

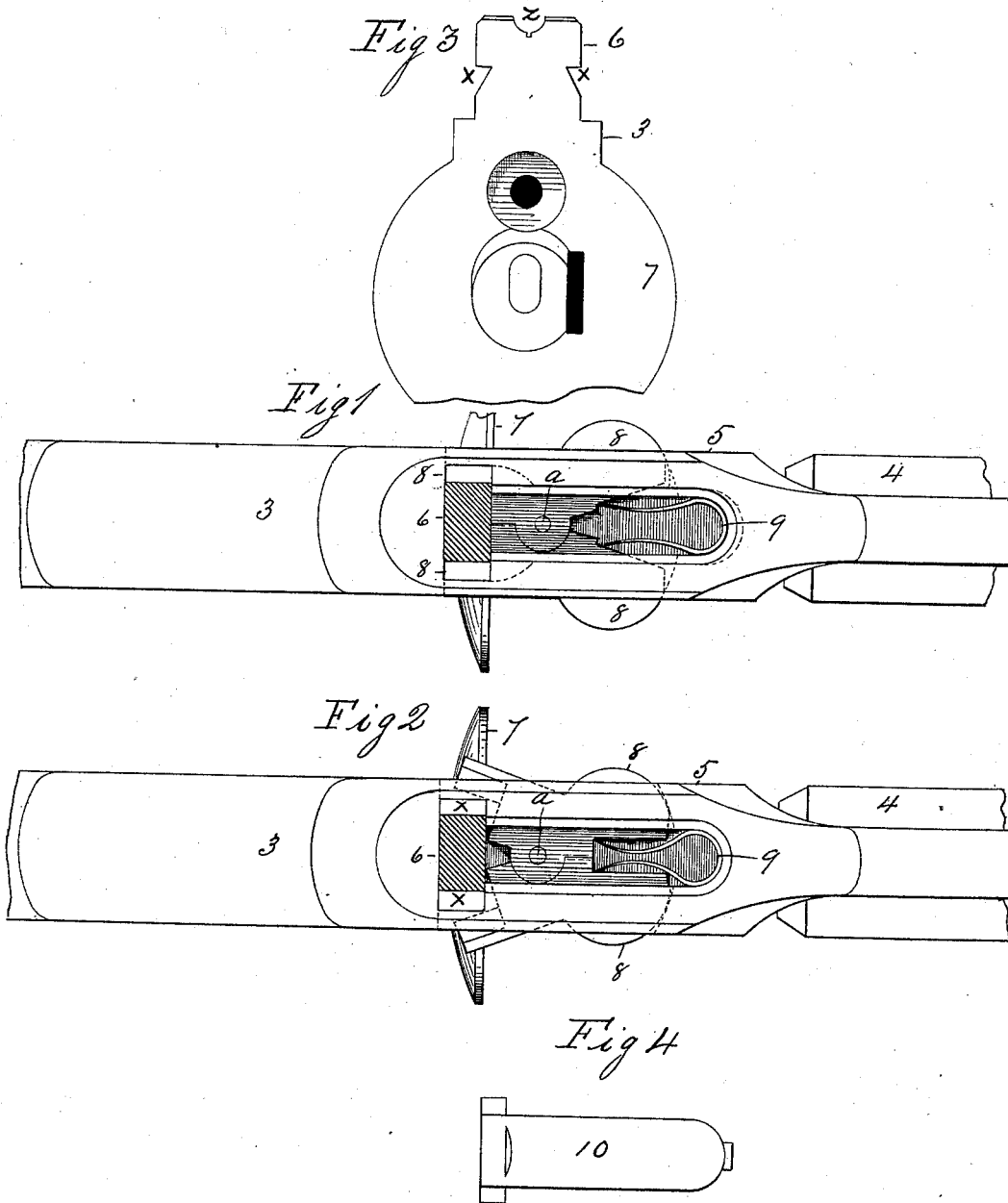
(No Model.)

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BARREL CATCH DEVICE FOR REVOLVERS.

No. 360,263.

Patented Mar. 29, 1887.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BARREL-CATCH DEVICE FOR REVOLVERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 360,263, dated March 29, 1887.

Application filed January 17, 1887. Serial No. 234,525. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL B. WESSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Barrel-Catch Devices for Revolvers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to revolving fire-arms, and pertains to improvements in the barrel-catch devices thereof; and the invention consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the devices for operating the catch-bolt, all as hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Figures 1 and 2 are plan views, somewhat enlarged, of the top of a revolving fire-arm, showing portions of the barrel and frame thereof, having applied thereto barrel-catch devices embodying my improvements, the cover of the chamber in which the barrel-catch mechanism is located being removed to more clearly show those parts, Fig. 1 showing the catch devices in a position of engagement with the catch-post, which is shown in section in said figures, and Fig. 2 showing said devices in a position of disengagement from the post. Fig. 3 is an end view of the recoil-plate of the arm, showing on its upper edge the said catch-post. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the cover of the above-mentioned chamber, in which the barrel-catch devices are located.

