F. STENDEBACH.

FIREARM WITH DROP DOWN BARREL.

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Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Witnesses.

Frederick Clevland.

Samuel Percival

Inventor.

Frederick Stendebach

by. W. A. Knight, Attorneys.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRIEDRICH STENDEBACH, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, residing at 5 Weingärtnerstrasse, Leipzig-Gohlis, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fireamrs with Drop-Down Barrels; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact Description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an arrangement of the breech in fire-arms with drop-down barrels, the advantage of which is that when the barrel is tilted the movable breech-piece does not come out of the breech box and insures the barrel being firmly held. In the case of fire arms with pivots seated in or below the axis of the bore it also insures an easy opening of the breech when the maximum charges are used, as the jamming observable in such weapons has hereunto made the opening of the breech more difficult.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a longitudinal section through the breech box, the barrel being in the position for firing, Fig. 2 a similar section, the barrel being tilted down.

The barrel b is arranged so that it can be tilted around a pin a, which is situated for example above the axis of the bore of the barrel b. On the back part of the barrel ribs d are arranged which move in suitable grooves in the breech box.

The breech piece h is pivotally seated on a pin i which is below the axis of the bore of the barrel b and as near as possible to the bottom end thereof as well as to the bottom of the cartridge. The position of the pin i is important as regards the easy opening of the breech after the firing, for only if the pin i is as nearly as possible in the plane of the breech piece and as far as possible below the axis of the bore of the barrel will the breech piece swing at once from the bottom of the cartridge when the breech is opened. The back surface of the breech piece h is of circular form, so that it can be turned in a lathe without trouble and with the greatest accuracy.

The inner surface of the fixed breech piece h' which is towards the barrel is likewise hollowed out in circular form. Under the bottom m of the movable breech piece h, which is slightly inclined forwards, is a sliding bolt n which is suitably connected with the bolt f that engages in the lump g, in such a manner that when the barrel b is locked the locking of the movable breech piece h is simultaneously effected. The part p of the movable breech piece extended beyond the pin i projects under the barrel b (Fig. 1) b so that the projection or hook p is at a slight distance from the bottom of the barrel when the barrel is locked, and that when the fire takes place the recoiling breech piece h ceases not to tilt the barrel from its seating.

It is advisable to arrange the fixed breech piece h' as a separate fitting in the breech box, so that it can be carefully turned in the same manner as the back surface of the movable breech piece h. In the case of drop-down barrel fire arms with double barrels it is further advisable to form the breech piece h in two parts, so that every barrel has its own breech piece and so that when the firing takes place the breech piece of the one barrel may not be forced by other into an unfavorable position, which may easily occur when a part is worn or when the surfaces are not uniformly turned. If the barrel is to be tilted, the bolts n f are pulled back and the barrel can be tilted without trouble. When the tilting takes place movable breech piece h is forced back into breech box by the inner end of the barrel, the hook p moved proportionally upward. When the breech is closed the lower end of the barrel rests on the hook and in this forces the breech piece h against the end of the barrel. The final or compact fixing of the breech piece is only effected subsequently by its being locked through the bolt n.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. In a drop-down barrel fire arm pivoted barrel, a breech piece pivot mounted below the axis of the bore of the barrel, two locks, one for the barrel and for the breech piece, and means for actuating the locks simultaneously.

2. In a drop-down barrel fire arm pivoted barrel provided with a shoulder pivoted breech piece, two reciproca locks for engaging with said shoulder the breech piece, respectively, and means reciprocating said locks simultaneously.

3. In a drop-down barrel fire arm pivoted barrel provided with a recessed section, a pivoted breech piece, a recipratory lock for entering said recess, a pin the rear end of said lock, and a reciproca lock having its rear end mounted on said...
and its forward end inclined for engaging with the breech piece, whereby the barrel and the breech piece are simultaneously locked in their closed positions.

4. In a drop-down barrel firearm, a pivoted barrel, a stationary breech piece, a movable breech block pivoted thereto for closing the barrel, means for locking the barrel in firing position, independent means for locking the breech block in its closed position, and means for actuating both of said locking means.

5. In a firearm, a stationary breech piece, a breech block pivoted thereto, barrel, means for locking the barrel in position, means actuated in closing the breech block, in means to lock the breech block in position, and a lever adapted to both of the locking means simul.

In testimony whereof I have signed, in presence of two witnesses:

FRIEDRICH STENDI

Witnesses:
RUDOLPH FRICKE, HERM. SACK.