2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. H. SALTER.

Magazine Fire Arm.

No. 232,766. Patented Sept. 28, 1880.

Fig. 1.

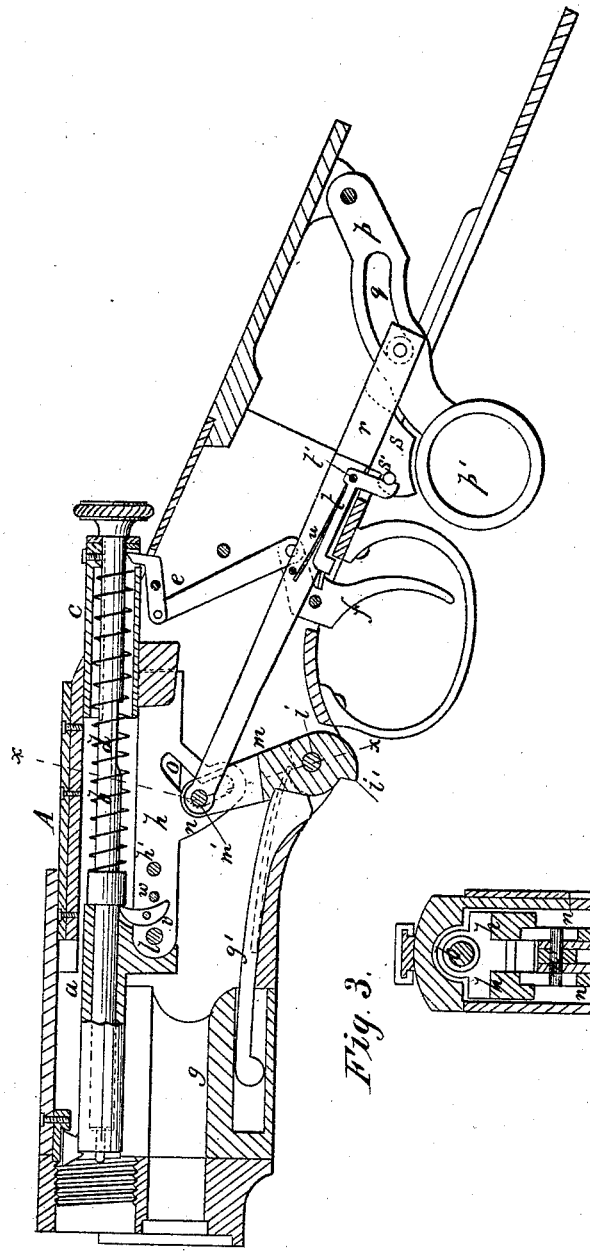
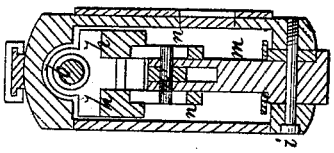


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

Henry N. Miller

C. Sedgwick

INVENTOR:

J. H. Salter

BY Munn & Co

ATTORNEYS.

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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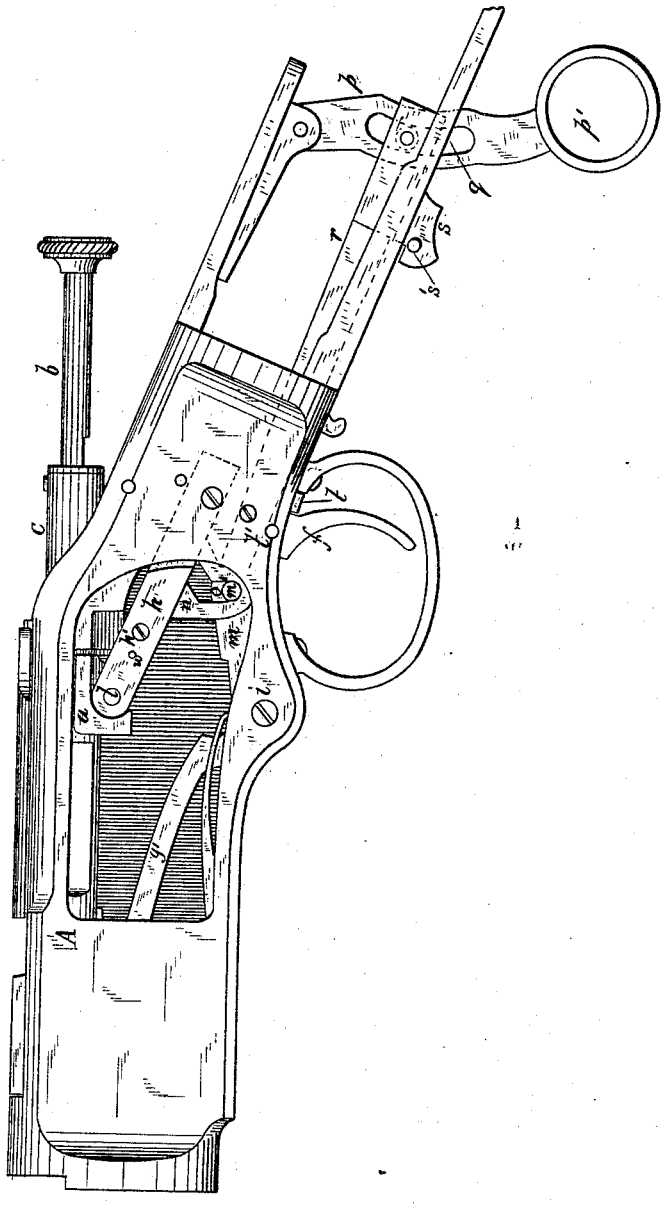

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

Henry N. Miller

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INVENTOR:

J. H. Salter

BY Munn & Co

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. SALTER, OF ST. MARY'S, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND LEANDER W. GIFFORD, OF SAME PLACE, AND C. C. BIGELOW, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.; TO SAID SALTER ONE-THIRD LESS ONE-SIXTEENTH OF ONE-THIRD, TO SAID BIGELOW ONE-SIXTEENTH OF ONE-THIRD, AND TO SAID GIFFORD TWO-THIRDS.

