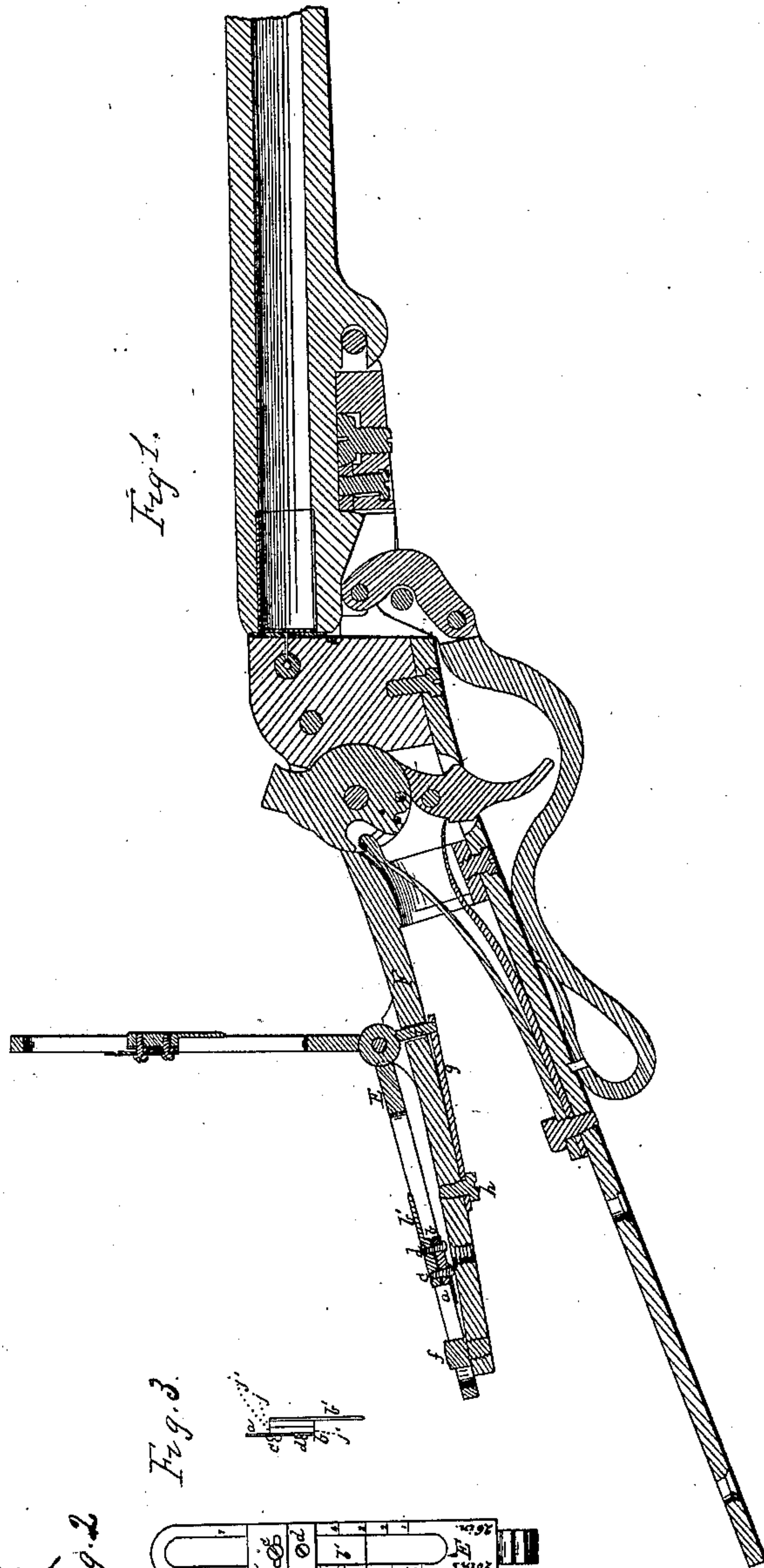


E. MAYNARD.
BACK SIGHT FOR FIREARMS.

No. 25,663.

Patented Oct. 4, 1859.



Witnesses
J. C. Robbins.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD MAYNARD, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BACK SIGHT FOR FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 25,663, dated October 4, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD MAYNARD, of the city of Washington and District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Back Sights of Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a sectional representation of a sufficient portion of the "Maynard breech-loading rifle" to show my improved back sight combined therewith. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the movable carriage and the other features of my improved back sight detached from a fire-arm; and Fig. 3 is an edge view of the adjustable portions of the back sight detached from their supporting-carriage.

The carriage E, which supports the adjustable features of my improved back sight for fire-arms, I combine with the tang F of the breech-piece of a fire-arm, or with some other suitable metallic strap or plate which may be combined with the upper side of the stock of said arm. The back-sight carriage E has a head of a cylindrical shape, that fits accurately between a pair of ears that rise from the tang F, and which is jointed to said ears by a pin that passes through a central aperture in the said cylindrical head. Two grooves are formed in the periphery of the head of the carriage E in the respective positions shown in Fig. 1, and immediately beneath the said carriage-head a pin, *i*, passes up through an aperture in the tang F, from the outwardly-acting spring *g*, which is combined with the under side of said tang by means of the screw *h*, and which vibrates freely within a recess formed in the gun-stock. The shape of the upper end of the pin *i* bears such a relation to the shape of the grooves or concavities in the head of the carriage E that it bears only upon the extreme outer edges of said grooves, thereby holding the back-sight carriage steadily in either of its proper positions, without the liability of any play such as is due to wear in such mechanism.

To prevent any lateral strain from being exerted upon the back-sight carriage when it is in its closed position, a knob, *f*, is combined with the tang F, and placed in such a position

that it will fit snugly into the outer portion of the oblong aperture in said carriage.

The perforated sight-plate *a* may be combined with the parallel sides of the carriage E in the manner represented in the drawings, or in any other manner that may be deemed expedient. The plates *b* and *b'*, which are combined with the front and rear faces of the parallel sides of the carriage, and also with each other by means of the set-screws *c d*, have inwardly-projecting shoulders or offsets *j j'*, Fig. 3, that fit between the side bars of the carriage and accurately guide the movements of said plates as they are adjusted to different elevations upon the carriage. A portion of the offset *j'* of the plate *b* extends a short distance above said plate, for the purpose of enabling the sight-plate *a*, which rests upon the upper edge of the plate *b*, to be secured to the face of said offset by means of the set-screw *e*, which passes through a transverse slot in the sight-plate.

I am aware that back sights of fire-arms have been arranged on the stock of the gun, and have been made to fold on a hinge-joint, with a spring to hold the sight-carriage in a vertical position, and that this spring has been arranged both above and below the joint. I therefore do not claim, broadly, a folding sight with a spring-holder located on the stock of a fire-arm; but

What I do claim is—

1. The device as set forth, viz: the grooved cylindrical end of the sight-carriage, in combination with a spring bolt or pin of such form that it shall fall into the grooves and bear against their two sides, and yet not touch the bottoms of the grooves, so that as it wears it will still press on the sides of the grooves and hold the carriage firm in either of its positions.

2. The device, as set forth, of placing the spring and its bolt or pin within the stock or breech of the gun for its more perfect protection from wet and damage by accident, the opening through which the pin acts being susceptible of being closed with oil or packing.

EDWARD MAYNARD.

Witnesses:

EDM. F. BROWN,
Z. C. ROBBINS.