C. C. DICKEY.

Charger for Powder Flasks.

No. 52,147. Patented Jan. 23, 1866.

Fig. 1.

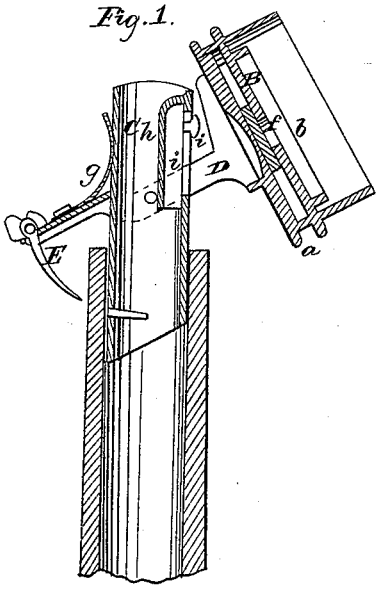


Fig. 2

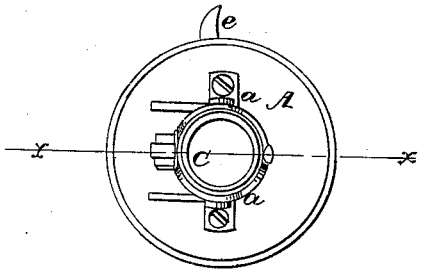
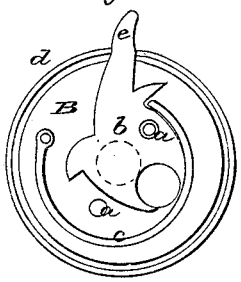


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLEMENT C. DICKEY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN POWDER-FLASK CHARGERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 52,147, dated January 23, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLEMENT C. DICKEY, Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Charger for Powder-Flasks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a central section of the charger, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 21, showing the same when discharging the powder into the muzzle of a gun. Fig. 2 is a plan or top view of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the device for cutting off the flow of powder from the flask.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention consists in mounting the charger on trunnions which work in a suitable support arranged on the top plate or cap of the flask, so that the same will turn freely in such manner as to permit the insertion of its end in the muzzle of the gun, and at the same time, in order to discharge its contents therein, make it necessary to turn the flask in a horizontal position, and thus bring the hand away from over the muzzle of the gun.

To enable others to understand my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents the top plate of the flask, which is secured to an inner plate, B, by screws *a a* passing through them, as shown in Fig. 3. A space is left between the two plates sufficient to admit of there being placed between them the feed cut-off *b*. This cut-off is of a peculiar shape, as will be seen by reference to Fig. 3. It is secured in place by one of the screws *a*, which hold the plates A and B together, and a bent spring, *c*, is employed for closing the same after it has been opened to let the powder run into the charger. The form of this cut-off is such that it will effectively close the hole in the plate B, and it operates in a manner that will prevent that grating of the powder which is usual with the flasks now in the market.

C is the charger, which is mounted on trunnions working in a support, D, which is secured to the plate A near its center, so that it will be directly over the holes *f f* in the plates A and B. A spring, *g*, is provided, which is secured to the support D in such manner as to press against the charger and cause it to assume a vertical position after it has been withdrawn from the muzzle of the gun. On the end of the support D the partition-plate E is arranged, which closes the area across the charger near the end thereof.

Inside the charger, near the lower end thereof, I arrange the charge-regulating device. It consists of a tube, *h*, to be secured to the inside of the charger, in which there is arranged to slide a piece, *i*, it being operated by a pin, *j*, which extends through a slot in the side of charger. By shoving in or out this piece *i* the charge is regulated in a proportion just equal to the room taken up by this piece *i* when slid out. By arranging the charger in this way I effectually remove the danger of injuring the hand resulting from a premature discharge of the gun or explosion of the flask when loading the gun. The hand and the flask, it will be observed, are not over the muzzle of the gun when the powder is being placed therein, and they can never be in that position through inadvertence, for, though the flask may be held over the muzzle of the gun, the powder will not run out of the charger till the flask is turned down to withdraw the partition-plate from across the charger. The regulating device is simple and efficient, and the whole charger works easily and with accuracy.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of the nozzle C, connected by the trunnions to supports D, the valves E and *b*, and spring *g*, all arranged and constructed to operate as and for the purposes described.

CLEMENT C. DICKEY.

Witnesses:

DAVID BEISLER,

A. B. GARDNER.