(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

P. A. ALTMAIER.

LOCK FOR FIRE ARMS.

No. 261,802. Patented July 25, 1882.

Fig. 1.

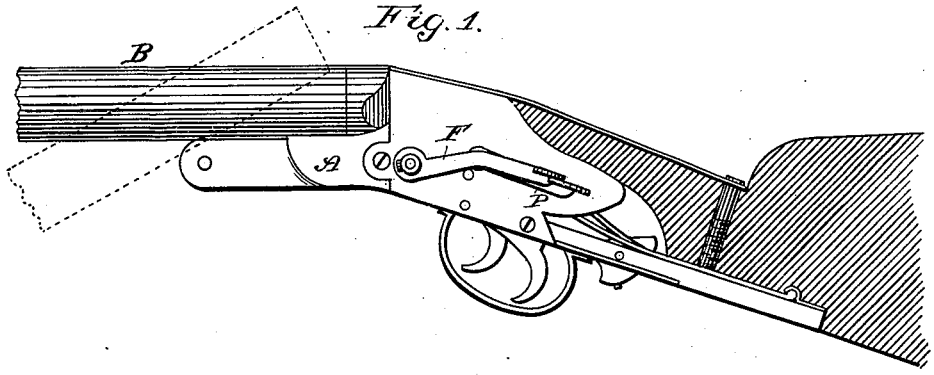


Fig. 2.

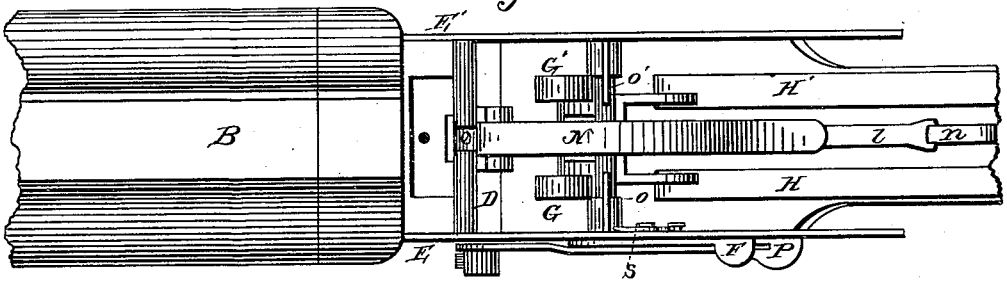
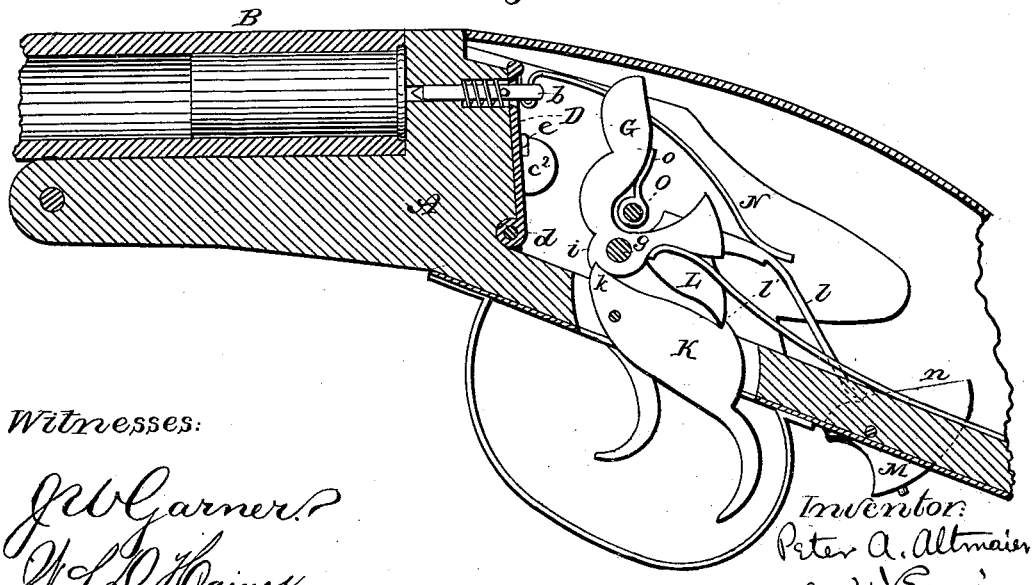


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

J. W. Garner

W. S. D. Haines

Inventor:

Peter A. Altmaier

By H. F. Ennis

his Atty.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 4.

