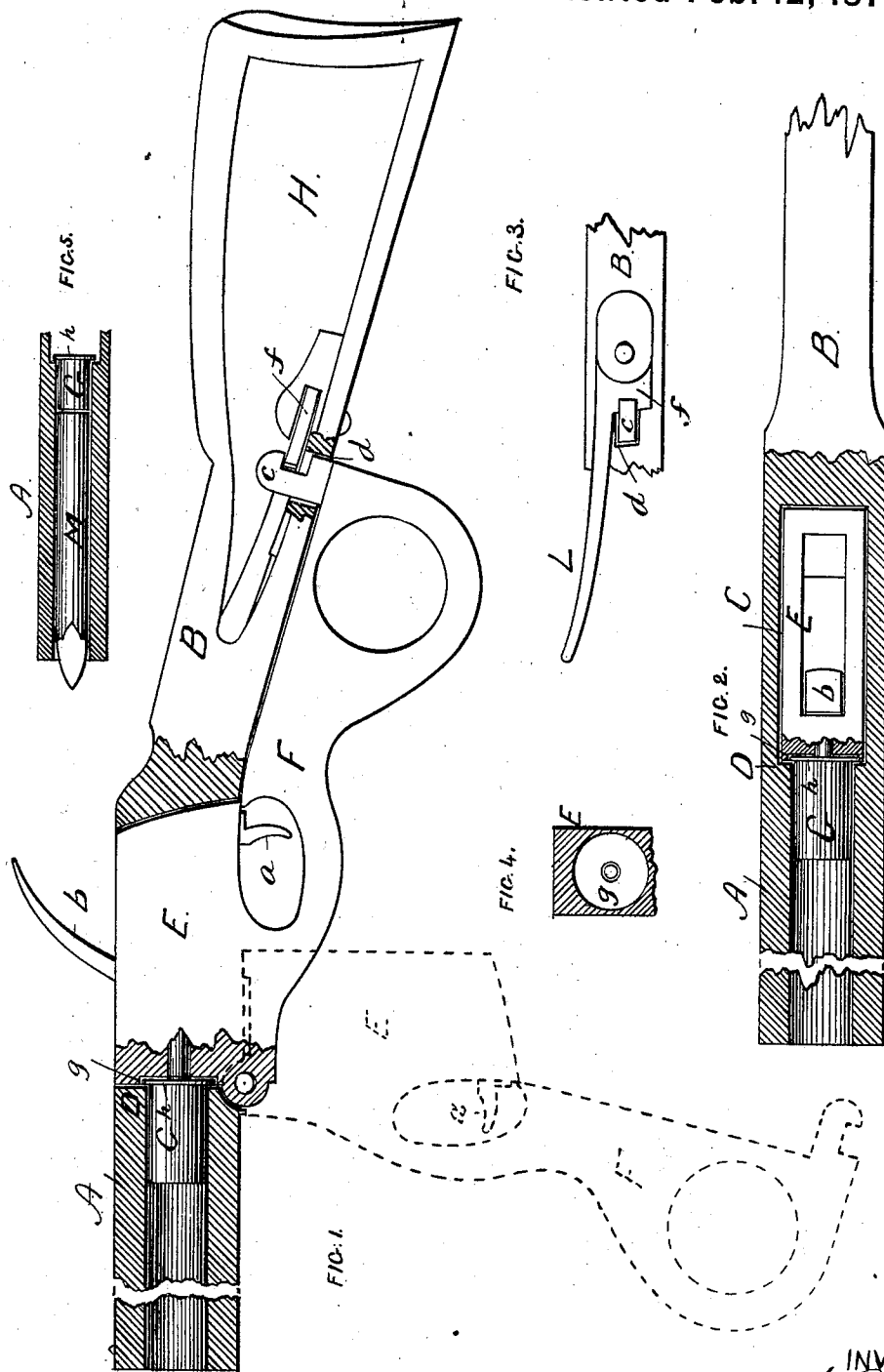


E. PIERCE & S. EGGERS.
Breech-Loading Guns.

No. 200,338.

Patented Feb. 12, 1878.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EBENEZER PIERCE AND SELMAR EGGERS, OF NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING GUNS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **200,338**, dated February 12, 1878; application filed July 19, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EBENEZER PIERCE and SELMAR EGGERS, both of New Bedford, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented Improvements in Breech-Loading Guns, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates more particularly to breech-loading guns for the discharge of bomb-lances or harpoons, although it is applicable for use in the discharge of other missiles.

The invention consists in a fastening for securing the guard and breech-block in place for the discharge of the gun, as will be more fully hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is in part a side and sectional view of a breech-loading gun having our invention applied thereto; Fig. 2, in part a plan and sectional view; Figs. 3, 4, and 5, detail views.

In the drawings, A represents the barrel, and B the stock or butt, of the gun, both cast or otherwise made of one piece of metal, and which can be finished in any desirable manner.

In the butt B is a slotted opening, C, at the breech end D of the barrel, for receiving the breech-block E, which, with the trigger-guard F, is also cast or otherwise made of one piece of metal of any proper kind.

The breech-block is hinged in the slotted opening C of the gun-stock, and within it are arranged, in any of the ordinary modes, the trigger *a* and hammer *b*, for operation as ordinarily, and the hanging of the said block is such that it can be swung into and out of position at the breech of the gun-barrel, and

when out, as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, clear the slotted opening, so that a cartridge, G, may be inserted or removed at pleasure. *c* is a hook-shaped stud on trigger-guard, which, when the guard is closed against the stock B, projects through an opening, *d*, in the stock, and by its hook end *c* lies within the open part H of the butt in position to receive the part *f* of the lever L, which is hung on the stock in suitable position therefor, and thus, by the interlock of the two, the trigger-guard and breech-block are fastened in place when closed.

The breech-block E is recessed in its face, which closes against the breech end of the barrel, and this recess *g* is of suitable shape to receive the flanged end or head *h* of the cartridge.

By this means the flanged end of the cartridge can be most readily got at to remove it when desired.

M is a lance, which, if desired, can be used to push out the cartridge from the barrel by inserting it at the muzzle, and, opening the breech, force it down against the cartridge, which is thus pushed out.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The trigger-guard F, having hook-stud *c*, in combination with stock B, having hole *d*, and lever L, all substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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Witnesses:

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