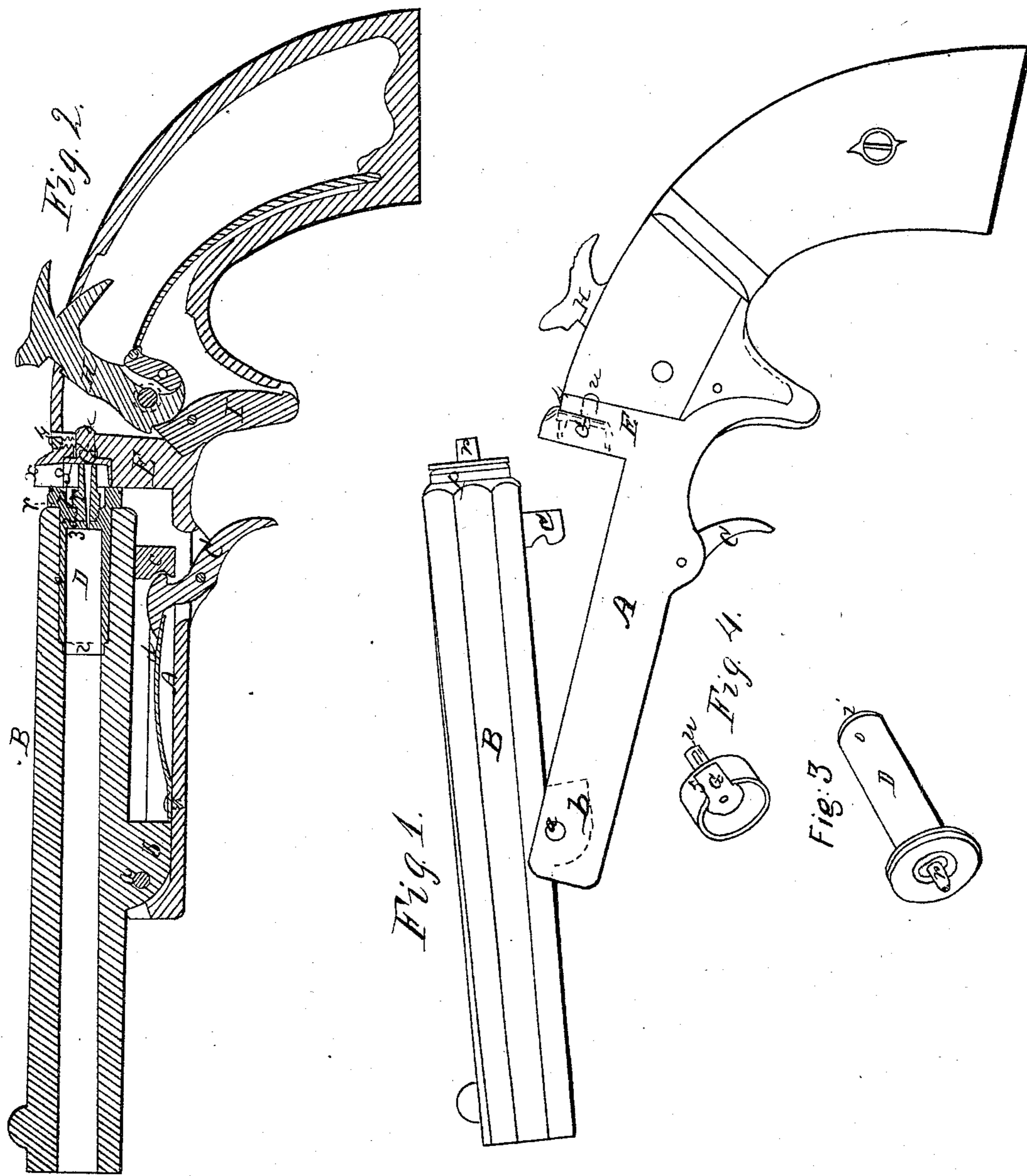


M. MOSES.
BREECH LOADING FIREARM

No. 36,571.

Patented Sept. 30, 1862.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 36,571, dated September 30, 1862.

To all whom it may concern.

Be it known that I, MYRON MOSES, of Malone, in the county of Franklin and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a pistol; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section through the same. Figs. 3 and 4, details to be referred to.

