

J. C. WELLES.

BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

No. 177,905.

Patented May 23, 1876.

Fig. 1.

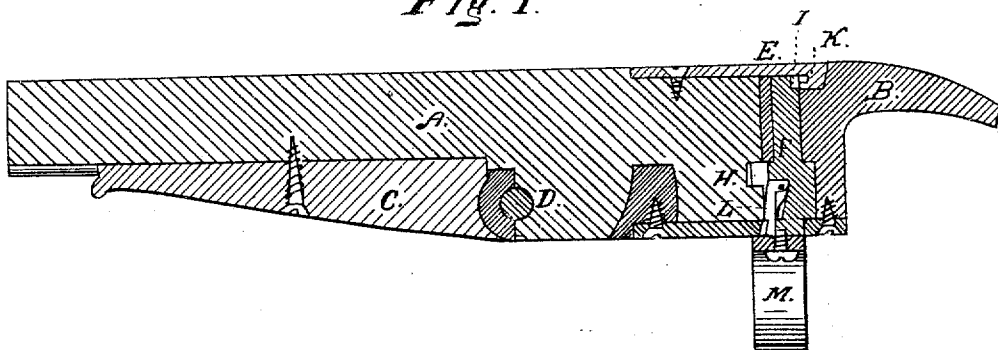
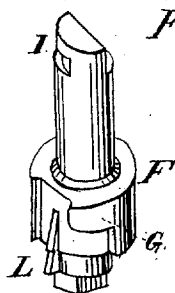


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,905**, dated May 23, 1876; application filed April 10, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. WELLES, of Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee, in the State of Wisconsin, have invented certain Improvements in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is the improvement of breech-loading fire-arms by securing the breech to the barrel more securely.

This fire-arm is of that class denominated "tilting fire-arms," and has the peculiarity of a key-bolt, which locks the lower portion of the breech-piece to the barrel of the arm, and also locks the key-bolt into an extension-rib and the top of the barrel, making a double locking device.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of my invention, and Fig. 2 a view of the key-bolt.

A is the barrel of the fire-arm; B, the breech-piece; C, a piece secured to the bottom of the barrel of the arm, with its rear end hollowed out to fit on over the forward end of the breech-piece, working on pin D, so that the breech-piece may turn and be kept in place; E, an extension-rib extending out in rear of the barrel of the gun, with an indented slot in same, into which a key-bolt locks and holds the breech-piece in place; F, a key-bolt, the upper end of which is filed off square on one side and a groove or notch cut in the other side, which, as the key-bolt is turned, hooks into the slot-catch in the rib E, and holds the breech-piece firmly in place. The square filed off on one side of the key-bolt F permits the extension-rib E to come down over same. G, a notch in the key-bolt, cut out so as to make a lock in it, so that as the key-bolt is turned it

hooks over a slot in the lump H, and a hook, I, on the top of key-bolt F, which, as it is turned, locks into the slot K in the extension-rib, and thus fastens the breech-piece and barrel together; L, a spring and key on the bottom of key-bolt F. When the lever M is turned sidewise to unlock the key-bolt from the extension-rib and the lump H on the barrel, and the breech is lowered or the barrel tilted, the key L is forced out into a slot in the guard on the bottom of the breech-piece, which will hold the lever firmly back while the breech-piece is lowered, and when the breech-piece is raised up in place again, the key L will be pressed in again by the lump H striking against it, and the lever can be turned back again. M, lever with which to turn the key-bolt and release the breech-piece from the barrel, when the breech-piece can be tilted down and the load put into the barrel, and then the breech-piece put back again, and the lever turned back, and the arm is secure.

I claim as new and as my invention—

1. Key-bolt F, made with one side of its head square, and also of one solid piece, and extending up into rib E, and locking into same, and pressing against the back side of the notch in the extension-rib, holding the breech-piece and barrel together, both vertically and horizontally, substantially as described.

2. Key-bolt F and spring L, in combination with barrel A and breech-piece B, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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