MAGAZINE FIRE-ARM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 232,766, dated September 28, 1880.

Application filed February 7, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. SALTER, of St. Mary's, in the county of Elk and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms, of which the following is a specification.

My improvements relate to the class of breech-loading fire-arms, particularly magazine-arms, wherein the breech-block is moved longitudinally back and forward by means of a lever; and the objects of my invention are to obtain a direct and solid resistance against the breech-block when closed and to permit rapid loading and firing with the gun at the shoulder.

My invention consists in a resistance-piece hung upon the back of the sliding breech-block and fitted for movement by a lever, whereby it may be turned down to permit backward movement of the breech-block or thrown up behind the breech-block; also, in a lever hung to the upper strap of the frame, extending through the bottom strap and connected intermediately of its length with the breech mechanism, whereby the direction of movement of the lever in opening the breech is toward the butt of the gun; also, in safety devices which prevent movement of the trigger and contact of the firing-pin with the cartridge while the breech is open, all of which features will be described hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of my improved fire-arm, the breech being closed. Fig. 2 is a similar view, the breech being open. Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line *x x* of Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The breech-block *a* is fitted to slide longitudinally in the frame A, and is fitted with the firing-pin *b*, that extends back through a tubular guide, *c*, in the frame A. Around the pin *b* is a spiral spring, *d*, that is compressed by the backward movement of the breech-block and firing-pin.

e is the catch, acting to hold the firing-pin back when the breech is closed, and connected by a link with trigger *f*. *g* is the cartridge-carrier, fitted to slide to and from the breech-chamber, and hung on the end of an arm, *g'*, that is pivoted on a cross-pin, *i*, at the bottom of frame A.

h is the resistance piece or block, which may be made as a single piece, or, as shown, of two pieces united by a screw, *h'*, and hung by a pin, *l*, upon the rear end of the block *a*, so as to be moved between the breech-block and an abutment of frame A. *m* is an arm hung on pin *i* and entering at its moving end between the lips or flanges *n n*, that depend from piece *h*, and engaging with flanges *n* by pins or lugs *m'*, that enter angular slots *o*, so that the piece *h* forms a slotted link between the breech-block and the arm *m*.

To the upper strap of the frame A is hung a lever, *p*, that extends through a slot in the under strap, and is fitted with a finger-ring, *p'*, at its moving end. This lever *p* is formed with a curved slot, *q*, at its mid-length, in which is connected the rod *r*, that passes to and is connected with the moving end of the arm *m*, before mentioned. The end of rod *r*, at the lever *p*, is formed with a projection, *s*, that extends through the slot in which lever *p* works, and carries a cross-pin, *s'*, that prevents rod *r* from rising.

In operation the movement of lever *p* backward draws the arm *m* back, and the lugs *m'*, acting in the slotted flanges *n* of piece *h*, swing the moving end of the latter downward and clear of the abutment. The further movement of lever *p* causes rod *r* to give a direct pull upon piece *h* and moves the same, with the breech-block *a*, back to the position shown in Fig. 2. The reverse movement of lever *p* first throws the breech-block forward and swings the resistance-piece *h* up to place.

The arm *g'*, carrying the cartridge-carrier *g*, is moved when the breech is fully opened by the tail-piece *i'* of the arm *m*.

The device for preventing movement of the trigger while the breech is opened consists of a bent piece, *t*, pivoted at *t'*, one end of which is projected downward by a spring, *u*, behind the trigger, while the other end projects in front of the pin *s'*, before mentioned, that is carried by rod *r*, so that at the completion of the

forward movement of rod *r* in closing the breech the pin *s'*, by pressure on the piece *t*, raises its end and frees the trigger.

To prevent contact of the firing-pin with the cartridge while the breech is open, the breech-block *a* is slotted at the rear end and fitted with a pivoted catch, *v*, one end of which enters a slot in firing-pin *b*, while the other end is beneath a cross-pin, *w*, fitted in piece *h*. While the breech is open the catch *v* is held by pin *w*, so that the pin *b*, if released by the trigger, is arrested by catch *v* before it strikes the cartridge. With the breech closed the catch *v* will move with the pin *b*.

By the above-described construction the movement of the hand required for opening the breech and loading the gun is short toward the shoulder, in the same direction as the movement of the breech, and may be conveniently performed. The resistance to the concussion is also in a direct line with the barrel, solid and independent of the levers for opening the breech.

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

1. The combination, in a fire-arm with a longitudinally-sliding breech-block, of a resistance-block, *h*, pivoted to the breech-block, the finger-lever *p*, pivoted at the upper end to frame A, extending through a slot in the lower strap, and connected by a link with block *h*, for the purpose of opening the breech-block by a movement of the lever in the direction of the butt of the gun, as specified.

2. The combination of the arc-slotted lever *p*, pivoted at the upper end to frame A, the rod *r*, the arm *m*, pivoted on pin *i*, and having lugs *m'*, and the resistance-block *h*, having angular slot *o*, and swinging on the rear end of breech-block, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of the pivoted catch *v* and the stop *w*, arranged on a swinging block, *h*, for withdrawing the firing-pin, with the shouldered reciprocating pin *b*, as and for the purpose specified.

JOHN H. SALTER.

Witnesses:
J. M. SHAFFER,
JNO. WILMARTH.