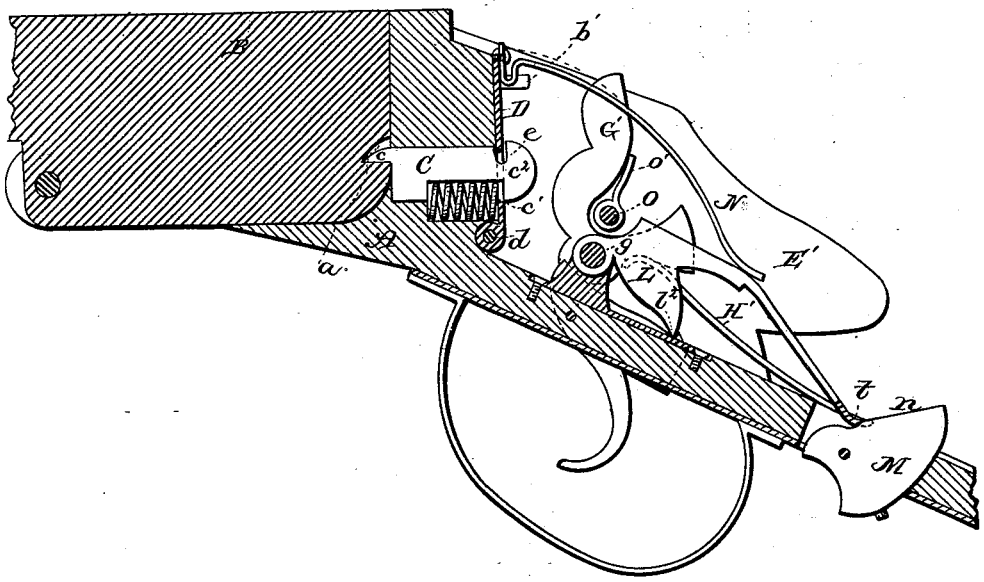
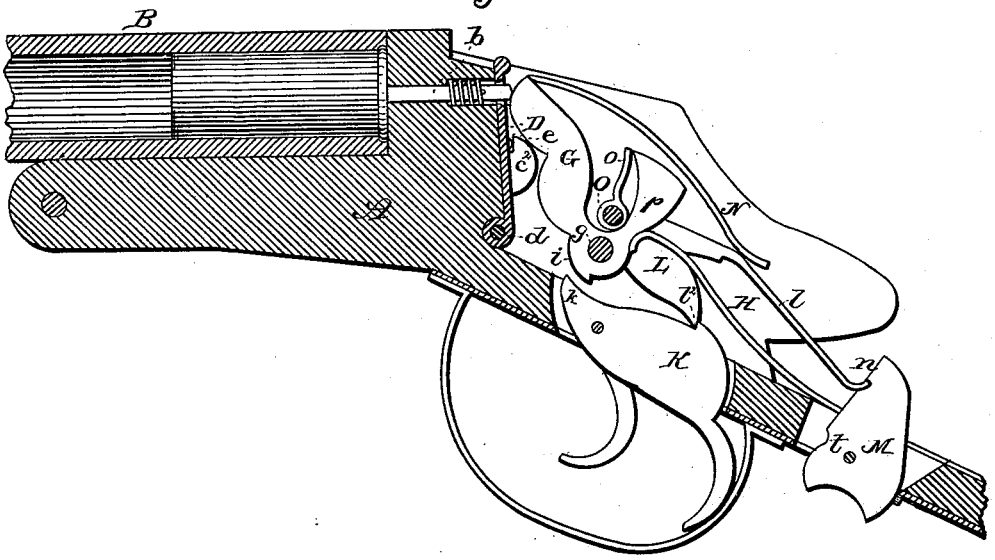


Fig. 5.



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Inventor:

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his Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER A. ALTMAIER, OF HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

LOCK FOR FIRE-ARMS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 261,802, dated July 25, 1882.

Application filed May 10, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER A. ALTMAIER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Arms, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention has relation to breech-loading fire-arms; and its object is to provide a gun that cannot be discharged through carelessness or accident, but which, under proper conditions, may be readily fired; and to that end the novelty consists in the construction of the same, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings similar letters of reference indicate like parts of the invention.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved gun; Fig. 2, a top plan view with the top plate removed; Fig. 3, a longitudinal section through one of the barrels and the lock, showing the parts in cocked position; Fig. 4, a similar view through the center of the gun and lock. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the parts after firing.

A is the stock, to which are hinged the barrels B.

C is the locking-bolt, located in the stock A, so that its beveled end *c* engages in the recess *a* in the barrels B. This bolt C is forced forward by the spring *c'*, so as to normally hold the beveled end *c* into the recess *a*.