My present invention relates to that class of breech-loading fire-arms in which a removable metallic cartridge case or chamber is inserted in the rear end of the barrel; and it consists, first, in forming the front end of the cartridge-case and the portion of the barrel against which the case rests of such a shape that the gas from the exploding powder will not pass between the barrel and the cylindrical portion of the cartridge-case and foul it; secondly, in combining with a removable metallic cartridge-case, into the rear end of which is inserted a cap tube or nipple, a cup which covers the cap tube and prevents the gas from the exploded cap from fouling the lock or other working parts, while the gas is permitted to escape through a channel made for the purpose.

That others skilled in the art may understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings, A is the stock; B, the barrel, which is pivoted at *a* to the stock, so that the barrel may be vibrated into the position shown in Fig. 1, to remove the cartridge-case for loading. A tongue, *b*, attached to the under side of the barrel, plays in a corresponding slot or groove in the stock, and, being made of considerable length, prevents any lateral movement of the barrel as it is vibrated. A stop, *c*, on the barrel catches under the head of a trigger, C, when the barrel is down in the position shown in Fig. 2, or ready for firing, and holds it in place. By pulling on the trigger C, against the resistance of the spring *d*, the barrel is released and may be vibrated.

A metal breech or cartridge-chamber, D, (shown detached in Fig. 3,) is introduced into the rear end of the barrel. This chamber,

which I prefer to make of brass, is turned down at its front end at *i*, as shown in Fig. 2, and a corresponding recess or shoulder is formed in the barrel, thus making three shoulders or faces, over which the gas from the exploded powder must pass before it can come into contact with the cylindrical surface *o* of the chamber D. This I find of great advantage, as it prevents the case from becoming foul, which would interfere with its removal and would also prevent its surface from coming into intimate contact with the barrel when it is expanded by the discharge. As this friction of the chamber against the barrel prevents the chamber from being driven back by the discharge hard against the recoil-plate E, it is very necessary that the surface *o* should be kept as clean as possible. The rear end, *p*, of the chamber D is made sufficiently heavy to receive the nipple *r*, which is screwed into it, and leave a body of metal, 3, between the base of the nipple and the bore of the chamber. This prevents the strain of the exploded powder from coming directly onto the base of the nipple, and permits a shorter screw on the nipple to be used without danger of its being blown out. The fire from the exploded cap passes through a small hole in the metal base 3.

A cup, G, of steel is fitted in the recoil-plate E. It has a pin, *u*, on its rear end, which projects through the recoil-plate and is struck by the hammer H. When the trigger I is pulled out to fire the piece, a screw, 4, enters a slot in the upper side of this pin *u* and secures it, while a small amount of motion is allowed to the cup toward and from the barrel B. An opening, *x*, in the top of the recoil-plate E and a corresponding one, 5, in the upper side of the cup G permit the nipple to pass when the barrel is brought down into the position shown in Fig. 2, and also allow the gas from the exploded cap to escape without its having access to the lock. When the barrel is brought down, as in Fig. 2, after being loaded and capped, the cap on the nipple *r* bears against the cup G and crowds it in, so that the end of the pin *u* projects slightly from the back of the recoil-plate E, ready for the hammer H to strike it and explode the cap.

The removable chamber D must not be confounded with a metallic cartridge which is used

in some breech-loading pistols, but is a part of the pistol itself, which is removed to load it and is again returned into its place.

The following is the operation: The barrel being in the position shown in Fig. 1, the cartridge-chamber D is removed, is loaded and capped and returned to the barrel, which is vibrated into the position shown in Fig. 2. The pistol may now be cocked and fired, the hammer H, as before stated, striking the pin *u* of the cup G and driving it against the cap on the nipple *r*.

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

1. In combination with the removable charge-

holding chamber or cylinder D, the neck *i* and shoulder near it on the outside and front end of said chamber or cylinder and the recess in the bore for receiving both the neck and the shoulder, for the purpose specified.

2. The movable cup G, with its opening 5, in combination with an opening, *x*, for the passage of the nipple *r* as the barrel is vibrated, and for the escape of gas from the exploded cap, arranged and operating substantially as described.

MYRON MOSES.

Witnesses:

F. P. ALLEN,

F. T. HEATH.