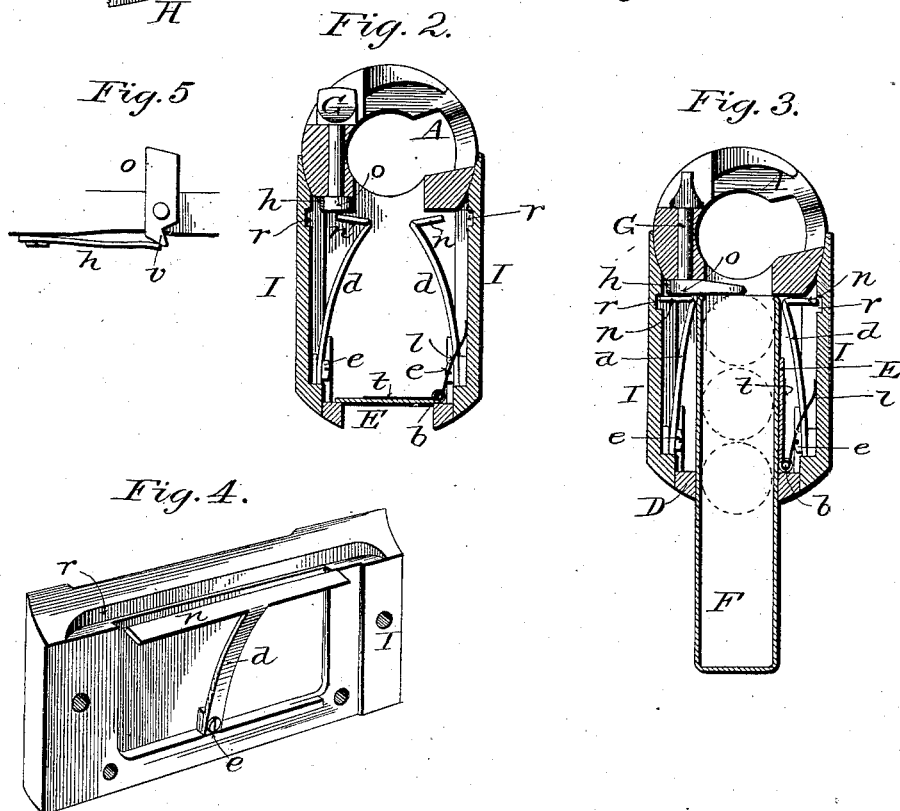
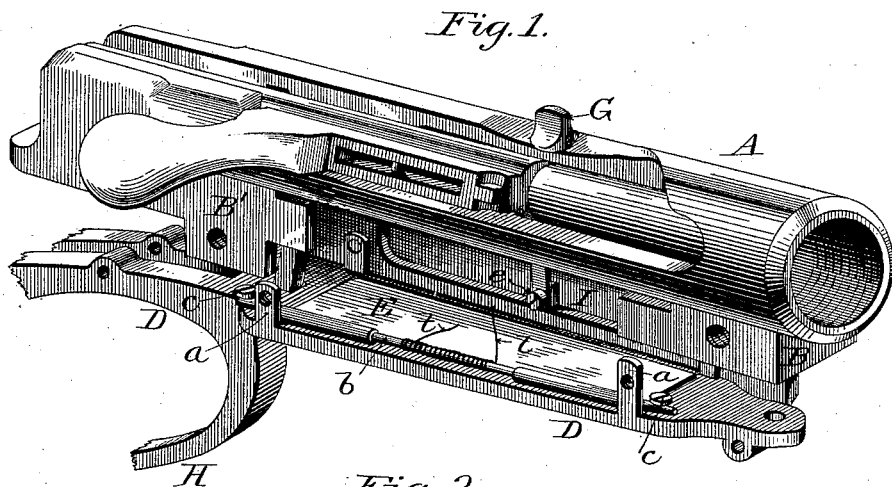


(Model.)

M. L. BURKE.
MAGAZINE FIRE ARM.

No. 307,175.

Patented Oct. 28, 1884.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL L. BURKE, OF ILION, NEW YORK.

MAGAZINE FIRE-ARM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 307,175, dated October 28, 1884.

