F. H. ESCHERICH.

Breech-Loading Fire-Arm.

No. 78,519. Patented June 2, 1868.

Fig. 1

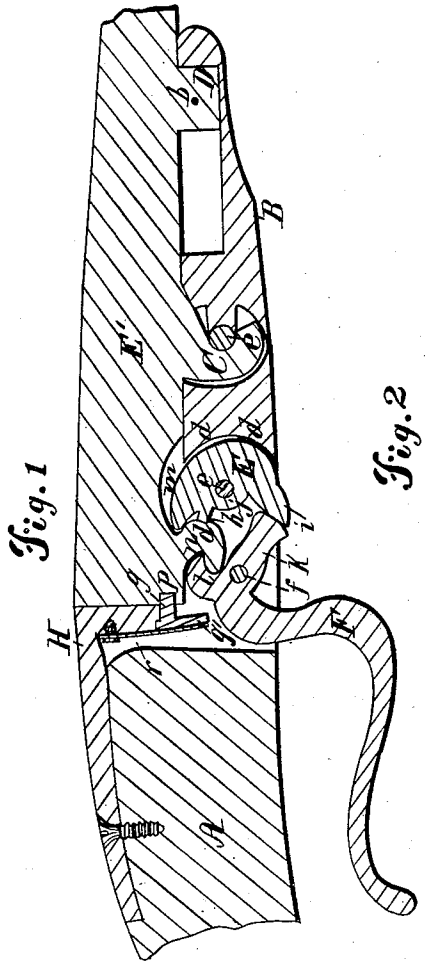
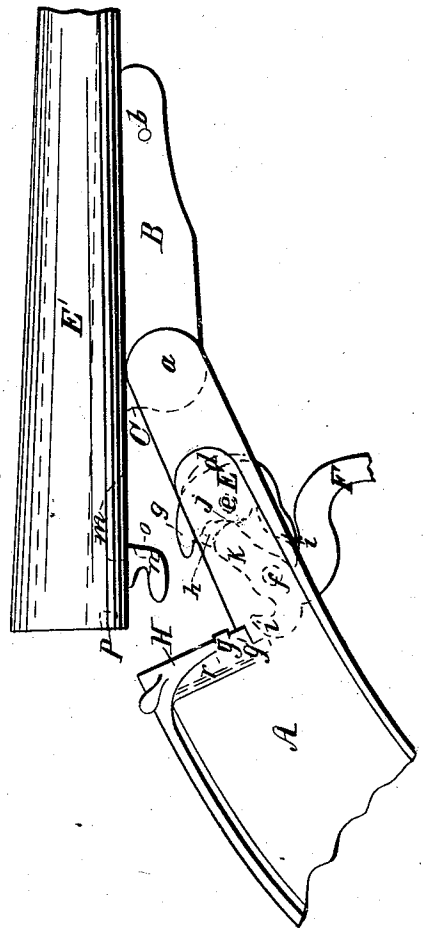


Fig. 2



Witnesses:
Chas. D. Smith
Jacob Henry

Inventor:
F. H. Escherich
By Frederosheim & Co
Attorneys

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

United States Patent Office.

FRANCIS H. ESCHERICH, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 78,519, *dated June* 2, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS H. ESCHERICH, of Baltimore, in the county of Baltimore, and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and correct description of the same, sufficient to enable others skilled in the art to which my improvement appertains to fully understand and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which make part of this specification, and in which—

Figure I is a central longitudinal vertical section, and

Figure II a side elevation of my improvement.

Like letters indicate like parts in both figures.

The nature of my invention consists in a simple and novel means of opening and closing a breech-loading fire-arm, in which the barrel itself is hinged and moved for loading.

A, in the drawings, may represent the main stock of a breech-loading fire-arm, to which a part, B, is hinged, as shown at *a*. The barrel or barrels are provided with two projections, C and D, the former being hook-shaped, and the latter of any suitable form, merely provided with a hole to admit of a pin, *b*, passing through, by means of which projection and pin the barrel or barrels E′ are secured to the part B of the stock. The rear end of this part B is rounded out, so as to form, together with the hook C, a bearing for the pin *c*, which forms the pivot of the barrel, as shown in Fig. I, the stock A being, at its front end, cut out, so as to receive the hook C and rear end of the part B.

A little in the rear of the pivot the stock, A, has an opening, the front end of which is rounded out, as shown at *d*, so as to conform to the shape of a cam, E, which is pivoted on the pin *e*, and is operated by a lever, F, pivoted on the pin *f*. The cam E has three separate projections, *g*, *h*, *i*, which each form a means of holding the breech in place when the fire-arm is ready to be discharged. The lever F has an arm, *k*, which operates against the projection *i* and the bulging part *j* of the cam E, as will be hereinafter more clearly described.

The lever F is also provided with a hook-shaped projection, *l*, being situated above the arm *k*.

The breech of the barrel is hollowed out slightly on its under side, as shown at *m*, and is provided with a projection, *n*, which is hook-shaped, and has a recess, *o*, formed in its front part.

A hole, *p*, in the rear of the breech, serves to admit a pin, *q*, which is attached to a spring, *r*, secured to the stock-iron H, and has a downward projection, *q′*.

The operation of the device is very simple and effective. When the barrel is in position, as shown in Fig. I, the projection *g* of the cam E seizes into the hollowed part *m*, while the projection *h* seizes into the recess *o* of the hook *n*, which latter is held by the hook *l* of the lever F, the arm *k* of which rests against the projection *i* of the cam E, and holds the cam firmly in position. At the same time the pin *q* is held in the hole *p* by means of the spring *r*.

In opening the breech the lever F is moved forward, whereby the hook *l* is drawn out from the hook *n*, and, coming in contact with the projection *q′* of the pin *q*, forces the latter from out of the hole *p*. A soon as the pin *q* is clear of the breech, the arm *k* of the lever F begins to operate upon the bulging part *j* of the cam E′, forcing the upper part of the same forward, and its projections *g* and *h* out of the hollow place *m* and the recess *o* of the hook *n*, and at the same time lifting the breech by means of the hook *n*, the rear part of the hook *l* at the same time holding the pin *q* clear of the breech.

In closing the breech the lever F is moved backward, the hook *l* seizing the hook *n* and forcing it downward, releasing at the same time the pin *q*, and allowing it to slip into the hole *p*, attached by the spring *r*, while the arm *k*, operating on the projection *i* of the cam E, forces the upper portion of the latter back, and the projections *g* and *h* into the hollow place *m* and recess *o*.

The lever F may form the trigger-guard, and be secured in the rear to the stock by a spring top, or in any other suitable manner.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The construction of the angular pins *g g'*, of the forwardly-projecting part *g*, and the downwardly-projecting part *g'*, and operated by the hook *l* of the lever F, substantially as herein described and for the purpose specified.

2. The cam E, provided with projections, *g h i*, and bulging part *j*, in combination with the lever F, provided with hook *l* and arm *k*, substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. The cam E and lever F, constructed as described, in combination with the hook *n*, provided with recess *o*, and the hollowed recess *m*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

4. The cam E, lever F, and hook *n*, constructed as described, in combination with the pin *q*, provided with a downward projection, *q'*, and secured to the spring *r*, and with the hole *p* in the breech, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

The above specification of my improvement in breech-loading fire-arms, signed this sixth day of February, 1868.

FRANCIS H. ESCHERICH.

Witnesses:

B. SCHOFIELD,

B. NORWOOD.