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Those of 27 lb or thereabouts are ix <ms>pousses</ms> long &amp; 6 in diameter at the muzzle. At the breech, they are 6 <ms>lines</ms> thick, &amp; 3 at the muzzle. The ones weighing 17 lb are 8 <ms>pousses</ms> long &amp; five at the muzzle. One covers them all together, all the forks &amp; pegs &amp; tools which one uses, with a big canvas or big cloth in order that they do not make any noise. It is good that they should sit loaded for some time. After one has put the <m>powder</m> in, one tamps it down quite thoroughly, and then one puts in pressed <m>paper</m>, then a cake of <m>wax</m> well tamped down, &amp; on the <m>wax</m> another plate of <m>cork</m> that that goes in quite precisely &amp; with force. In this way, the <m>powder</m> remains well sealed &amp; gives much greater violence, &amp; if you wish, you can put on the 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 for greater penetration 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 <del>in</del> with a gimlet-like point, may attach the petard faster &amp; without noise. And <del>to</del> for these, one must cover the button, which is quite evenly filed, <del><fr>p</fr></del>with <m>waxed canvas</m>, or add <m>wax</m> to it in order that it precisely plugs the hole of the breech. But because the doors are sometimes iron-clad &amp; the iron pegs cannot pierce it, one uses an iron fork made like pincers &amp; another iron rod <del><fr>q</fr></del> made with three claws at the end, as you see depicted. And in this way, the petard holds itself well &amp; is quickly placed. The iron pegs must extend from the petard with the entire point that is made like a gimlet, namely by three or 4 fingers, which goes entirely into the door. When the petards are placed, one fills the touch-hole with good <m><fr>pulverin</fr></m><comment>c\_167v\_01</comment> and <del><fr>s</fr></del> one puts in it a <m>feather quill</m> filled with <m>powder</m> tightly pressed &amp; moistened with <m>vinegar</m>, or, if needed, one presses the powder in the hollow of the hand &amp; having wetted it with <m>saliva</m>, one makes from it something like a cocoon or</ab>

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