Application filed May 17, 1884. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, M. L. BURKE, of Ilion, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Magazine Fire-Arms, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of fire-arms which are adapted to be used either as a single loader or a magazine-gun, and in which the magazine is arranged to feed the cartridges sidewise up through an opening in the bottom of the receiver; and the invention consists in certain features or improvements, hereinafter fully set forth.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the frame or receiver, with one of the side plates removed. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of the frame, showing the parts in the position they occupy when the arm is used as a single loader; Fig. 3, a similar view with the magazine attached. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the side plates shown detached, and Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view of the cut-off.

As this class of guns have heretofore been constructed it was necessary to make them with a full stock, in order to cover and protect the spring-plate which partially closed the opening in the bottom of the shoe or receiver through which the cartridges were fed, and the hole through which the magazine was inserted was left open and unprotected when the magazine was detached.

I construct my improved gun so as to provide what is termed a "box receiver or frame," which enables it to be finished with the stock made in two parts, the butt-stock in rear of the frame and the fore arm or part in front of the frame. To do this I make the receiver A, as shown in Fig. 1, with a solid lug, B, projecting from its under side near its front end, and a similar lug, B', near its rear end. The guard-plate D is made of a width corresponding with that of the lugs B B', and extends forward of the trigger-guard H to the front end of the receiver, it being provided with a hole corresponding in size and form with the magazine or box F to permit the latter to be inserted therein, as shown in Fig. 3, and as is usual in this class of guns. On each side this

plate D is provided with two vertical ears, *a*, as shown in Fig. 1, for securing the side plates I, as hereinafter stated.

To complete the frame, I construct two side plates, I, one of which is shown detached in Fig. 4, these plates being of the proper length and width to fit upon the lugs B B' and the sides of the guard-plate D, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. The upper inner edges of these plates are preferably made concave, as shown, so as to fit snugly against the lower rounded sides of the receiver A, though they may be otherwise fitted, if desired. These side plates are secured in position by screws, which enter the lugs B B' and the ears *a a* of the guard-plate, thus firmly uniting the receiver A and the guard-plate D with the side plates, I, and forming a box-frame.

For the purpose of closing the opening in the guard-plate D when the magazine F is detached, I provide a spring door or plate, E, which consists of a thin plate of metal, a little larger than the opening, and hinge it upon the upper face of the guard-plate by means of a small rod or pintle, *b*, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. The hinge rod or pintle *b* is secured to the upper surface of the guard-plate D, at one side of the opening, by means of a couple of screws, *c*, and the ears *a a*, as shown in Fig. 1, though it is obvious that it may be secured in any other manner—as, for instance, by making small projections on the inner face of the ears *a* at their base, and boring holes in these projections and shoving the pintle *b* through them. Around this rod *b*, I wind a piece of spring-wire, *l*, as shown, one end bearing on the door or plate E, while its other end bears against the inner face of the side plate, I, as shown clearly in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, thus forming a spring, which will permit the door to yield readily to the pressure of the magazine when the latter is shoved into position, and will cause the door to close automatically as the magazine is withdrawn.

Any other form of spring may be used; but the form shown is simple, cheap, and effective. By this spring-door it will be seen that the opening in the bottom of the frame is kept closed whenever the magazine is detached,

thereby preventing dirt, &c., from entering, and that it does not interfere in the least with insertion of the magazine.

To form a bottom to the receiver, or, as it is sometimes termed, the "shoe of the gun," when it is to be used as a single loader, I secure within the frame, just under the opening in the bottom of the shoe, two narrow plates, *n*, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, these plates being about as long as the opening, and nearly half as wide. These plates are each attached by a spring-arm, *d*, to the side plates, *I*, as shown clearly in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4, the spring-arms being curved, so that when relieved from pressure they will cause the plates *n* to swing inward toward each other, as represented in Fig. 2, and thereby so nearly close the opening in the shoe as to prevent a cartridge, when placed in the shoe, from dropping through the opening. By means of these plates *n*, which thus form a temporary floor for the shoe, the cartridges can be placed therein singly by hand, and from thence be shoved forward into the chamber of the barrel the same as in the ordinary single-loading bolt-gun. When it is desired to use it as a magazine-gun, it is only necessary to insert the magazine *F* in the usual manner, its upper edges striking against the inner faces of the spring-arms *d*, pressing them outward as it advances, and thereby shoving the plates *n* back out of the way, when the cartridges are fed from the magazine *F* upward through the opening into the shoe, as usual.

