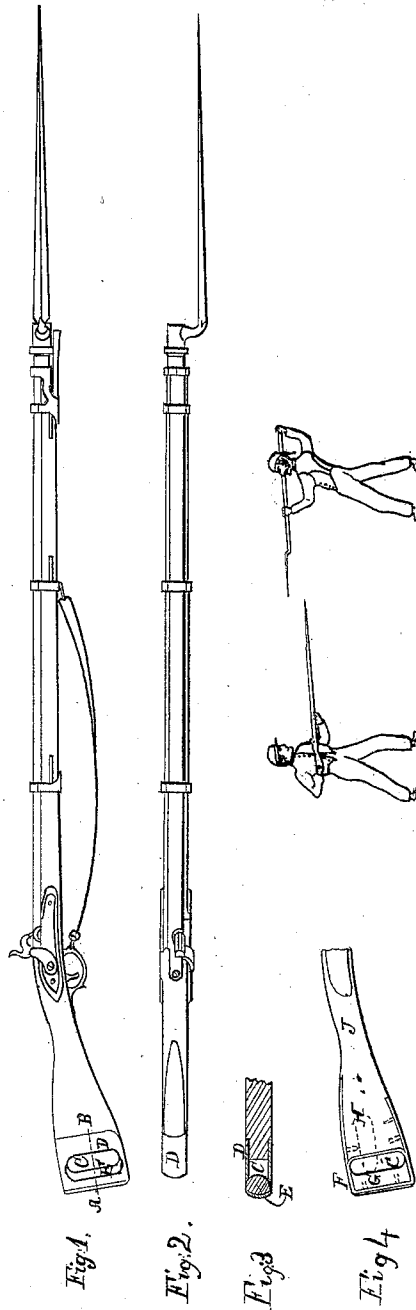


W. BURNETT. Gun Stock.

No. 34,103.

Patented Jan. 7, 1862.



Wm. Burnett

Witnesses { *Robert B. Haind*
Ed. N. Brown

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM BURNETT, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

IMPROVEMENT IN GUN-STOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 34,103, dated January 7, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BURNETT, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, in the State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Muskets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and to letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in providing a suitable hand-hold at or near the breech of a musket or other like fire-arm furnished with a sword or bayonet, which will render the instrument more effective in a hand-to-hand encounter, as, when exigency requires, a longer reach may be obtained, and a thrust may be made with greater central force and certainty of effect, while a firm hold of the musket is still secured.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction by reference to the accompanying drawings.

Figures 1 and 2 are a side and top view of a musket constructed on my improved plan. Fig. 3 is a section through A B, Fig. 1.

This musket is constructed throughout in the usual manner, except that the breech is provided with a suitable opening, C, into which, as opportunity may offer, the hand may be readily inserted, and a firm hold of the musket being thus secured at its extreme end it may be launched or thrust forward with great force and rapidity, and with a reach far beyond that which can be obtained with a musket as usually constructed.

The many cases in which a musket provided with this improvement may be used with superior effect will be quite apparent to those familiar with the use of such arms, and in the hands of infantry practiced in its use it will be a weapon of the most formidable character. The end of the stock, which would be otherwise weakened by reason of the opening C made through it, is suitably strengthened by a cap

or sheathing of metal, D, which is firmly secured to the stock by screws. The wood E of the hand-hold is separate from the stock, the fibers running longitudinal with the opening C.

Fig. 4 exhibits another mode of construction, which may be adopted, and is perhaps preferable to that just described, as the dimensions correspond to those now employed in the construction of ordinary muskets, while all necessary strength is secured. The metal strap or mounting F is fitted nicely to the stock and secured by proper screws. The wood G, which forms the round of the hand-hold is also held firmly in place by screws. Instead of this wood G sheet metal may be employed, the same being bent into proper form and then brazed firmly into its place.

The opening through the stock might, if desired, be made longitudinally, as represented in Fig. 4 by dotted lines H, and would subserve a good purpose in many cases by lengthening the reach and furnishing a more secure hold, the hand-hold thus provided being also used as occasion might suggest, instead of grasping the musket at the small of the stock J, which is usual; or a combination of these two openings C and H in one might be employed, thereby securing all the advantages of each.

I do not confine myself to the precise form and arrangement of the hand-hold as here represented, as any other form and arrangement of the same which will secure the end contemplated, would be equally embraced within my said invention.

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

Providing a musket or other like fire-arm furnished with a sword or bayonet with a suitable hand-hole at or near the breech, substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

WM. BURNETT.

Witnesses:

ROBERT B. HINE,
H. N. BROWN.