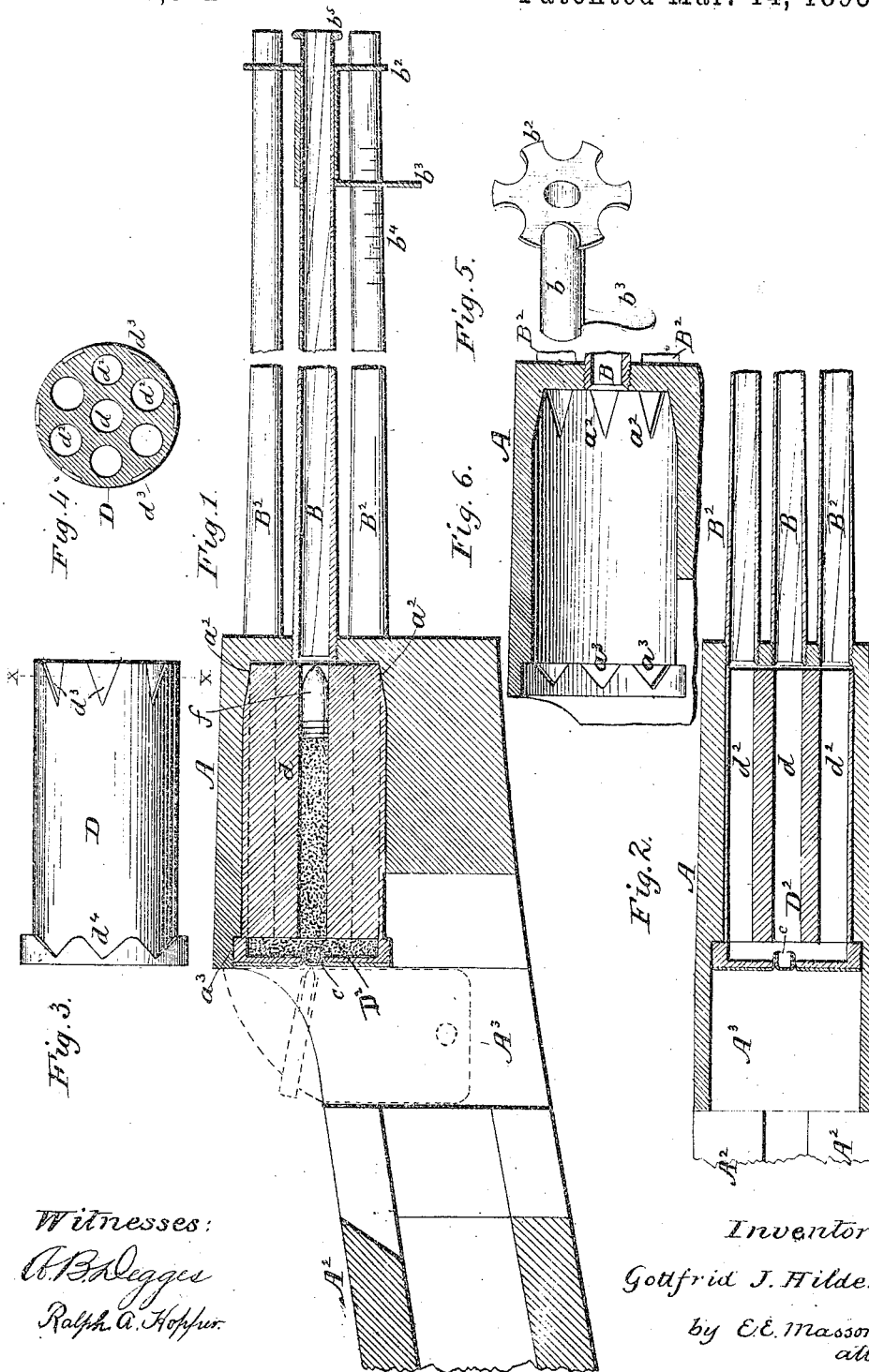


(No Model.)

G. J. HILDER.
MULTICHARGE GUN.

No. 493,382.

Patented Mar. 14, 1893.



Witnesses:
W. B. Rogers
Ralph A. Hoffer

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att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GOTTFRID J. HILDER, OF ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA.

MULTICHARGE-GUN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 493,382, dated March 14, 1893.

