No. 759,062. PATENTED MAY 3, 1904.

L. M. BECKES.

DEVICE FOR DISTRIBUTING NOXIOUS FUMES.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 26, 1903.

NO MODEL.

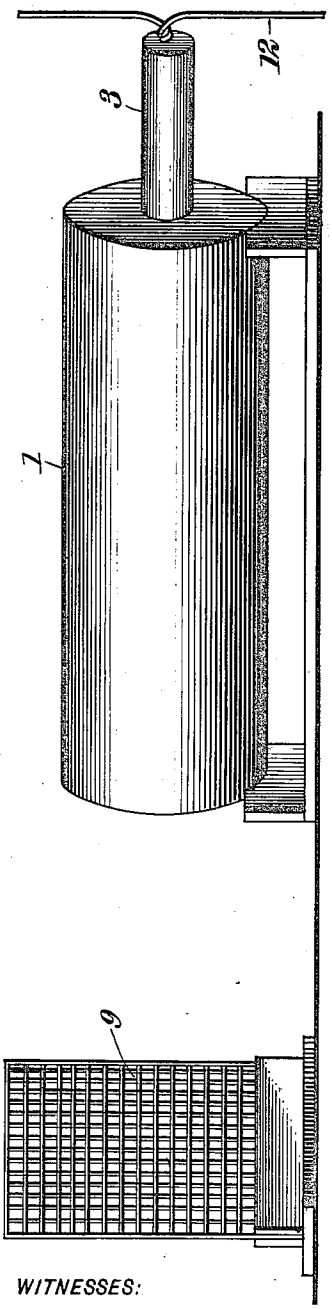


Fig. 1.

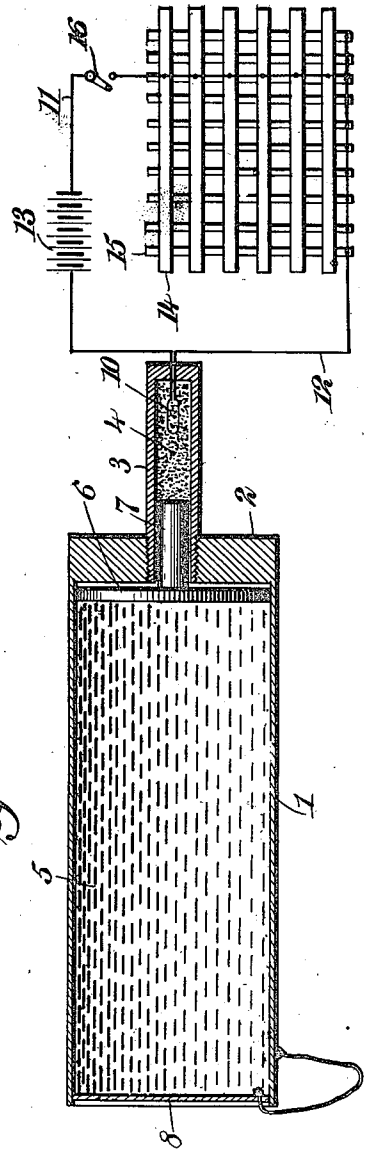


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

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No. 759,062. Patented May 3, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LYMAN MARSHALL BECKES, OF VINCENNES, INDIANA.

DEVICE FOR DISTRIBUTING NOXIOUS FUMES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 759,062, dated May 3, 1904.

Application filed June 26, 1903. Serial No. 163,232. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LYMAN MARSHALL BECKES, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Vincennes, in the county of Knox and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Device for Distributing Noxious Fumes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for distributing noxious fumes in a room or building as a protection against burglary, an object being to provide a holder for a noxious material or agent and a distributing explosive in connection with an electric circuit arranged to be closed by a person entering a room or in the act of gaining entrance and whereby the rising fumes from the material will overcome a burglar or render it impossible for him to operate or carry on his unlawful designs.

I will describe a device for distributing noxious fumes embodying my invention and then point out the novel features in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device for distributing noxious fumes embodying my invention, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof.

