Captain Norton's Percussion Grenade for House Defence

Captain Norton

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Evening Meeting.

Monday, April 9th, 1866.

CAPTAIN E. GARDINER FISHBOURNE, R.N., C.B., in the Chair.

NAMES of MEMBERS who joined the Institution between the 19th March and the 9th April, 1866.

ANNUAL.

Brooker, G. A. C., Capt., R.N. 17.	Pryce, J., Capt. late Glamorganshire Mil.
Graham, O., Lieut. H.M. Mad. Staff Corps.	Barrington, J. T., Roy. Artillery. 17.
17.	

The CHAIRMAN: Captain Norton, who I suppose was almost the first person, at least if not the first, one of the earliest persons to draw attention to the subject of rifles and the use of rifled shot, has sent for the Museum and exhibition, a percussion hand grenade for house defence. He shows his great ingenuity in all such matters. He had the misfortune to be born some fifty years before his time. Had it not been so he would have been a very great man.

CAPTAIN NORTON'S PERCUSSION GRENADE FOR HOUSE DEFENCE.

(Dedicated, by permission, to General Sir Hugh Rose, G.C.B., Commander of the Forces in Ireland.)

The fuze grenade is not good for house defence, because when the fuze is lighted the grenade must be thrown, or got rid of, as it would

otherwise burst in the hand and destroy the person. My percussion grenade has no fuze to be lighted, and can be thrown at any time. A daring assailant could pick up the fuze grenade and throw it back; my grenade could not be thrown back with effect. The grenade can be made to fire with a percussion cap if so required. In using revolvers for house defence, the person is necessarily exposed to the fire of the assailants, but in using percussion grenades, the person need not be exposed, as the grenade may be allowed to slide through a temporary spout downwards and outwards.

1. Leaden bolt for pulverizing glass tube.
2. Hole for inserting glass tube holder.

of falling on the ground explodes the grenade.

Annexed is a drawing of the winged tube containing the glass tube igniter, and which is screwed into the iron grenade.*

Directions for Use.

When the grenade is about to be used, the winged tube is held slanting downwards so that the leaden bolt within it slides back and leaves the touch-hole open for the insertion of the glass tube igniter; then holding the winged tube perpendicular, the leaden bolt rests upon the glass tube igniter, and on the grenade being thrown out of a window, the shock pulverizes the glass tube and fires and

ON PROJECTILES.

By MICHAEL SCOTT, Esq., C.E.

With the permission of the meeting the author proposes on the present occasion to confine his observations mainly to a class of projectiles which may be said to occupy an intermediate place between spherical shot and elongated rifle bolts.

In the year 1862 the writer published a pamphlet† in which he explained a principle whereby the want of homogeneity in elongated projectiles might be obviated, and in which he stated that the centre of gravity being corrected, and the projectile made symmetrical, it would not deviate from the true line of flight, even although not rotating upon its axis.

* They can be obtained at Mr. Calderwood's, Gunmaker, Sackville Street, Dublin.

† On Projectiles and Guns. By Michael Scott, C.E. Clowes and Son, Charing Cross.