

# On Her Majesty's Service

**WASC 842**



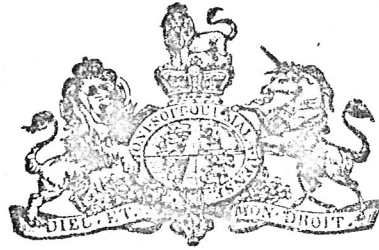
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A.D. 1810 . . . . . N° 3373.

Machine or Vessel for the Conveyance of  
Gunpowder.

WALKER'S SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I,  
JAMES WALKER, of Wapping, in the County of Middlesex, Ship  
Chandler, send greeting.

- 5 WHEREAS His most Excellent Majesty King George the Third, did by His Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, baring date at Westminster, the Seventh day of September, in the fiftieth year of His reign, give and grant unto me, the said James Walker, my eñors, adñors, and assigns,
- 10 His special licence, full power, sole privilege, and authority, that I, the said James Walker, my eñors, adñors, and assigns, during the term of years therein mentioned, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick upon Tweed, my Invention of "AN IMPROVED MACHINE OR VESSEL FOR THE
- 15 SAFE CONVEYANCE OF GUNPOWDER, AND FOR ITS PRESERVATION FROM INJURY BY DAMP," in which Letters Patent there is contained a proviso, obliging me, the said James Walker, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, to cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be

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*Walker's Machine or Vessel for the Conveyance of Gunpowder.*

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enrolled in the High Court of Chancery within two calendar months after the date of the said recited Letters Patent, as in and by the same, relation being thereunto had, may more fully and at large appear.

NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said James Walker, do hereby declare the nature of my said Invention, 5 and the manner in which the same is to be performed are particularly described and ascertained as follows, that is to say:

In the annexed Drawings, Figure 1, represents my said machine or vessel made of copper, brass, or any other fit material for the intended purpose, but I give the preference to copper, and of any dimensions 10 that may be required, the form is cylindrical, but may be varied, tho' not, in my opinion, with advantage. A, B, and C, D, represents stout hoops or strengthening pieces soldered, rivetted, or otherwise firmly connected with the vessel, so as to project beyond the extremities thereof and afford chimes which serve to defend the heads of the vessel from 15 injury and afford firm and convenient hold for removing the same. And I do further strengthen the said vessel by one or more other hoops, if required, which may be fixed and applied either within or on the outside of the same. At the top A, B, of the said vessel, of which the plan is also shewn in Figure 2, the head consists of a circular piece having a 20 large perforation, E, F; upon which stands the rim or upright circular piece L, L, of a larger diameter than the opening E, F; and upon and around the said rim L, L, a cover G, H, is applied, which may be opened by any joint of the nature of an hinge at H, but I prefer a simple stud or pin standing outward from L, and passing through an 25 hole in the rim of the cover at H; and the said cover has a piece projecting on the side G, from its lower edge, in which piece there is a slit of the nature of an hasp which goes over a staple in the head of the vessel and affords the means of closing the same by a bolt, or pin, or a copper padlock, or other usual means of completing such fastenings; 30 I, represents a thin plate of copper, or lead, or zinck, or other flexible metallic substance which fits or nearly fits the internal space within the rim L, L, and is used as a first cover by placing it upon the projecting part E, F, and securing the joint, if thought fit, by the application of putty, or some proper luting or cement, in the angle near the circum- 25



