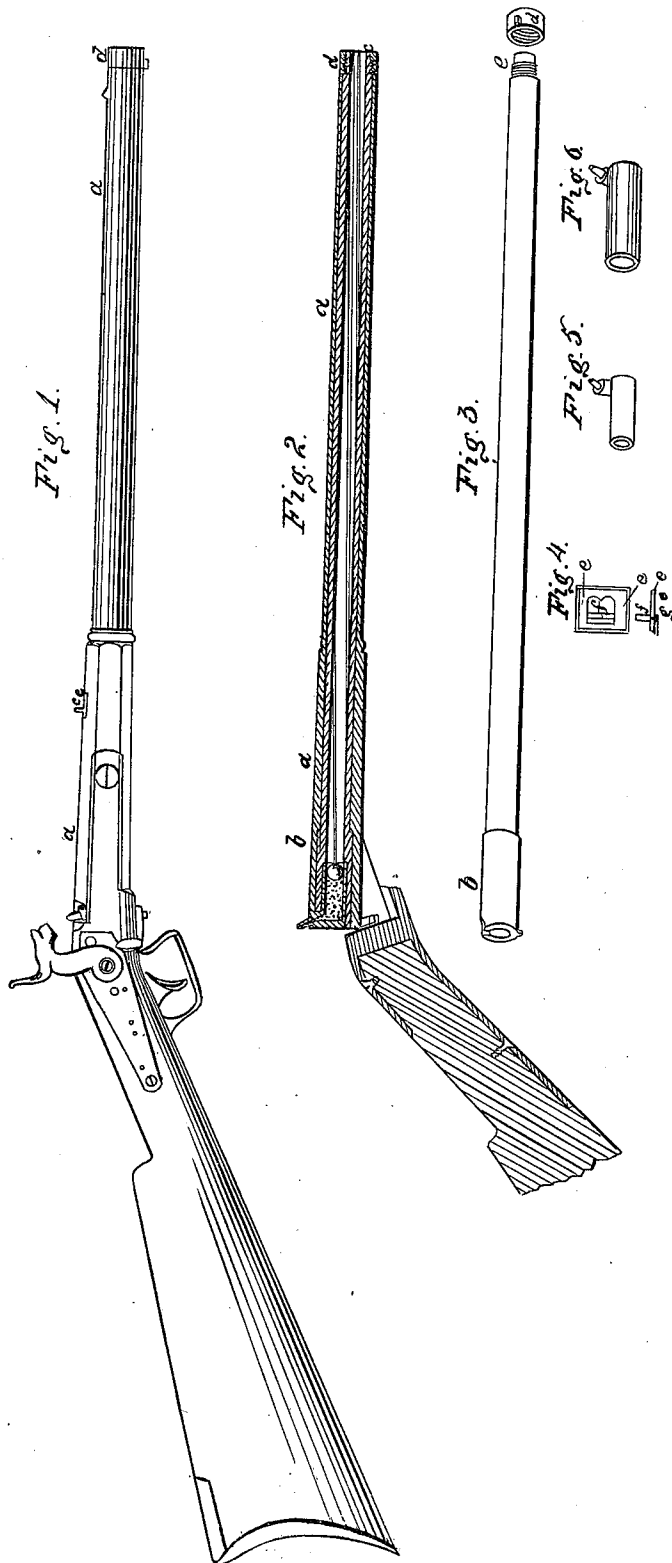


S. ADAMS.
Breech-Loading Fire-Arms.

No. 960.

Patented October 3, 1838.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL ADAMS, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 960, dated October 3, 1838.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL ADAMS, of Springfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the drawings accompanying and making part of said description.

The principal feature of my invention consists in so constructing the barrel of fire arms as to be enabled to combine in the same barrel both a rifle and smooth-bore gun.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the combined gun; Fig. 2, a section through it; Fig. 3, the inside or rifle-bored barrel; Fig. 4, the back sight; Fig. 5, a metallic cartridge suited to the rifle; Fig. 6, the same fitted to the shotgun.

a a, Figs. 1 and 2, represent the barrel in its combined state—that is to say, with a barrel having a rifle-bored caliber inserted within the caliber of a smooth-bored gun, and made to load at the breech with a metallic cartridge, in the usual manner of guns constructed upon that principle, the construction and operation of which it would be useless to describe, as they appertain in no way whatever to my improvement. In the shotgun which receives its load in this manner, that part of the caliber which receives the metallic cartridge is necessarily made larger in order to receive it. This feature in a gun of such a description is of material service in my combined gun, inasmuch as the larger calibered part of the barrel is, after removing the cartridge of the shotgun, filled with a projection, *b*, Figs. 2 and 3, on the breech of the rifle-barrel, equal in length

and diameter to that of the cartridge, so that the rifle-barrel, being longer than that of the shotgun, and inserted in it, projects beyond it at the muzzle, and on that part so projecting a screw is cut, *c*, Figs. 2 and 3, to which a nut, *d*, Figs. 1, 2, and 3, is fitted, by which means—viz., the projection on one end and nut fitted to a screw on the other acting on the muzzle of the shotgun—the inside barrel is confined very securely within the other. The inside barrel has likewise a metallic cartridge, and is loaded and discharged in the usual manner. In the event of using this as a shotgun, the back sight is not necessary, whereas when used as a rifle it is. Therefore I construct it in such a manner as that it may or may not be used, as occasion requires, and denominate it the “secret sight.” As represented at Fig. 4, a recess is made in the sight-plate *e* equal in dimensions to those of the sight *f*, which is made to turn on a pivot at *g*, and can be raised or lowered to or from a vertical or horizontal position, and kept in either by a spring resting on the barrel directly under it, constantly pressing upward.

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

The combining of one barrel within the other, in manner and for the purposes herein set forth and described; and I also claim of making the back sight of a rifle turn on a pivot, in manner and for the purposes substantially as above described.

SAML. ADAMS.

Witnesses:

C. H. WILTBERGER,
J. W. HUBBARD.