H. SUTTER.

Breech-Loading Fire-Arms.

No. 196,399. Patented Oct. 23, 1877.

Fig. 1.

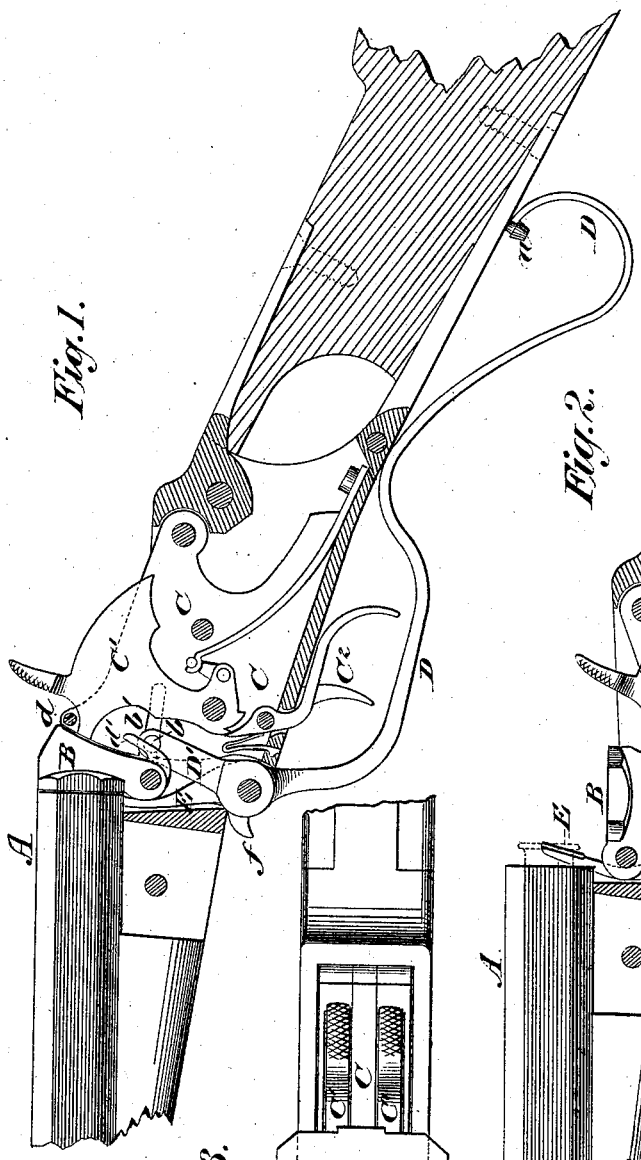

Fig. 2.

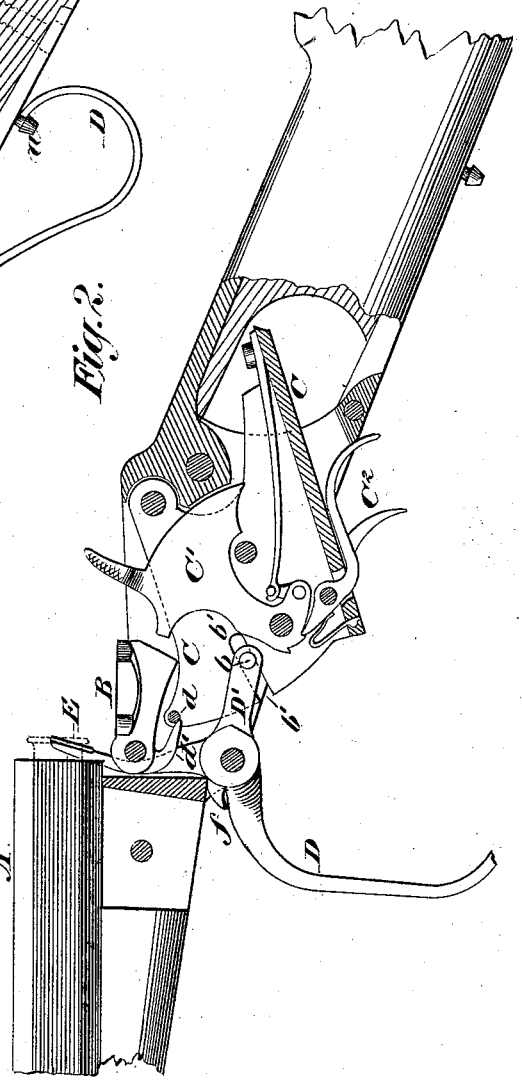

Fig. 3.

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HENRY SUTTER, OF BAKER CITY, OREGON.

IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **196,399,** dated October 23, 1877; application filed June 30, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY SUTTER, of Baker City, in the county of Baker and State of Oregon, have invented a new and Improved Fire-Arm, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figures 1 and 2 represent sectional side elevations of my improved fire-arm, showing the same, respectively, in closed and open position; and Fig. 3 is a top view of the same, shown in open position.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention has reference to improvements in breech-loading fire-arms, by which one movement of the operating-lever cocks the hammer, opens the breech-block, and actuates the extractor, while the return movement of the lever closes the breech, locks the breech-block, and pushes back the extractor.

The construction is adapted for single or double barreled guns, is reliable and effective in operation, and furnishes the barrels in fixed or permanent position on the stock, so as to dispense with the hinged and movable barrel construction.

The invention consists, essentially, of a hinged hand-lever with fixed arms, that engage, by a cross-pin, a slotted and hinged hammer-frame, that serves as a lock for the breech-block. The cross-pin bears on the hammer or hammers, and cocks the same simultaneously with the swinging down of the hammer frame or casing. A cross-pin of the hammer-casing engages hook-arms of the hinged breech-block, and swings the same down in horizontal position, to admit the forward motion of the extractor, which is operated by the hand-lever. The return motion of the lever raises the hammer-casing, locks the breech-block, and pushes the extractor back, leaving the hammer in cocked position for firing.

Referring to the drawing, A represents the barrel or barrels, which are secured permanently to the stock, either separate or in one piece with the lock-casing. A single or double breech-block, B, is hinged below the barrels, to admit of its being thrown back into horizontal position below the breech, so that the barrels may be readily cleaned from the breech in place of from the muzzle, which keeps the latter in perfect order. The hinged breech-block B is locked rigidly to the breech of the barrels by the hammer frame or casing C, which is pivoted at its upper rear end to the stock, so as to swing downward, being guided by the side plates of the lock-casing. The hammer-casing C is arranged with one or two hammers, C^1, and triggers C^2, according as the fire-arm is arranged with the single or double barrel. The front end of the hammer-casing C is made in an arc of a circle, having its center in the axis of the pivot, and fitted to the correspondingly curved or concaved rear face of the breech-block, so as to pass along the same in downward or upward direction for clearing or locking the breech-block.

The hammer-frame is operated by a swinging main lever, D, that is hinged to the lock-casing at a point vertically below the hinge-joint of the breech-block, and locked, when in closed position, by its notched spring rear end to a tapering lock-pin, *a*, of the stock. The hand-lever D engages, by fixed arms D′, having an end cross-pin, *b*, with slots *b′* of the hammer-casing, and slides along the same, when the lever is carried forward by hand around its fulcrum or hinge joint. The cross-pin *b* engages, in its motion, first the hammers C^1, and presses them back to be cocked by the triggers, and carries then the hammer-frame along the rear face of the breech-block. A top cross-pin, *d*, of the hammer-casing engages, when the same is swung down about half the distance it is intended to travel, the upward-projecting hooks *d′* of the breech-block, so as to swing the breech-block into open position on continuing the motion of the hammer-casing. When the lever D arrives at its outermost position it forms contact with a lug or projection, *f*, of an extractor, E, and moves the same forward, so as to throw out the shells. The hammer-casing is held in downward-inclined position by the cross-pin of the main lever, and the breech-block in open position by the cross-pin of the hammer-casing, as shown in Fig. 2. The cartridges are then inserted into the barrels and the lever carried back, raising thereby the hammer-casing, throwing up the breech-block, and locking the same rigidly to the breech by

the return of the hammer-casing, and by its bearing solidly on the rear face of the block. The breech-block pushes the extractor back and seats the cartridges in the barrels. As the hammers have been already set into cocked position by the downward motion of the hammer-casing, the gun is thus ready to be fired, the parts being operated by one motion of the lever in perfectly reliable manner. The locking action of the hammer-casing produces the rigid locking of the breech-block, and furnishes a breech-loading gun with fixed barrels, which can be manufactured, on account of the simplicity of its construction, at less cost than most of the breech-loaders at present in use.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, in a fire-arm, of hinged breech-block B, having hook *d'*, pivoted hammer-frame C, having pin *d*, lever D, having arms with cross-pin *b*, and the extractor E, having lug *f*, as shown and described.

2. The combination of the pivoted main lever, having fixed arms with end cross-pin, slotted and swinging hammer-casing, and hammer or hammers for setting hammer and lowering hammer-casing, substantially as specified.

Witnesses: HENRY SUTTER.

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