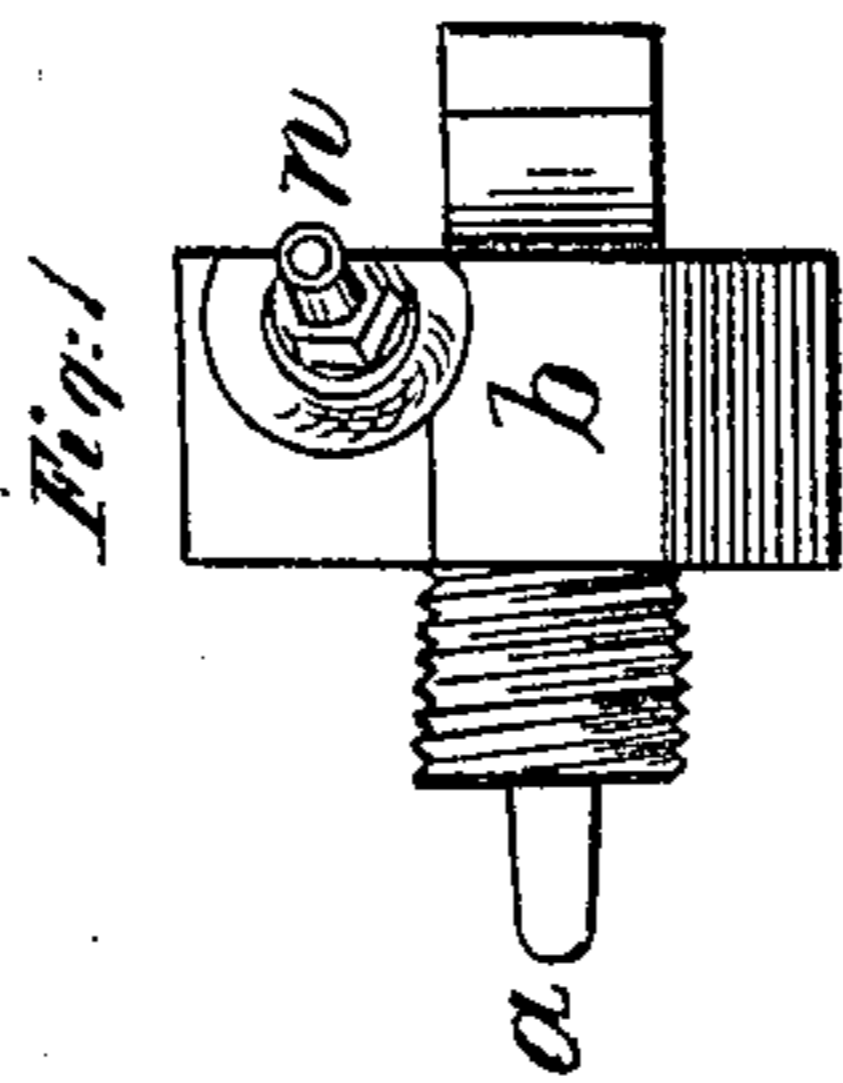
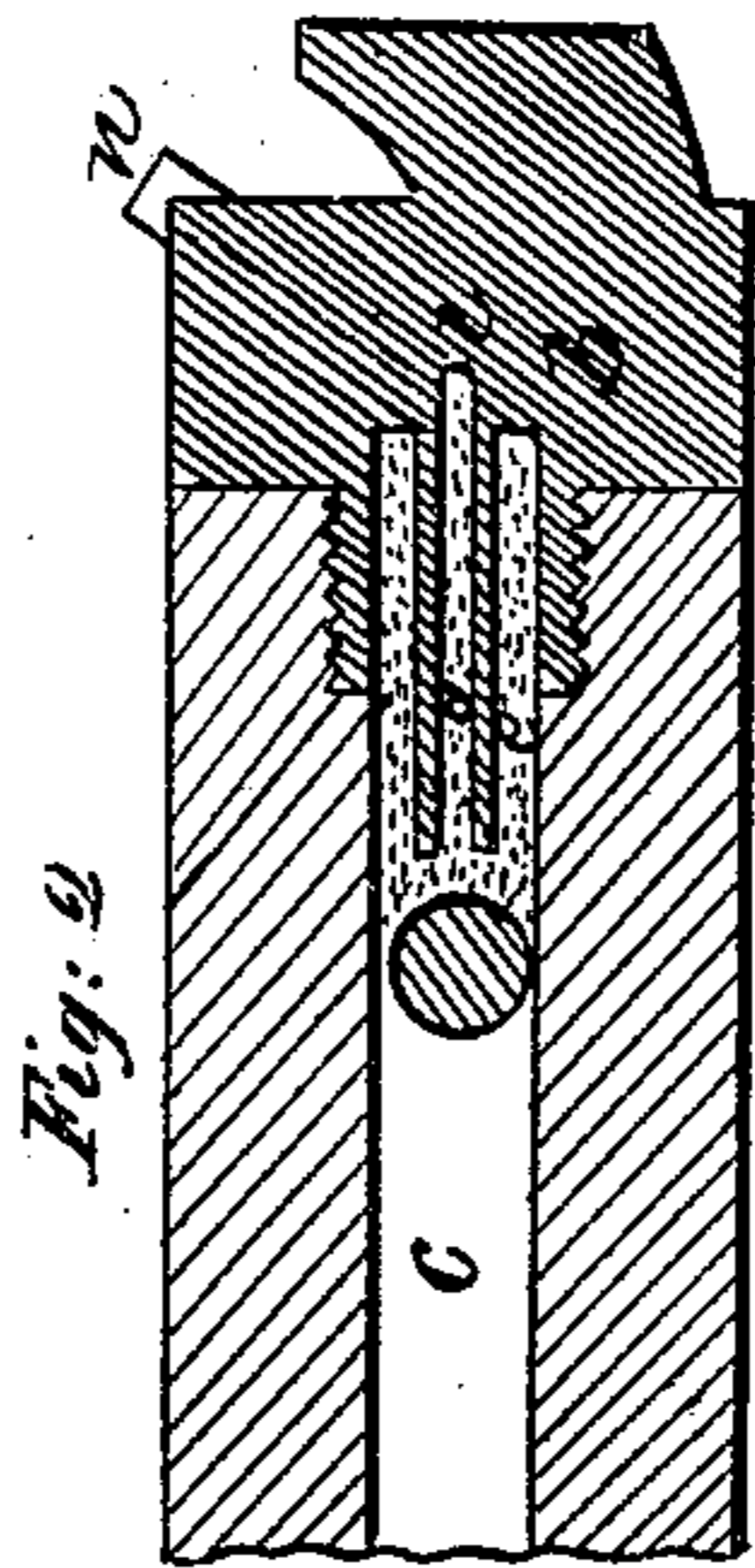


