(No Model.)

W. B. HALL.

LOCK FOR BREECH LOADING FIRE ARMS.

No. 264,827. Patented Sept. 19, 1882.

Fig. 1.

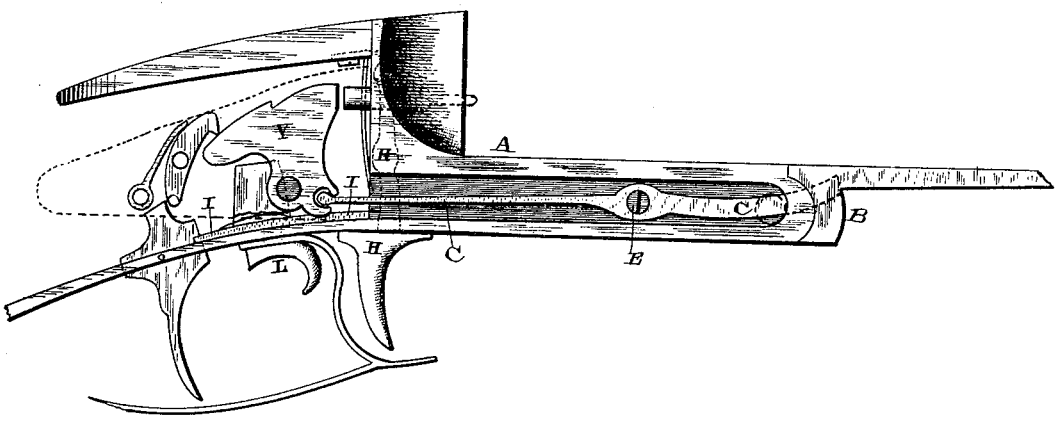


Fig. 2.

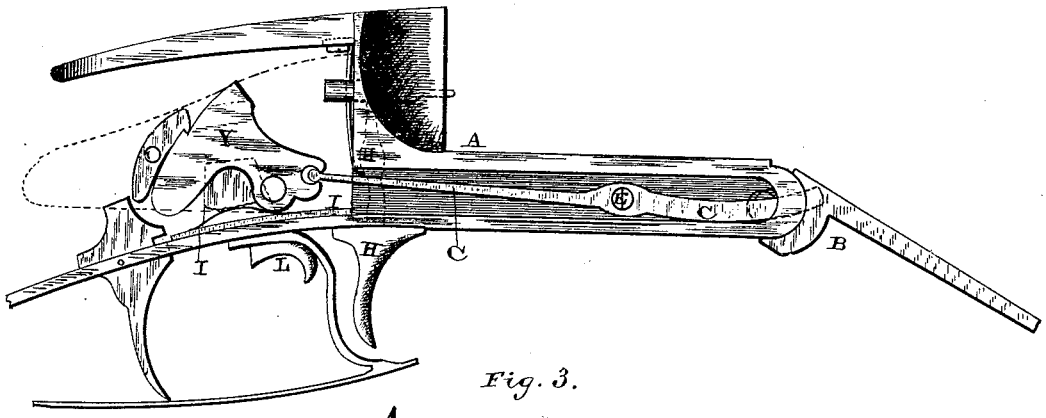
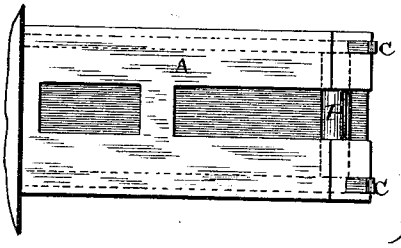


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
Robt. Johnson.
L. A. Lehmann.

Inventor.
W. B. Hall,
per
F. A. Lehmann, Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. HALL, OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

LOCK FOR BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,827, dated September 19, 1882.

Application filed June 27, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. HALL, of Lancaster, in the county of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in breech-loading fire-arms; and it consists, first, in the combination of the fore end, the action-body, and one or more levers which are pivoted in the body, and which have their front ends to project through the body so as to be operated by the fore end, while their rear ends form the mainsprings when the gun is closed, at the same time that they act as levers to cock the hammers, so that when the rear ends of the barrels are thrown up both of the levers turn upon their pivots sufficiently to throw the hammer back, and then serve as mainsprings to force them forward when the trigger is pulled.

The object of my invention is to cock both of the hammers at once by throwing up the rear ends of the barrels, and thus dispense with cocking-levers, which have heretofore been employed for this purpose.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention with the lock-plate removed, showing the hammer in one position; and Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing the hammer when cocked. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the front end of the body.

A represents the working body, and B the fore end, both of which may be constructed in any desired manner. Pivoted in a recess which is made in the side of the working body is the combined operating-lever and mainspring C. These spring-levers have their front ends to project through the curved front end of the working body and to pass through and into an opening or openings made in the rear part of the fore end, so that when the barrels have their rear ends thrown upward the fore end will force the front ends of these spring-levers downward. These levers are pivoted at E, and have their rear ends, which form the mainsprings, to catch in suitable recesses which are formed in the lower front edges of the hammers Y. When the front ends of these spring-levers are forced downward by the fore end their rear ends are thrown upward, so as to force the hammers backward to a point where the sear will catch in the notch, and while their front ends are thus forced downward and their rear ends upward, (the barrels being closed,) the tension of the springs upon the hammers is sufficient to cause them to fly forward against the firing-pins with sufficient force to explode a cartridge when the trigger is pulled. These hammers are placed wholly inside of the lock-plates, and have no levers or other cocking devices connected to them in any way, but are operated wholly by the movements of the barrels and the spring-levers. When it is desired to uncock the hammers the locking-bolt H must first be moved backward in the usual manner, so that the barrels can be turned downward just far enough to bring enough pressure upon the front ends of the spring-levers to prevent them from acting with their full powers upon the hammers when the trigger is pulled. Even though the hammers should fly forward with their full force, the rear ends of the barrels being raised, the firing-pins cannot strike the cartridges. The locking-lever, when forced backward, strikes against the front end of the safety catch or slide I, which is forced backward sufficiently far so that its rear end will catch in the recesses made in the front edges of the triggers. This safety-catch locks the triggers, so that they cannot be pulled backward, and thus prevents an accidental discharge of the gun. After the triggers have once been locked they cannot be fired until the safety-catch is forced forward so as to release the triggers, and this is done by pressing against the catch or slide which projects down through the trigger-plate. When this slide L is forced forward it carries the safety-catch with it, and thus releases both of the triggers, ready for firing the gun.

By means of the construction above described, the tilting movement of the barrels alone is made to cock both of the hammers, and thus all cocking-levers and other such devices are entirely dispensed with.

The pivotal bolt P, which passes through the front end of the body for the barrels to turn

on, is held in place by the combined springs and levers C and the front ends of the lock-plates, which fill the long recesses in the sides of the body, as is shown in Fig. 3. These two parts bear against the ends of the bolt, and thus prevent the slightest endwise movement in either direction until these parts have been removed.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a breech-loading fire-arm, the combination of the pivoted fore end, the hammer, and a combined operating-lever and main-spring, made in a single piece and pivoted on the frame between the hammer and the fore end, substantially as shown.

2. In a breech-loading fire arm, the combination of the working body, the pivoted fore end, the combined lever and mainspring, and the hammer, the lever and spring being pivoted at E upon the body and placed in a recess in the side of the body, substantially as described.

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

WM. B. HALL.

Witnesses:
C. S. DRURY,
WM. H. KERN.