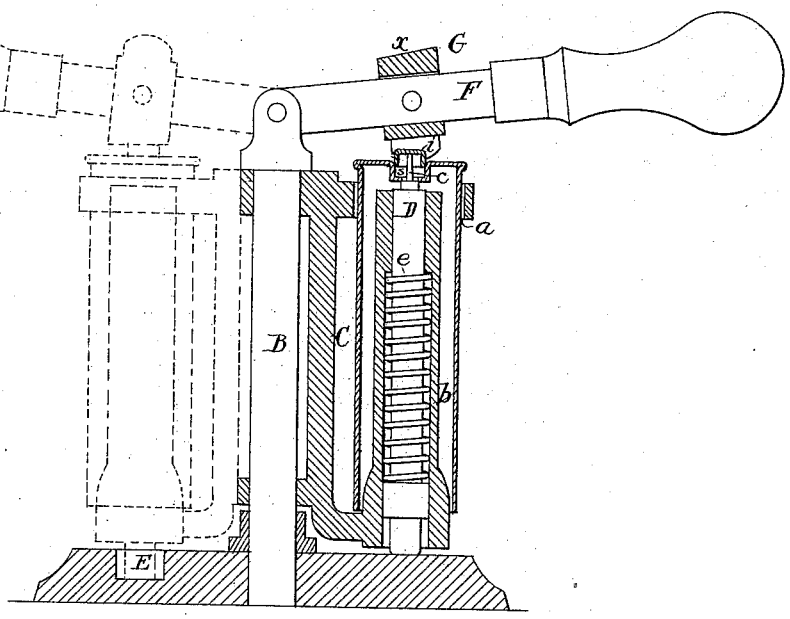
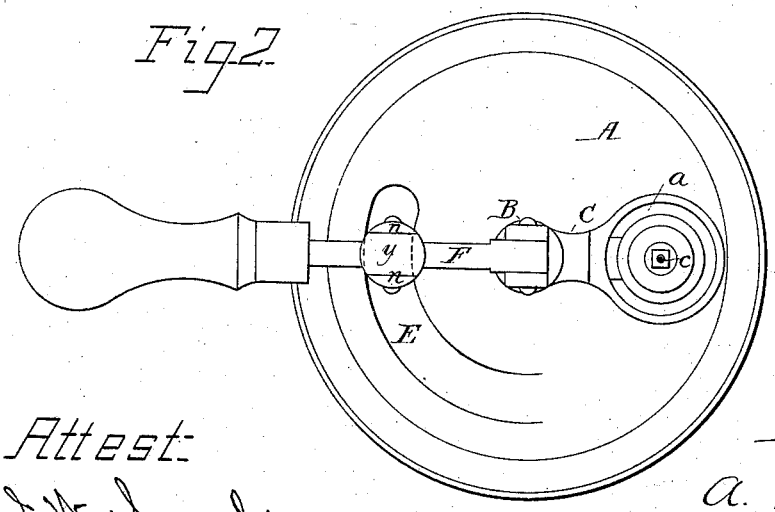


Fig. 2.



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ALBERT D. LAWS, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN IMPLEMENTS FOR CAPPING AND UNCAPPING CARTRIDGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,979**, dated October 28, 1879; application filed September 24, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT D. LAWS, of Bridgeport, Fairfield county, State of Connecticut, have invented an Improved Device for Capping and Uncapping Cartridges, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is a device for capping and decapping cartridges, constructed as fully described hereinafter, to quickly apply or detach the cap without danger of exploding the charge when the cap is loaded, and without injury to the cartridge.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of the device, and Fig. 2 a plan view, showing the parts in a different position.

A is the base-plate, supporting a central standard, B, upon which swings a frame, C, having a circular recess, *a*, adapted to receive the cartridge, as shown in Fig. 1.

The frame is provided with a standard, *b*, which extends upward into the opening *a*, concentric with the latter, and is recessed to receive a stem, D, terminating at the upper end in a pin, *c*, and resting on the plate A, against which it is pressed by a spring, *e*.

The plate A is provided with a curved incline, E, corresponding to the path traveled by the stem D, which is therefore raised when the frame is turned to the position shown in full lines, Fig. 1, and is depressed by the spring when the frame is turned to the position shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1.

To the end of the standard B is pivoted a lever, F, carrying a double-ended block, G, so arranged as to be brought above the standard B when the lever is turned to either position shown in Fig. 1.

One end, *x*, of the block G is flat. The other end, *y*, is provided with lips *n n*, adapted to bear on the head of the cartridge on opposite sides of the central recess, *s*.

When the frame C is turned to the position shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, the stem D is thrown down, so that the pin *c* is below the end of the standard *b*, and cannot interfere with the capping of the cartridge, which is effected by pressing the cap *i* into the recess *s* by bearing upon the cap with the end *x* of the block G, as shown in dotted lines.

When the frame is turned to the position shown in full lines, Fig. 1, the stem D will be elevated by the incline E, and when the cartridge is passed through the opening *a* the projecting pin *c* will strike the inside of the cap. On turning the lever F to the position shown the lips *n* of the block G will be brought to bear upon the head of the cartridge, and the latter will be forced downward, while the cap retains its position and is detached.

By merely swinging round the frame the cartridge is brought to a position in which a new cap may be applied by means of the lever F, while the discharge-pin *c* is withdrawn, so as to avoid all danger of exploding the cap.

It will be apparent that a threaded stem, D, having a pinion on its end and revolved on turning a frame, C, by contact with a curved rack on the plate A, may be substituted for the spring-stem, and that the standard *b* may be used without that portion of the frame containing the opening *a*. Without therefore confining myself to the precise construction shown,

I claim—

1. The combination of the base A, vertical standard B, frame C, swinging on said standard, and provided with a standard, *b*, carrying a stem, D, terminating in a discharge-pin, *c*, devices for elevating and depressing the stem as the frame is turned, and reversible lever F, carrying a block, G, plain at one end and with lips at the other, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the frame C, its standard and sliding stem *d*, and the base A, provided with an inclined bearing for the stem D, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of the frame C, turning on a vertical standard, and its devices for retaining and decapping the cartridge, and the reversible lever F, carrying a block, G, adapted to operate on the cap and cartridge at its opposite ends, substantially as set forth.

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

ALBERT D. LAWS.

Witnesses:

FRANK B. TAYLOR,

ALFRED B. BEERS.