

M. C. HEPTINSTALL.

Burglar Alarm.

No. 53,144.

Patented March 13, 1866.

Fig. 1

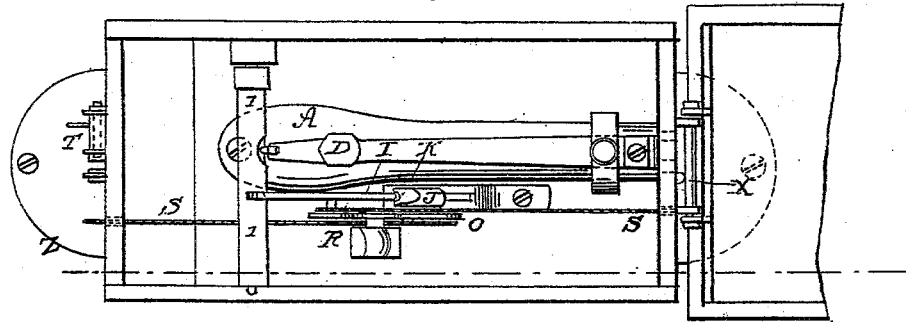


Fig. 2

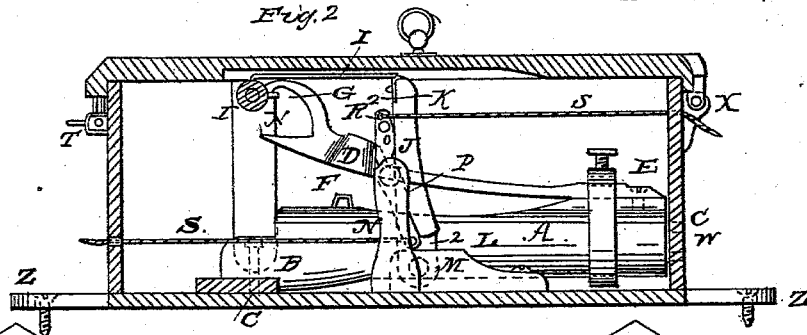
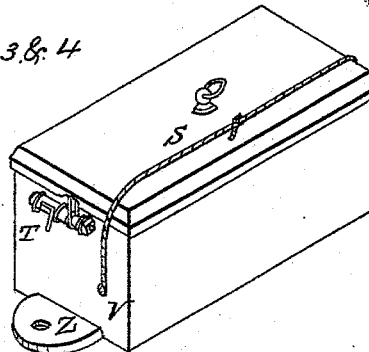
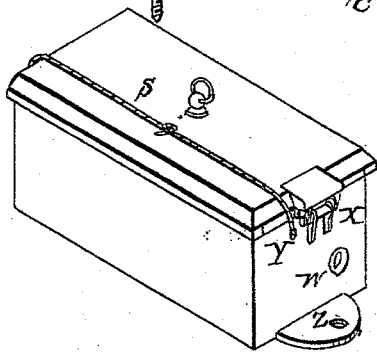


Fig. 3 & 4



Witnesses

L. Luchy  
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Matthew C. Heptinstall  
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By his Atty  
Franklin Heigert

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

M. C. HEPTINSTALL, OF ENFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA.

## IMPROVED BURGLAR-ALARM.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 53,144, dated March 13, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MATTHEW C. HEPTINSTALL, of Enfield, in the county of Halifax, State of North Carolina, have invented new and useful Improvements in Burglar-Alarms for the Protection of Life and Property; and I do hereby declare the following to be an exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the arrangement and combination of the gun with its spring-hammer and the devices for operating the hammer, all inclosed in an iron box to be protected from the weather, for the purpose of having the gun in readiness at the inside of a door or window, to prevent burglars or assassins from entering the house, or to be placed in a safe to protect the safe from being robbed—in short, to be placed in any position to protect life and property.

Figure 1 represents a top view; Fig. 2, a sectional view. Figs. 3 and 4 are perspective views of the outside of the box containing the fire-arms and the devices for firing the gun.

A is a cast-iron or brass barrel seven inches long and one and a half inch in diameter, with a bore sufficiently large to carry a half-ounce ball, to be effective at a distance of two hundred yards, if properly aimed and elevated. It is confined to the bottom of the box at B by means a screw, and passes through the box at C, which holds the gun and muzzle stationary.

D is the mainspring or hammer, that is of sufficient strength to burst a musket percussion-cap. It is confined and fastened to the barrel A, near the muzzle, by means of a screw, as shown at E, and falls with sufficient force on the tube at F to produce explosion of the cap.

The extreme end G is hook-shaped, with a rounded point that rests on H, that is a small projection from roller 1, when set for opera-

tion, and is kept in that position by rod I, that is placed on the movable standard J at K, which standard is perpendicular when rod I is resting on it. Roller 1 is made stationary by means of journals entering each side of the box.

L is the block or foundation, in which standard J is confined by means of a screw at M, and can be regulated to work hard or easy by tightening or loosening said screw.

N is a standard, to which the lever O is confined by a screw at P. Q Q are the loop-holes in which to fasten the thread or wire in lever O.

R is the pin attached to lever O, which removes standard J when the thread or wire S is pulled, and causes the rod I to fall, throwing the mainspring off the point, and the gun fires. S S are the threads or wires confined to lever O, passing through each end of the box.

Figs. 3 and 4 are side views of the box containing the fire-arms inclosed, showing the fastening for the top at T and the hole for thread or wire at V, also the port-hole at W and the hinge of the lid at X, with the string or wire hole at Y.

Z is an extension of the bottom of the box, through which a screw is to be passed to confine the box, wherever desired, inside of a door or window, or any place to protect property. There is also a ring or handle at top for carrying the box. The box also preserves the devices from injury by the weather and secures them safely from intrusion.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The arrangement and construction of a gun with a mainspring, D, rod I, movable standard J, standard N, and lever O, when arranged, combined, operated, and fired from the inside of the box, as herein described, and for the purposes set forth.

M. C. HEPTINSTALL.

Witnesses:

J. FRANKLIN REIGART,  
JOHN S. HOLLINGSHEAD.