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ference thereof; and I do put upon the said piece I, a round piece of leather, flannel, or other like material sufficiently large to extend beyond the rims L, L, and I do press into the space K, upon the leather, flannel, or other like material a round flat piece of wood, or an hoop or ring of  
5 copper; brass, or other proper material which fits that space so nearly as to require a moderate pressure to send them home; after which the cover G, H, is to be put on, and the whole will be perfectly secure. And farther that, when it shall at any time be required to open the said vessel the same may be effected without any difficulty or the use of any  
10 appropriate tools, namely, by first taking off the cover G, H, and in the next place, raising the wooden cover by pulling at one side of the leather, flannel, or other like material, or by any other obvious means, and, lastly, by giving a stroke with a mallet or otherwise upon the metallic plate K, when the putty or cement joint will give way, and the  
15 plate may be pulled up. And, lastly, I do declare that, among the numerous advantages with regard to economy, safety, and the facility of use in this my said Invention, it is singularly worthy of notice that gunpowder either in cartridges or loose quill tubes and priming cartridges may at once be packed in vessels constructed as herein-before  
20 described, and kept perfectly dry and in their original state for any length of time without ever requiring to be sent on shore to be dried or taken out of the vessels till wanted for use; that there can be no scattering nor waste; and more especially that all the danger of filling cartridges in the powder rooms of ships of war and elsewhere, particularly  
25 during the time of action, is removed by charging the said vessels at the mills, magazines, or arsenals, with cartridges ready made up and adapted to the several exigencies of the land and sea service, whether in their actual dimensions or in the quantities to be filled in each cartridge to adapt the same to artillery, when it shall have become heated; and that  
30 the quantity of gunpowder and the numerous tools, implements, hides, and other materials which will be saved by the use of my said Invention, and the diminished expenditure of the cartridges which will not be exposed to rot nor to the necessity of being changed or shifted, do form an amount of saving which is immense; and that I do not in this  
35 present Specification enter into any further detail of the said advantages



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because the same cannot but become manifest in the use and application of the said machine or vessel.

In witness whereof, I, the said James Walker, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and ten. 5

JAMES WALKER. (L.S.)

SMITH. AND BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the Sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord 1810, the aforesaid James Walker came before our said Lord the King, in His Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and everything therein contained and specified in form above written; and also the Specification aforesaid was stamped according to the tenor of the Statute made for that purpose. 10

Inrolled the Sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and ten.

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LONDON :

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1854.



powder.

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hereunto set

in the year of

5

R. (L.S.)

November,

came before

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Lord One

WOODE,

A.D. 1810. SEP<sup>r</sup> 7. N<sup>o</sup> 3373.  
WALKER'S SPECIFICATION.

(1 SHEET)

