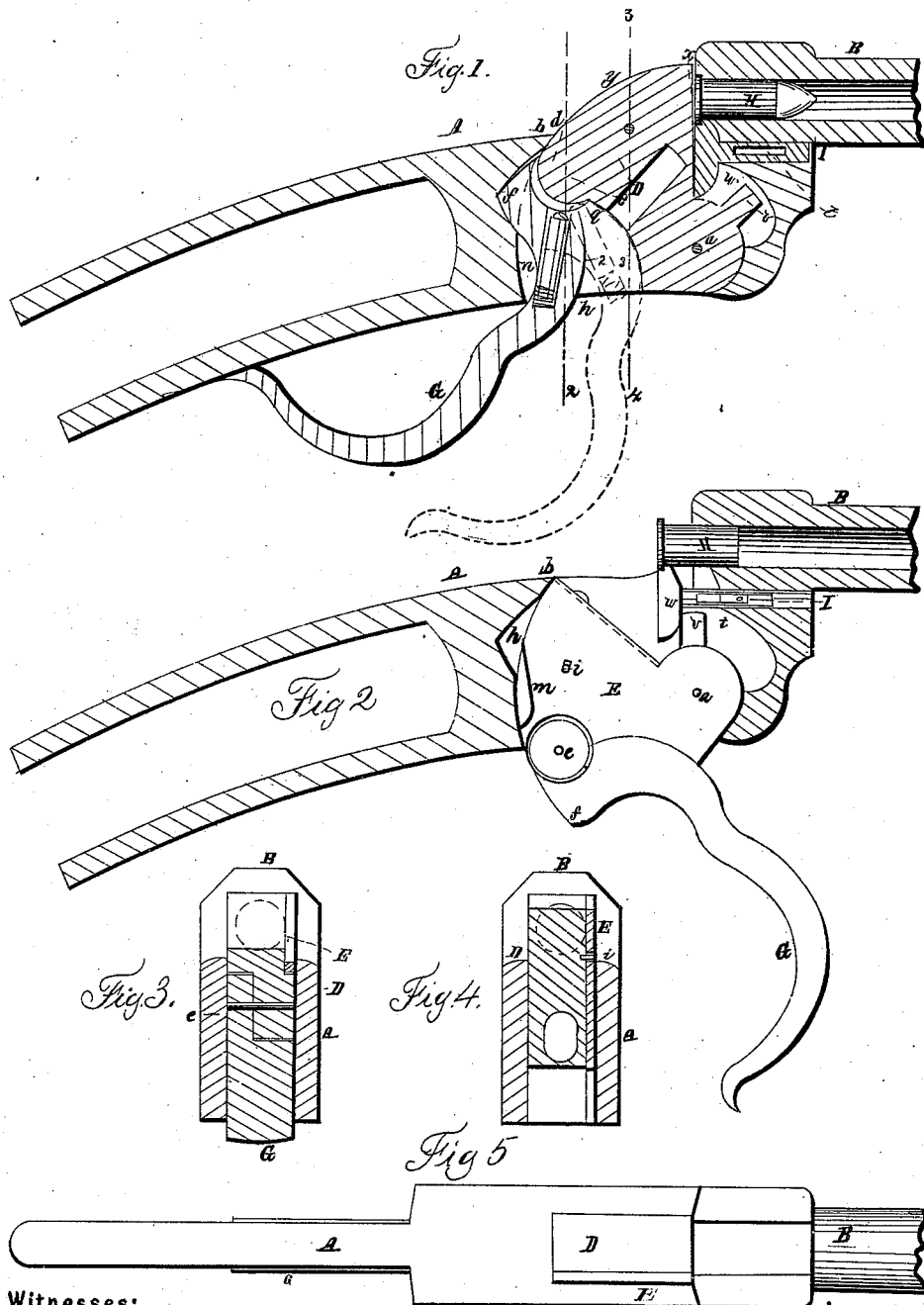


B. F. JOSLYN.
Breech-Loading Fire-Arm.

No. 48,288

Patented June 20, 1865.



Witnesses:
Wm. Albert Steel.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJN. F. JOSLYN, OF STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 48,288, dated June 20, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, B. F. JOSLYN, of Stonington, Connecticut, have invented certain Improvements in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention relates to improvements in that class of breech-loading fire-arms in which a breech-piece contained in an opening in the frame is so hinged to the latter that when the said breech-piece is elevated it closes the rear of the barrel, and when depressed it exposes the bore; and my improvements consist in a trigger-guard lever and a spring-pin or its equivalent so combined with the hinged breech-piece and arranged in respect to the frame that by the operation of the said lever the breech-piece can be unlocked, lowered, and raised and locked to the frame.

My improvements further consist in the peculiar combination of the said breech-piece with a supplementary hammer.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation.