Application filed April 12, 1892. Serial No. 428,874. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GOTTFRID J. HILDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Cloud, in the county of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Firearms, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My improvement relates to fire-arms in which a series of gun barrels is provided in the rear thereof with a cartridge having independent charges of lead and nearly independent charges of powder and the latter is simultaneously ignited in all the barrels by a gun-cap secured to the rear of said cartridge. And the objects of my improvement are to provide fire-arms of this class with a cylindrical cartridge or removable breech-piece adapted to be introduced into the breech of the gun, lengthwise thereof and be properly guided into its seat with its charge-containing tubes coinciding with the bore of each barrel; and to provide said fire-arms with means to adjustably spread out the muzzles of the barrels, to produce more or less scattering of the expelled bullets. I attain these objects by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section of a fire-arm constructed in accordance with my invention, the barrels being shortened and the breech-block and firing apparatus omitted to clearly show the new parts. Fig. 2, is a longitudinal horizontal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a top view of the cartridge or removable breech-piece used with the fire-arm. Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section of the same on line *xx* of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the gun-barrels spreader and adjuster. Fig. 6, is a longitudinal vertical section of the breech showing the chamber therein having angular teeth projecting from its cylindrical walls.

In said drawings A represents the breech of the gun having rear extensions *A*² for attachment to the butt. Into the front end of the breech are screwed or otherwise secured seven distinct and separate barrels, the barrel B being central, and six barrels B³ being arranged at equal distances around it. Said barrels are preferably rifled internally, they are made of steel and have enough resilience

to permit their front ends or muzzles to be adjusted and made more or less divergent from each other as the gunner may desire, to more or less scatter the bullets expelled from them. For this purpose there is mounted upon the central barrel B a sleeve *b* having at one end a star-shaped flange *b*² or movable rest having six notches, into each one of which one of the gun-barrels rests, the tendency of the front ends of the barrels being to remain parallel to each other. The sleeve has at the opposite end a finger piece *b*³, by which it can be removed away from the ends of the muzzles when it is desired to increase the scattering property of the gun, divisions *b*⁴ being marked upon the lower barrels to indicate the location of the finger-piece and also the divergence of the barrels for said location, and consequently the scattering of the bullets for certain distances as ascertained by previous trials. To prevent the sleeve *b* from being pushed beyond the ends of the barrel, the central barrel has a ring or nut *b*⁵ secured upon the end.

To load the gun there is introduced within the breech A, a cartridge or removable breech-piece D of suitable and well known material having formed in its front portion and extending nearly the whole length of the cartridge, a central tube *d* surrounded by six similar perforations *d*² that correspond in arrangement to that of the barrels of the gun. The seven tubes or perforations have their rear in communication with a powder chamber D² of suitable size. The rear wall of said chamber forms the rear of the removable breech-piece or cartridge and has centrally therein a gun-cap *c* secured thereto as in ordinary shot cartridges. To cause the perforations *d*² of the cartridge and the bullets *f* therein, to always occupy a position in line with the bore of the barrels, although said cartridge is cylindrical, it is provided at its front end with angular notches *d*³ in its periphery, into which are made to enter, corresponding angular teeth *a*² formed within the front end of the cavity of the breech. Six angular notches *d*⁴ are also preferably formed on the rear portion of the periphery of the cartridge, either one of which is adapted to receive a correspondingly shaped tooth *a*³ within the rear portion of the interior of the breech-chamber. To facilitate the passage of the bullets from the cartridge

into the barrels, the rear end of said barrels is preferably rimmed conically on the inside.

To retain the removable breech-piece or cartridge within the breech chamber, a vertically sliding breech-block can be placed within the vertical groove Δ^3 formed in the rear of the breech, and be operated in the well known manner of the Remington fire-arms; or any other well known breech block and operating mechanism may be used to retain the cartridge and carry the firing-pin.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim—

1. In a breech loading fire-arm the combination of the breech, a central barrel secured thereto and a series of barrels independently secured to the breech, a flanged sleeve adjustably mounted upon the central barrel and having notches in its periphery to receive the free ends of the encircling barrels substantially as described.

2. In a breech loading fire-arm the combi-

nation of the breech, a central barrel secured thereto and a series of barrels independently secured to the breech, a movable rest adjustably mounted upon the central barrel and bearing against the encircling barrels substantially as described.

3. In a breech loading fire-arm, the combination of the breech-frame supporting a series of barrels, with a cylindrical removable breech-piece having a series of tubular firing chambers therein, and intermeshing teeth on the periphery of the removable breech-piece and in the inner surface of the wall of the breech-frame respectively, substantially as described.

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

GOTTFRID J. HILDER.

Witnesses:

VALENTINE BATZ,
ANDREW C. ROBERTSON.