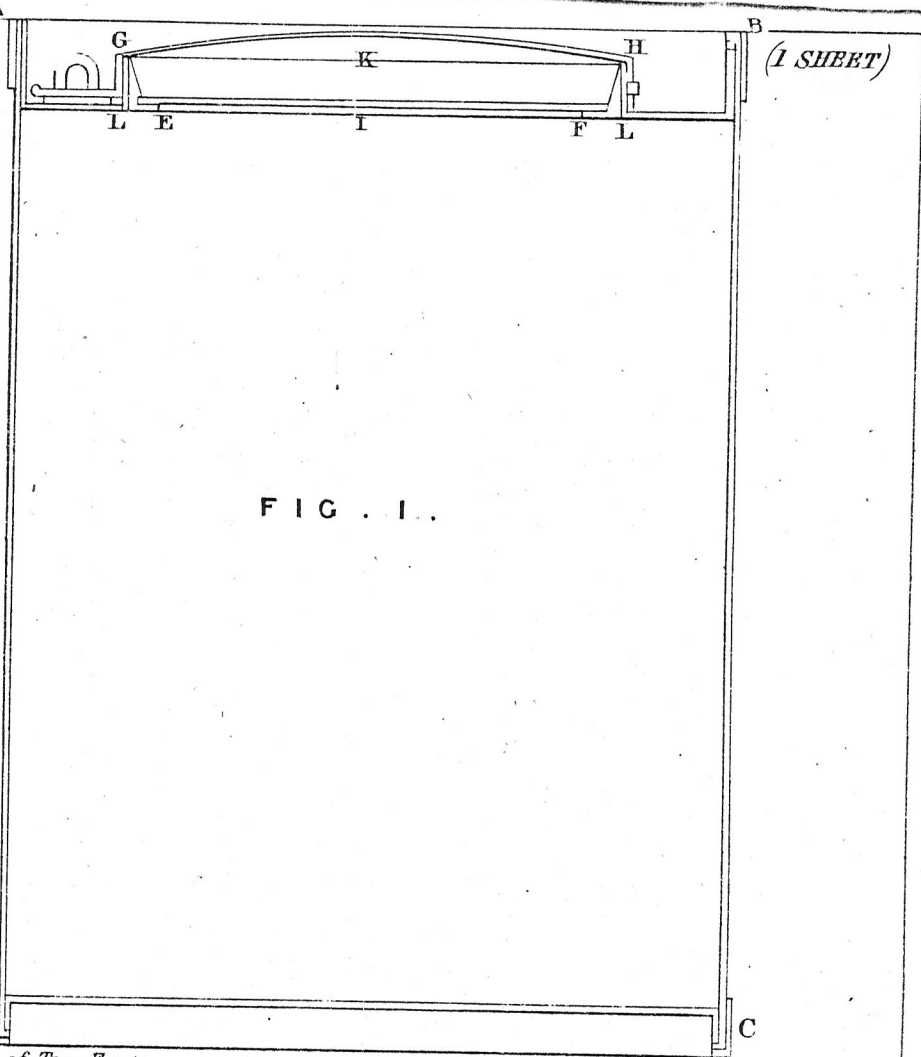
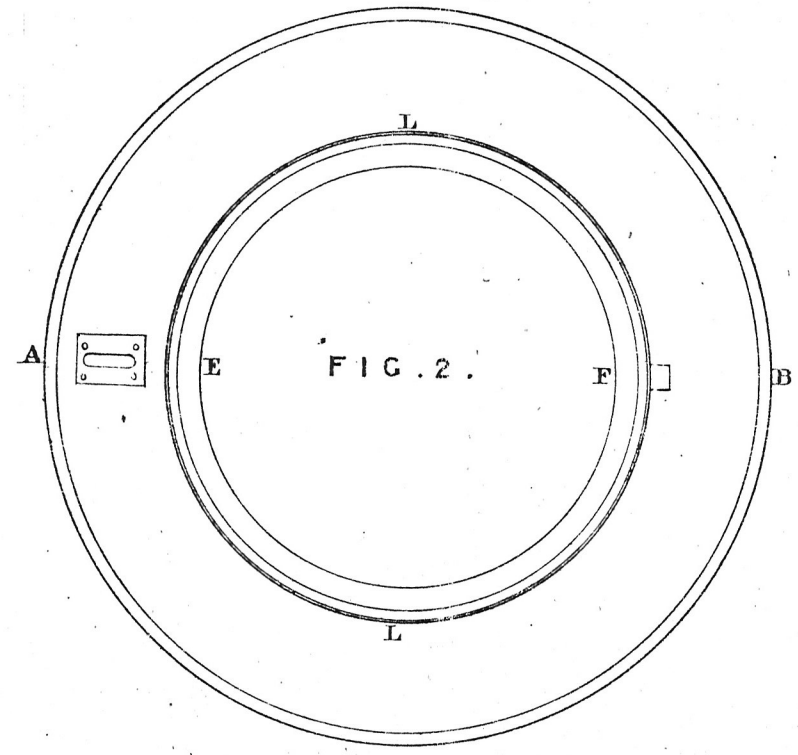
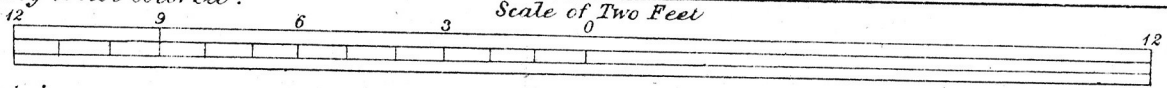


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

The Enrolled Drawing is not Colored.

Scale of Two Feet



Mulby & Sons, Litho.

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1854.