A plate, D, is hinged to the shaft *d*, which extends through the side plate E, where it is provided with a thumb-lever, F, so that a downward pressure on the lever F will withdraw the plate D backward. Through the center of this plate D the head c^2 of the bolt C extends, and a portion of the rim of the hole in the plate enters the notch *e* in the bolt C, so that when the plate is withdrawn the bolt C is also withdrawn, which allows the breech to be opened for loading and unloading.

The central firing-pins, *b b'*, are of ordinary construction, their rear or hammer ends passing through orifices in the plate D, so that they may be properly acted upon, in the act of firing, by the hammers.

G G' are the hammers, both mounted on the shaft *g*, secured between the side plates, E E', so as to play backward and forward, the hammer G being operated by the mainspring H and the hammer G' by its mainspring H'. The lower part of the hammer has a detent, *i*, into which the front end, *k*, of the trigger K enters, so as to hold the hammer cocked.

A dog, L, is mounted on the shaft *g*, between the hammers G G', and its arm *l* extends rearward to the base of the safety-trigger M, while its lower part projects down so as to form a tooth, *l'*, which engages in a detent, *m*, in the trigger K. A spring, N, one end of which is secured to the plate D, extends back so as to press upon the arm *l*, and at the same time serves to force the plate D forward in its normal position. This spring N in pressing upon the arm *l* forces the tooth *l'* into the detent *m*. In this position the trigger K is securely locked, and it is impossible to operate the hammer G so as to fire the gun until the trigger K itself is unlocked. To do this the safety-trigger M is pressed back. This motion causes the arm *l* to ride upon the incline *n*. In this position the tooth *l'* is withdrawn from the detent *m*, thus unlocking the trigger K. Then it may be pulled, the hammer, released, striking the pin *b* and exploding the cartridge. Upon releasing the pressure on the safety-trigger M the spring N restores it to its normal position by pressing the arm *l* down, and at the same time the tooth *l'* is forced into the detent *m*, thus locking the trigger K and preventing its operation till released by the safety-trigger M. This dog L is provided with two teeth, *l'* and l^2, the latter operating, in a similar manner to that just described, with the trigger K' of the hammer G'.

A shaft, O, secured between the side plates, E E', extends through the plate E, and is provided with a thumb-lever, P, located alongside of and partially under the locking-bolt lever F, so that in operating the lever F the lever P is also operated; but the lever P may be operated without affecting the lever F.

To the shaft O are secured two dogs, *o o'*, so arranged as to operate on the rear parts, *p p'*, of the hammers G G', whereby a downward pressure on the lever P will force the hammers back, or cock them in a position for firing.

When the lever P has been pressed down to cock the hammers a small spring, *s*, secured to the inner side of the plate E, returns it to its normal position.

It will also be seen that by pressing down the lever F to withdraw the bolt C the plate D, in moving backward, forces the hammers back, so as to cock them. Therefore the lever P performs the double function of unlocking the barrels and cocking the gun; and when the said lever is operated the spring N is forced back and down upon the arm *l*, so as to press its end into a notch, *t*, in the safety-trigger M. This locks both the hammers and the triggers at the same time, and it is impossible to fire the gun, intentionally or otherwise, as long as the arm *l* is pressed tightly into the notch *t*. Of course when the lever F is released the plate D and spring N resume their normal positions, and either or both barrels may be discharged by first pressing the safety-trigger, and then pulling one or both of the main triggers.

From the above description it will be seen that under ordinary circumstances the gun is absolutely safe, and all danger of accidental or premature discharge obviated. At the same time, the hammers being concealed in the stock, the appearance and facility in handling the gun are greatly improved.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a breech-loading fire-arm, the pivoted plate D, secured to and operated by the shaft of the side lever, F, the locking-bolt C, extending through said pivoted plate, so as to be withdrawn by the latter, and the hammers arranged in the rear of said plate, so as to be cocked by the same, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the hammer, the trigger, and the locking-dog L, the latter mounted on the same pivot with the hammer and provided with a point which engages with a detent in the trigger to hold the latter in engagement with the hammer, and a rearward-extending arm resting upon and operated by a secondary trigger, M, and a spring, N, to press said parts into engagement, all arranged and operating substantially as set forth.

3. In a breech-loading fire-arm, the side lever, F, its rock-shaft, the plate D, rigidly secured thereto, and locking-bolt C, in combination with the lever P, and its shaft provided with the arm *o*, and the hammers, arranged substantially as described, whereby the hammers may be cocked independently by the lever P, or the barrels unlocked and the hammers cocked by the lever F, at the will of the operator.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

PETER A. ALTMAIER.

Witnesses:
J. C. McALARNY,
J. P. MELICK.