C. A. KING.

Means for Attaching Fore-End of Gun Stocks.

No. 201,618. Patented March 26, 1878.

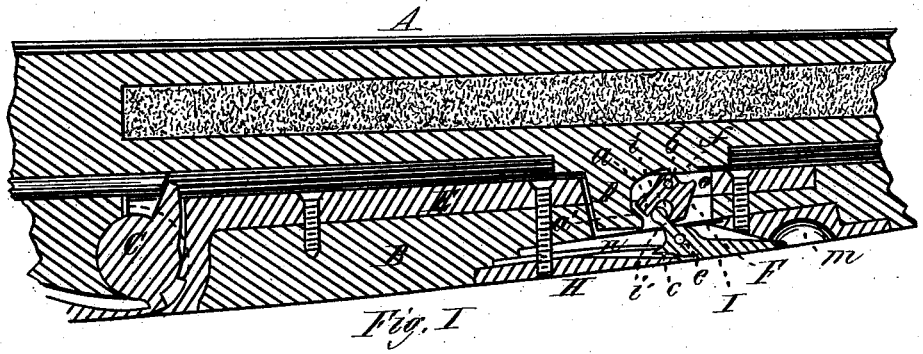

Fig. I

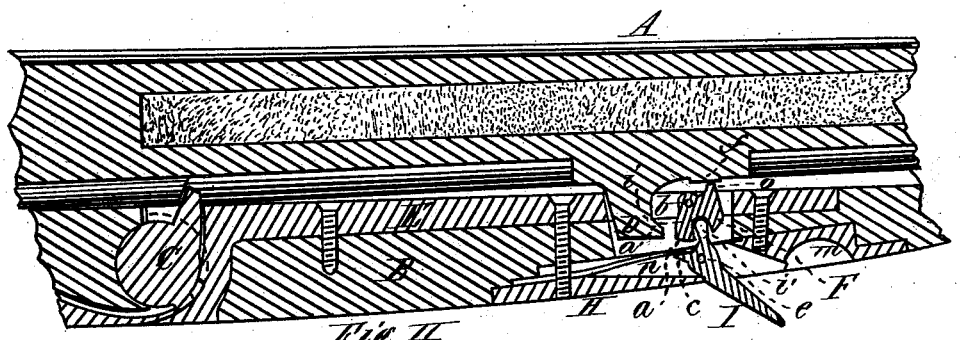

Fig. II

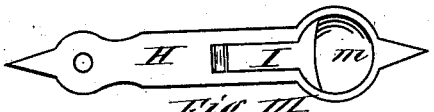

Fig. III

Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. KING, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN MEANS FOR ATTACHING FORE-ENDS OF GUN-STOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **201,618**, dated March 26, 1878; application filed February 1, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. KING, of Meriden, in the State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fore-End Locks for Fire-Arms; and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to securely lock the stock forward of the hinge in breech-loading fire-arms to the barrel, and to facilitate the fitting of the parts of the lock so as to operate properly; and it consists of a block or tumbler provided with a recess, and a small projection pivoted to the part forming the stock beneath the barrel, and upon which a portion of the hinge is made, and a lever pivoted in another piece attached to the lower side of the wood portion of the stock, and provided with a tooth or projection operating in the recess of the tumbler, all of which will be more fully described.

Figure I represents a longitudinal vertical section of a portion of a double gun to which my invention is applied, with the stock locked firmly to the barrel. Fig. II is a similar section, showing the stock unlocked from the barrel, and Fig. III is a plan view of the lower side of the locking-lever and piece to which it is pivoted.

In the drawings, A represents the rib and bolster portion of a double gun between the barrels, on the lower side of which is made or attached the hook D, and E represents the metal part of the stock, upon which is made a portion of the hinge at C, upon which the barrels are tilted in loading the arm. B is the wood portion of the stock, which is secured firmly to the metal portion E, and H is a piece secured to the lower side of the wood, all these parts being arranged in the ordinary manner.

In the part E, just forward of the hook D, is pivoted a tumbler, F, having its end *a* corresponding in form with that of the part *a'* on the hook D, which part may be either a curve or a straight incline. A recess, *i*, is made in this tumbler, and it is also provided with a projection, *o*, nearly opposite the end *a*.

The lever I is pivoted in the piece H, which is secured to the lower side of the wood portion B, with a spring, *n*, pressing outward on the end *c* of the lever, and the latter is provided with a tooth or projection, *i'*, which enters the recess *i* in the tumbler, and operates to partially rotate the tumbler on its pivot when the lever I is moved either in or out. A recess, *m*, in the piece H permits the finger to be inserted inside the end of the long arm of the lever I, to draw it outward.

The operation of the invention is as follows: When the lever I is in the position shown in Fig. I, the end *a* of the tumbler F is forced in against the part *a'* of the hook D or under the hook firmly, and the parts E and B, forming the stock beneath the barrels, are held rigidly to the barrel portion of the gun.

If the lever I be moved outward, the tumbler is first drawn out from beneath the hook D, and when entirely out, as the lever is moved still farther, the projection *o* on the tumbler bears against the metal above, and forces the stock and barrels apart, so that they may then be readily separated by the hands.

One of the special advantages of this lock is that, after the parts E, B, and H, have been secured together, the lever I, tumbler F, and hook D may be fitted and adjusted to operate in connection with each other without removing either piece H or E from the wood portion B, which cannot be done with any of the locks now in use, and that part of the work can be done much more quickly and cheaply, and the parts of the lock, as thus constructed, are durable and simple.

I am aware that various locks for this purpose have heretofore been made and used, in which a similarly-operating lever was employed to move the locking mechanism; and I do not claim the same, nor any part thereof.

It is, of course, evident that the recess may be made in the lever, and the corresponding tooth or projection made in the tumbler, without departing from the principle of operation; but I prefer the construction herein described and shown.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new—

1. In a fore-end lock for fire-arms, the tumbler F, provided with the recess *i*, combined

with the lever I, provided with the projection *i'* and the spring *n*, as a means of locking the stock to the barrel and unlocking it therefrom, substantially as described.

2. The tumbler F, provided with the recess *i* and projection *f*, combined with the lever I, provided with the projection *i'* and the spring *n*, as a means of locking the stock to the barrel, and also of separating the stock from the barrel, substantially as described.

CHARLES ALONZO KING.

Witnesses:

RALPH A. PALMER,

ANDW. G. SEWARD.