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The ones weighing about 27 lb. are ix inches long and the mouth is 6 in diameter. At their breech, they are 6 <ms>lines</ms> thick, &amp; 3 for the mouth. The ones weighing 17 lb are 8 <ms>inches</ms> long &amp; the mouth is five. They are all covered together, all the forks, &amp; pegs, &amp; tools which one uses, with a big canvas or big cloth so that they do not make any noise. It is good that they sit loaded for a while. After the <m>powder</m> has been put in, it is tamped down quite strongly and then pressed <m>paper</m> is put in, then a cake of <m>wax</m> well tamped-down &amp; on the <m>wax</m>, another small plate of <m>cork</m> that that goes in only just, &amp; with force. In this way, the <m>powder</m> remains well sealed &amp; gives much greater force, &amp; if you wish, you can put on the small plate of <m>cork</m> one of wood pierced in the middle, if the petard is pierced at the breech, which one holds to be the easiest &amp; which makes a greater breach because it cannot recoil. And for those that have a pierced breech, one must have a good gimlet to first make the hole in order that the peg, which is made with a gimlet-like point, may attach the petard faster &amp; without noise. And for these, one must cover the button, which is quite sharply filed, with <m>waxed canvas</m>, or add <m>wax</m> to it so that it completely plugs the hole in the breech. But because the doors are sometimes iron-clad &amp; the iron pegs cannot pierce it, an iron fork made like pincers &amp; another iron rod made with three claws at the end, like you see portrayed, are use. And in this way, the petard stays in place well &amp; is quickly set. The iron pegs must pass the petard with the entire point which is made like a gimlet, namely by three or 4 fingers, which goes entirely into the door. When the petards are placed, the touch-hole is filled with good <m><fr>pulverin</fr></m> and inserted in it is a <m>feather quill</m> filled with <m>powder</m>, tightly pressed &amp; moistened with <m>vinegar</m>, or, if needed, the powder is firmly pressed with the palms of the hands &amp; having wetted it with some <m>saliva</m>, one shapes it like a cocoon or</ab>

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