On reference to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of sufficient of a breech-loading fire-arm to illustrate my improvements; Fig. 2, the same, showing the exterior of the supplementary hammer and trigger-guard lever; Fig. 3, a transverse section on the line 1 2, Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a transverse section on the line 3 4, Fig. 1; and Fig. 5, a plan view.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A is the frame, and B part of the barrel, of the fire-arm, an opening being cut through the frame, near the rear end of the barrel, for the reception of the breech-piece D, the supplementary hammer E, and part of the trigger-guard lever G. The breech-piece is hinged to the frame by means of the pin *a*, and is of the form represented, the straight face *x* of the said breech-piece fitting, when the latter is elevated, against the rear end of the barrel, as seen in Fig. 1, and the rounded edge *y* being in close proximity to the projection *b* of the frame. At

the rear of the breech-piece is a rounded projection, *d*, to which the curved arm or lever G is hinged by means of a pin, *e*. This lever has an angular projection, *f*, which, when the breech-piece has been elevated, fits into an angular recess, *h*, formed in the frame. (See Fig. 2.) A pin, *i*, on the breech-piece projects through a slot in the supplementary hammer E, so that although the said hammer moves with the breech-piece, it has a limited independent movement forward when struck at the point *m* by the usual hammer, in which case the supplementary hammer strikes the flange of the metallic cartridge H near the edge of the same.

In the trigger-guard lever G is an orifice for the reception of a pin, *n*, which is acted on by a spring, *p*, and which has a rounded end arranged to fit into a recess, *q*, in the rounded projection *d* of the breech-piece.

In an opening in the frame beneath the barrel a rod, I, is arranged to slide longitudinally, the rod having an elongated slot, through which, as well as through the frame, passes a pin, which serves the double purpose of limiting the movement of the rod and preventing it from turning. The said rod is provided with a head, *w*, the upper end of which is notched to receive a portion of the flange of the metallic cartridge *h*, the lower end being acted on by a projection on the breech-piece, under the circumstances described hereinafter.

As the hammer, lock, and trigger used in connection with the above-described devices are of the usual construction, it has not been deemed necessary to illustrate and describe them. It may be remarked, however, that the trigger is so situated that the lever G, when elevated, will act as its guard.

As seen in Fig. 1, the breech-piece is firmly locked to the rear of the barrel by the angular projection *f* of the lever G, and the fire-arm is in a condition to be discharged, which is effected by the release of the ordinary hammer, the latter striking the point *m* of the supplementary hammer E, and causing the same to strike the flange of the metallic cartridge. When the fire-arm has to be reloaded the lever G is depressed and moved forward. When it has reached the position shown by red lines, Fig. 1, the angular projection *f* has been withdrawn from the recess *h* of the frame, the

rounded portion 2 of the lever is in contact and coincides with the concave portion 3 of the breech-piece, which has hitherto remained stationary, but which is now unlocked, and the rounded end of the pin *n* has taken its place in the recess *q* of the breech-piece. On the lever *G* being pushed forward from the position shown by red lines, Fig. 1, to that seen in Fig. 2, the breech-piece and supplementary hammer will be turned on the pin *a* and assume the position shown in Fig. 2. In the meantime the projection *v* of the breech-piece has been brought into contact with the head *w* of the rod *I*, thereby moving out the latter and withdrawing the case of the metallic cartridge so far from the bore of the barrel that it can be readily extracted by the finger and thumb. After the insertion of a new cartridge the lever *G* is moved back and raised to the position shown in Fig. 1, carrying with it the breech-piece and supplementary hammer, for the reason that the end of the pin *n* fits into the recess *q* of the breech-piece. Before this backward and upward movement of the lever *G* has been completed the breech-piece has been moved in contact with the rear of the barrel and has pushed the rod *I* and its head *w* back to the position shown in Fig. 1, so that on completing the upward movement of the lever it will turn on the pin *e*, the rounded end of the

pin *n* will escape from the recess *q*, and the angular projection *f* of the lever will enter the angular recess *h* of the frame, thereby locking the breech-piece preparatory to the discharge of the cartridge.

It will now be seen, without further description, that by the above-described simple operation of the trigger-guard lever *G* the breech-piece can be moved away from the rear of the barrel, the spent-cartridge case partly extracted, and the breech-piece moved forward to the rear of the barrel and locked to the frame.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The lever *G* and the spring-pin *n*, or its equivalent, in combination with the breech-piece *D* and its recess *q*, the whole being arranged and operating substantially as herein set forth.

2. The supplementary hammer *E*, combined and arranged to move with the breech-piece *D* and to operate on the cartridge, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

B. F. JOSLYN.

Witnesses:

N. B. PALMER, 2d,
WM. J. H. POLLARD.