J. E. HALSEY.
Muzzle-Loading Fire-Arm.

No. 15,292.

Patented July 8, 1856.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAS. E. HALSEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

FIREARM.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 15,292, dated July 8, 1856.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES EDWIN HALSEY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Firearms; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

10 Figure 1 represents the breech of a rifle with my improvement, and Fig. 2 a longitudinal section of the same with a portion of the barrel attached.

15 The letters of reference indicate the same parts in the different figures wherever they occur.

The nature of my invention consists in the use of a tubular communication from the point where the priming is fired, which terminates at or near the forward end of the
20 charge of powder, for the purpose of igniting the powder from the front backward, in firearms loaded in the usual manner with loose powder or common cartridges; whereby important advantages are secured as hereinafter described.

The drawings above mentioned show my improvement as applied to a common rifle. It is constructed as follows: A tube (*a*) is
30 screwed or otherwise securely fastened into the breech *b*, its axis corresponding with that of the bore *c*. Its length is such that it will extend nearly through the charge of powder *e*. It communicates at its rear end
35 with an angular tube (*i*) which meets the tube of the nipple, *n*, thus forming a continuous tube extending from the nipple to or near the forward end of the charge of powder. In loading, the tube will become
40 filled with powder. This will be ignited in the present instance by the cap to be placed on the nipple. The fire will be communi-

cated to the forward portion of the charge instead of the rear as usual; thus insuring the burning of all the powder before any
45 portion of it is blown out of the barrel, giving consequently a greater range and more force of penetration to a ball. With shot-guns greater regularity in the dispersion of the shot is attained. With revolvers where
50 the nipple is placed in the rear of the barrel, and with the same axis, a mere continuation of the nipple a proper distance into the interior will form the tube.

The advantageous application of my invention is not confined to small arms with percussion or flint locks.

With slight modifications which will readily suggest themselves, my improvement can be used with cannon, and mortars of
60 almost every description (with or without locks) with greatly increased efficiency.

I do not claim igniting the charge in the center, nor in its whole length simultaneously, nor at its forward end when a needle
65 is used to explode a fulminate, placed in the ball or between the ball and the powder, but,

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is, 70

The tube *a*, constructed of such a length, and placed in such a position, that it shall serve as a means of communicating fire from the cap to the forward end of the charge of powder only, substantially as described and
75 for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification this 21st day of August 1855.

JAMES EDWIN HALSEY.

In the presence of—
E. FORMAN,
E. B. WOODWARD.