The holder consists of a cylinder 1 of suitable material—such, for instance, as steel—and of a suitable thickness, and extended from the thickened breech portion 2 of the holder is a container 3 for an explosive material—such, for instance, as gunpowder 4. Arranged in the holder is the noxious material 5, preferably consisting of formaldehyde, as it is well known that the fumes of this material will quickly overcome or prostrate any one inhaling the same. Arranged between the formaldehyde and the breech 2 of the holder is a disk 6 of a suitable light material—such, for instance, as cork—and the inner end of the holder or container 3 is tightly closed by means of a cork 7, which may, if desired, be attached to the disk 6. The opposite or discharge end of the holder or cylinder 1 is normally closed by a cork 8. This cork 8 will be sufficiently tight to prevent any fumes from passing out; but it will be forced out as the material in the holder is forced out by the discharging powder.

The device is designed to be placed at any suitable place about a room and to cause a comparatively large distribution of the discharge material a perforated screen 9 of a suitable metal may be placed a short distance forward of the device. Extended into the holder 3 for the explosive is a heating or discharging wire 10, having connection with a suitable electric circuit. I have here shown the igniting-wire 10 as connected to main wires 11 12, in the circuit of which is an electric battery 13. While I do not confine my invention to any particular method or means for closing the electric circuit, I have here shown substantially the usual devices placed underneath a carpet or rug, so that when a person steps upon the same the circuit will be closed. This closing device consists of a plurality of metallic strips 14, which may be attached to the under side of the carpet, and underneath these strips 14 are metallic strips 15, which may be connected to the floor or to other material underneath the carpet. The several strips are held normally out of contact by any suitable means, and of course the main wires 11 12 will be normally out of contact. The strips 14 are connected to the wire 11, while the strips 15 are electrically connected to the wire 12.

In the operation, as before stated, the device is to be placed at any convenient spot in a room, and when the electric circuit is closed through a suitable switch, as indicated at 16, and through the contact of parts 14 and 15 the loop end will become heated, igniting the powder, which will force the cork 7 and disk 6 outward, and consequently discharge the material 5. This material by striking against the perforated screen 9 will be considerably diffused, and the rising fumes will render it absolutely impossible for a burglar to remain in the room and live or remain conscious.

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

1. A device for the purpose described, com-

prising a metal cylinder, a noxious agent therein, an explosive-holding metal cylinder communicating with the interior of the first-named cylinder through its breech to which it is rigidly connected, means for closing the inner end of said explosive-holding cylinder and an igniting device in said explosive-holding cylinder.

2. A device for the purpose described, comprising a metal cylinder, a noxious agent therein, an explosive-holding metal cylinder communicating with the interior of the first-named cylinder through its breech to which it is rigidly connected, a stopper arranged in the inner end of the explosive-holder and an igniting device in said holder.

3. A device for the purpose specified, comprising a cylinder, formaldehyde in the cylinder, a closure for the discharge end of the cylinder and designed to be forced outward by the discharging formaldehyde, an explosive-holding cylinder extended from the breech of the first-named cylinder and communicating therewith, a disk in the first-named cylinder between the formaldehyde and the breech, a cork or stopper for the inner end of the explosive-holder, an igniting-wire arranged in the explosive-holder, and an electric circuit with which said igniter connects.

4. A device for the purpose specified, comprising a cylinder, formaldehyde in the cylinder, a closure for the discharge end of the cylinder and designed to be forced outward by the discharging formaldehyde, an explosive-holding cylinder extended from the breech of the first-named cylinder and communicating therewith, a disk in the first-named cylinder between the formaldehyde and the breech, a cork or stopper for the inner end of the explosive-holder, an igniting-wire arranged in the explosive-holder, an electric circuit with which said igniter connects, and a perforated screen for diffusing the formaldehyde.

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

LYMAN MARSHALL BECKES.

Witnesses:

GEO. R. ALSOP,

WM. BAKER.