In order to provide room for the plates *n* to thus move back out of the way, I form a recess, *r*, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, along the inner face of each side plate, *I*.

While I have shown the spring arms *d* as formed integral with the plates *n*, and as being secured by screws *e* to the side plates, *I*, it is obvious that they may be formed separately, and be attached to the plates *n* and side plates, *I*, in other ways or by other means, and still operate the same. The plan shown is, however, very simple and efficient.

Heretofore this style of gun has had no means by which the cartridges could be retained in the magazine after the latter had been attached to the gun so they could be reserved and used in an emergency. To remedy this difficulty, I have devised a cut-off or stop, which consists of a small arm, *o*, Figs. 2 and 3, which is secured to the lower end of a small bolt, *G*, set in a vertical hole bored in the left hand side of the receiver *A*, and which bolt is provided at its upper end with a flattened head or thumb-piece, by which it can be readily turned so as to swing the arm *o* outward across the opening in the bottom of the shoe, and where it will rest directly over the cartridges in the magazine, as shown clearly in Fig. 3, thus preventing the cartridges from rising, and retaining them in the magazine until released by turning the arm *o* back into a recess made for it in the lower wall of

the side of the receiver, to the position indicated in Fig. 2. In order to hold this cut-off securely in place in both positions, and prevent it from being accidentally moved, I construct it, as shown in Fig. 5, with a projecting heel, *v*, against which a spring, *h*, is arranged to bear, as shown, the spring thus serving to hold it in either position, and yielding to permit it to be readily turned from one position to the other whenever desired. By means of this cut-off the magazine can be left attached to the gun, and the cartridges be held in reserve, and yet be used whenever desired. As heretofore constructed, when the magazine was once inserted in place, there was no means by which the cartridges in it could be prevented from being forced up into the shoe until all were exhausted, except by detaching the magazine from the gun. The advantages of this improvement will be readily understood, as it enables the arm to be carried with the magazine attached, and the cartridges in the magazine to be held in reserve and still be brought into use whenever desired by simply turning the cut-off one-quarter around.

The breech-bolt, trigger, &c., may be of the usual construction, they forming no part of my present invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The box-frame for a gun, consisting of the shoe or receiver *A*, having the depending lugs *B B'*, the guard-plate *D*, provided on each side with the upwardly-projecting lugs, *a a*, and the side plates, *I I*, all constructed and combined substantially as shown and described.

2. In combination, with a gun having an opening in front of the trigger-guard for the insertion of a magazine, a spring-plate or door *E*, arranged to automatically close said opening when the magazine is withdrawn, substantially as set forth.

3. In combination with a gun having an opening in the bottom of its shoe or receiver for admitting cartridges from a magazine, the spring-plates *n n*, located in close proximity to said opening and arranged to move inward from the opposite sides, and close or partially close the opening, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In combination with the plates *n n*, arranged to operate as described, the inclined or curved arms *d*, attached to said plates and secured to the gun-frame in a vertical position, substantially as shown, whereby the cartridge-magazine when shoved into position is made to shove the plates *n n* back out of the way by pressing against said arms *d*, as set forth.

5. The side plates, *I*, provided with the recesses *x*, in combination with laterally-movable plates *n n*, to enable said plates to move back out of the way of the cartridges, said parts being arranged and operating substantially as shown and described.

6. In combination with a magazine-gun adapted to have the cartridges fed from a magazine upward through an opening in the bottom of its shoe or receiver, a cut-off or stop,
5 consisting of the arm *o*, secured to an operating-bolt, *G*, mounted in the wall of the receiver at one side of said opening, whereby the arm *o* can be swung across the opening or to one side at will, substantially as shown and
10 described.

7. In combination with a gun having an opening in the bottom of its shoe or receiver substantially such as shown, the swinging arm

o, provided with the heel or projection *v*, and the spring *h*, arranged to bear upon the same 15 and hold the arm *o* in position when turned either way, as set forth.

8. The guard-plate *D*, provided with the vertical lugs *a* at its opposite sides and near each end for securing it to the side plates, substantially as shown and described. 20

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Witnesses:

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