In the drawings, 3 indicates that part of the frame of the fire-arm to which the barrel 4 is hinged in the usual manner, whereby the arm is opened and closed to insert and remove the cylinder thereof, said barrel having the usual rearwardly-projecting strap, 5, on its rear end, which extends over the cylinder of the arm, the rear end of which strap is provided with a perforation through it to receive the upwardly-projecting catch-post 6 on the top of the frame 3, directly over the upper edge of the recoil-plate 7 of the arm, said post being adapted to project slightly above the upper side of the strap 5, and in the extreme end of said post is formed the usual rear sight-notch, *z*. The opposite edges of said catch-post 6 have therein the catch-notches *x x*, to receive therein the ends of the catch-levers, hereinbelow described. The said strap-extension 5 on the end of the

barrel 4 has its outer side chambered and its edges opposite said chamber slotted, to provide for the reception in said strap of two catch-levers, 8. Each of said levers has a circular projecting portion of its edge extending laterally beyond the edge of the strap 5 when occupying their normal positions, as shown in Fig. 1, and they are hinged together at *a*, and are capable of a vibratory motion on their pivot in the plane of the top of the strap 5. The rear ends of said catch-levers extend rearwardly as far as the rear side of the catch-post 6.

Between the ends of the catch-levers, opposite the end of the barrel 4, a U-shaped spring, 9, is placed in the end of said chamber, and its free ends engage with the opposite inner edges of said catch-levers, as shown in Fig. 1, to swing them on their pivot and cause the rear ends of said levers to engage in the notches *x* on the opposite edges of the catch-post 6. The edges of the catch-levers 8, which are brought into engagement with the notches in the catch-post, as aforesaid, are formed to correspond with the form of said notches *x* in the catch-post, and when brought into engagement with the latter, the catch-levers being so held by the spring 9, a perfectly rigid connection is made between the end of the strap 5 and that part of the arm at and in the rear of the catch-post 6.

The cover 10 of the chamber in the strap 5 is shown in plan view in Fig. 4, and has on its edges projections, as shown, which engage in grooves in the borders of said chamber, said cover being easily put into the top of the chamber when the strap 5 is opened up away from the post 6, and is then slid into place by pushing it toward the barrel 4. Said cover securely holds the devices within said chamber and protects them from any dirt that might hinder their proper operation.

As aforesaid, Fig. 1 shows the position of the barrel-catch levers 8 when the barrel-catch devices are engaged with the post 6. To open the arm to remove the cylinder, or to load it, the said projecting edges of the catch-levers 8 are pressed inwardly, bringing them to the position shown in Fig. 2, wherein their ends are shown to be swung outwardly away from said post, leaving the arm free to be opened when the levers are left free to be oper-

ated by the spring 9, and are by the latter
 thrown back to the position shown in Fig. 1.
 When the arm is closed, the rear ends of the
 catch-levers are brought to strike against the
 5 opposite edges of the spring 9; but when said
 ends arrive opposite the notches x said spring
 causes the ends of the levers to swing into en-
 gagement with said notches, thereby locking
 the end of the strap 5 securely to the rear part
 10 or frame 3 of the arm.

It is obvious that one of the two catch-levers
 may be omitted, and that the remaining lever
 may be pivoted in one of the said slots in the
 edge of the strap, a suitable spring being ap-
 15 plied behind one end of the lever; and it is
 also obvious that by cutting the slots in which
 the catch lever or levers operate transversely
 through the strap 5, leaving the top thereof
 intact, the cover 10 would not be needed.

20 What I claim as my invention is—

1. Barrel-catch mechanism for fire-arms, con-
 sisting of a strap extending rearwardly from
 the end of the barrel, having a perforation
 through it near its end, and a chamber therein
 25 having slots through its opposite edges, com-
 bined with two catch-levers hinged in said

chamber, and having their edges extending
 through said slots beyond the edges of said
 strap, and their rear ends extending toward
 the rear end of said strap, a spring acting be- 30
 tween said levers to swing their rear ends to-
 ward each other, and a catch-post on the frame
 of the arm entering the perforation in said
 strap between the ends of said levers, having
 notches in its edges, in which said catch-levers 35
 engage, substantially as set forth.

2. Barrel-catch mechanism for fire-arms, con-
 sisting of the combination, with a catch-post
 fixed on the frame thereof having a notch in
 one or both of its edges, of a perforated strap 40
 extending from the barrel rearwardly capable
 of engaging with said post, one or more catch-
 levers pivoted in said strap and capable of a
 vibratory motion therein in the plane of the
 outer side thereof and of engaging with said 45
 catch-post, and a spring acting to swing said
 lever or levers against said post, substantially
 as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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