

Fig. 1.

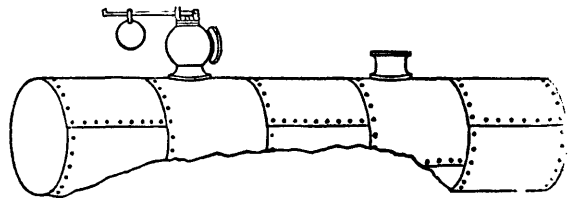


Fig. 2.

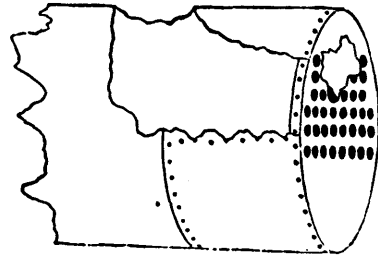


Fig. 3.

FIG. 3.

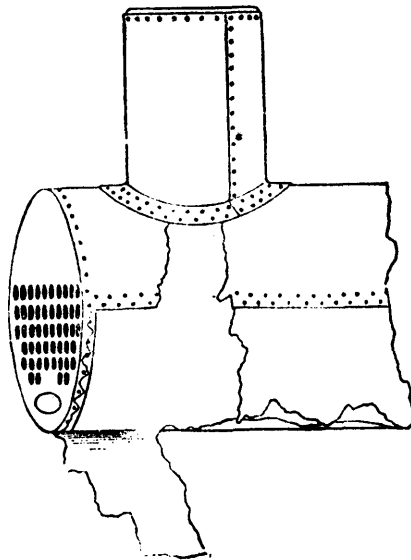
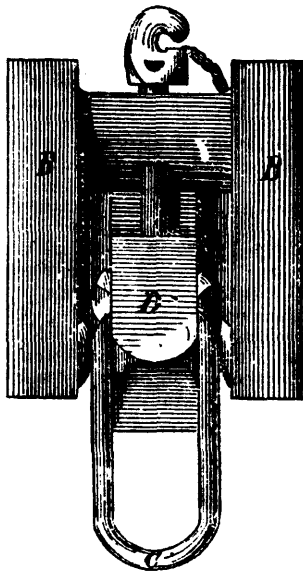


Fig. 4.

DANGEROUS METHOD OF CONNECTING STEAMBOILERS.

The Hartford Steam-Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co., of Hartford, Conn., in their official report, note a very dangerous method of setting and connecting boilers where two boilers are provided with only one safety valve, and yet each boiler is provided with a "stop-valve," that is, valves so situated that either boiler can be shut off when not in use. The danger here is that when the idle boiler is put into use the attendant will forget or neglect to open the stop-valve, and, there being no outlet to the one safety-valve, the pressure increases until the surrounding metal is unable to resist the internal pressure and an explosion occurs. Boilers should in no case be set in this way unless each boiler is provided with its own safety-valve located on the shell of the boiler. We have known of several very serious accidents arising from this style of fitting. A case occurred during the past year. The owners of the boilers were substantial men, and had no idea of the responsibility they incurred. Their attention was

called to the danger, and they evidently intended to give it early attention, but failed to do so, and a serious disaster followed.

Fig. 1 shows the original condition of the boilers, with steam-drum on top. It appears that for some reason one boiler had been shut off, and the steam-gauge boilers had been removed for repairs. The boiler was fired up, and a destructive explosion occurred. Fortunately no lives were lost. There are many boilers through the country set in this way, and serious accidents have occurred and will occur so long as this practice is followed.

Portions of the boiler were thrown from 300 to 700 feet. The adjoining engravings will show the manner in which the iron was torn. Fig. 2 represents the top of the drum after it was torn off from the lower portion. Fig. 3 is the rear end of the left-hand boiler; it was thrown a distance of 225 feet; while Fig. 4 shows the front end of the same boiler, which remained in its place but was badly torn up.