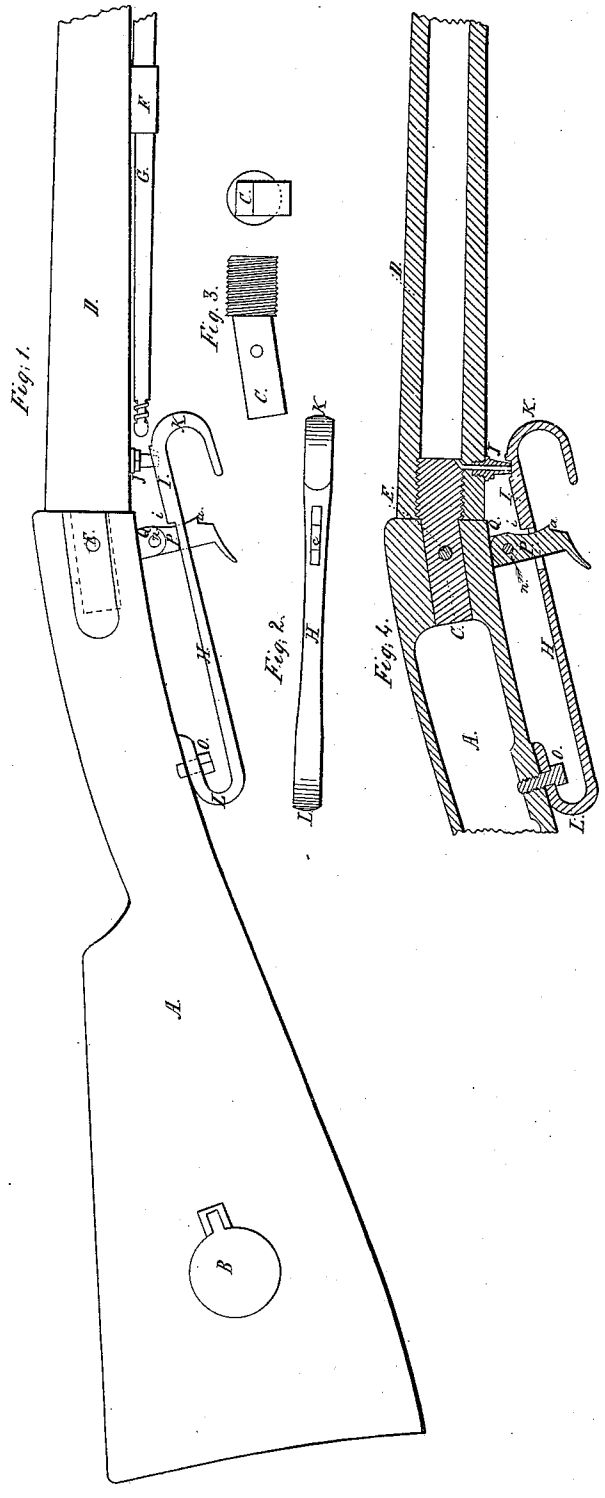
W. BRIGGS.

GUN LOCK.

No. 25,244. Patented Aug. 30, 1859.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM BRIGGS, OF NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN GUN-LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **25,244**, dated August 30, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BRIGGS, of Norristown, in the county of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Guns and Fire-Arms; and I hereby declare that the following specification, in connection with the accompanying drawings and letters of reference marked thereon, constitute a lucid, clear, and exact description of the construction and use of the same.

In referring to the said drawings, Figure 1 denotes a side elevation; Fig. 2, an inverted plan or underneath view of the spring-hammer guard; Fig. 3, a side and end elevation of the breech-pin or tang; Fig. 4, a central, vertical, and longitudinal section of Fig. 1.

The nature of my invention consists in the peculiar method of fabricating, adapting, uniting, and securing the stock and gun-barrel to each other, and in so constructing, arranging, and combining the stock with the spring-hammer guard and trigger as to constitute the lock, all arranged as described, for simplicity and cheapness in construction and an increased durability in use, greater safety from explosion, and greater precision in service, all as will be hereinafter seen.

To enable persons skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to construct and carry out the same, I will describe it as follows:

I construct the stock of malleable iron, (seen at A,) cast in one entire piece and made hollow and light. A square hole is formed in the neck of the stock, which leads to the main cavity in the stock, and this hole and the hole for the cap-box B are the only openings formed through the stock, and answer to sustain the core in casting. The square hole at the end of the stock is nicely trued or shaped, and the end of the stock squared off or finished, so that the breech-pin or tang C, which is finished and screwed into the barrel D, will exactly fit and conjoin to the square hole formed in the stock to receive it, both the barrel and stock being drawn up together by the tapering screw-pin E, which forces the breech end of the gun-barrel and the end of the stock together in the firmest manner, bringing metal to metal, and consequently there is very little liability of its getting loose. The thimbles F are attached directly to the barrel D, to receive the ramrod G, and thus obviating the necessity of a rib.

I construct the lock as follows, the stock A constituting the lock-plate: I construct the spring, hammer, and guard all in one piece, (seen at H.) This is made of the best of steel and properly tempered. This spring-hammer guard has a bosh formed near its front end, (seen at I,) which is countersunk, to strike the tube J to explode the cap, the front end of H being bent and formed (as seen at K) to constitute the guard, the opposite end of the spring-hammer guard being bent, as seen at L, to conjoin to the lock-plate or stock A, to which it is held by screw O. The trigger is seen at P, which passes through slot *c* in spring-hammer guard H, it being secured to the stock A or lock-plate by pin *n*, passing through bosh Q, cast thereon. The notch *a* on trigger P catches onto bosh at *i* as the gun is cocked, and rendering a trigger-spring unnecessary. Thus the lock, by its peculiar construction and the entire means of securing parts H and P to its plate or stock A, consists of but four pieces, including the guard, and the number of pieces constituting the entire gun is lessened from the old method nearly one-half, while the parts constituting my gun, when constructed and united as within described, constitute the most simple, cheap, and perfect gun known. The parts are easily constructed and repaired, and what few there are of them are on the exterior of the gun and easy of approach. The stock A is ground smooth and bronzed the same as the barrel, for its finish.

All that is necessary in using my gun is to load it in the usual way, place the forefinger of the right hand (for convenience) within the guard part K of the spring-hammer guard, and raise it, at the same time pressing the trigger with the thumb of the same hand until the notch *a* catches under bosh *i;* then the gun is ready to be discharged.

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

Constructing the stock A and breech of barrel D so as to be susceptible of and united to each other by the tang or breech-pin C and tapering screw-pin E, and the spring-hammer guard H and trigger P, arranged and combined with stock A essentially in the manner and for the purposes fully set forth.

WILLIAM BRIGGS.

Witnesses:
E. W. SCOTT,
S. LAMB.