

J. RIDER.

Breech-Loading Fire-Arm.

No. 53,543.

Patented Mar. 27, 1866.

Fig. 1.

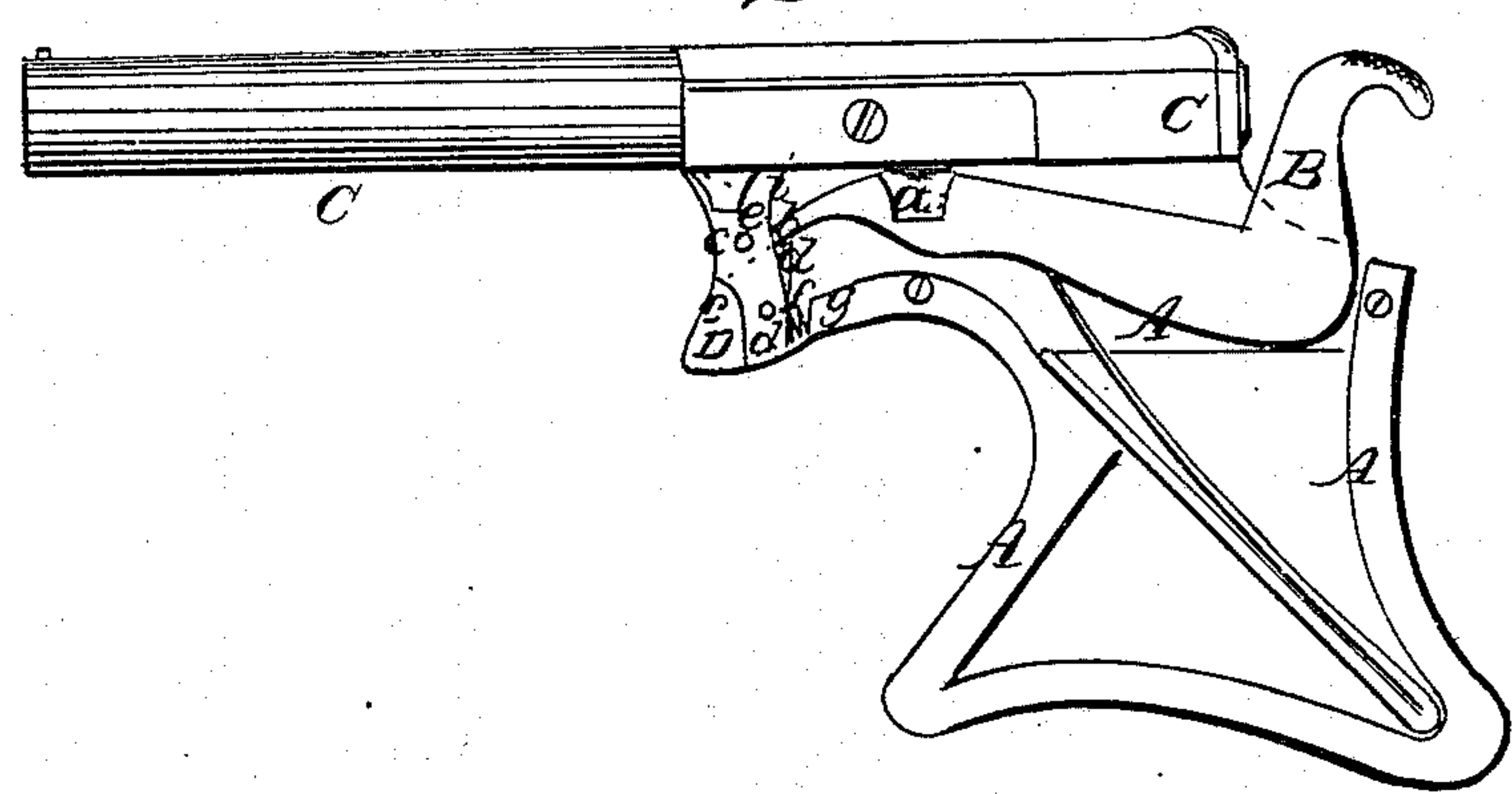
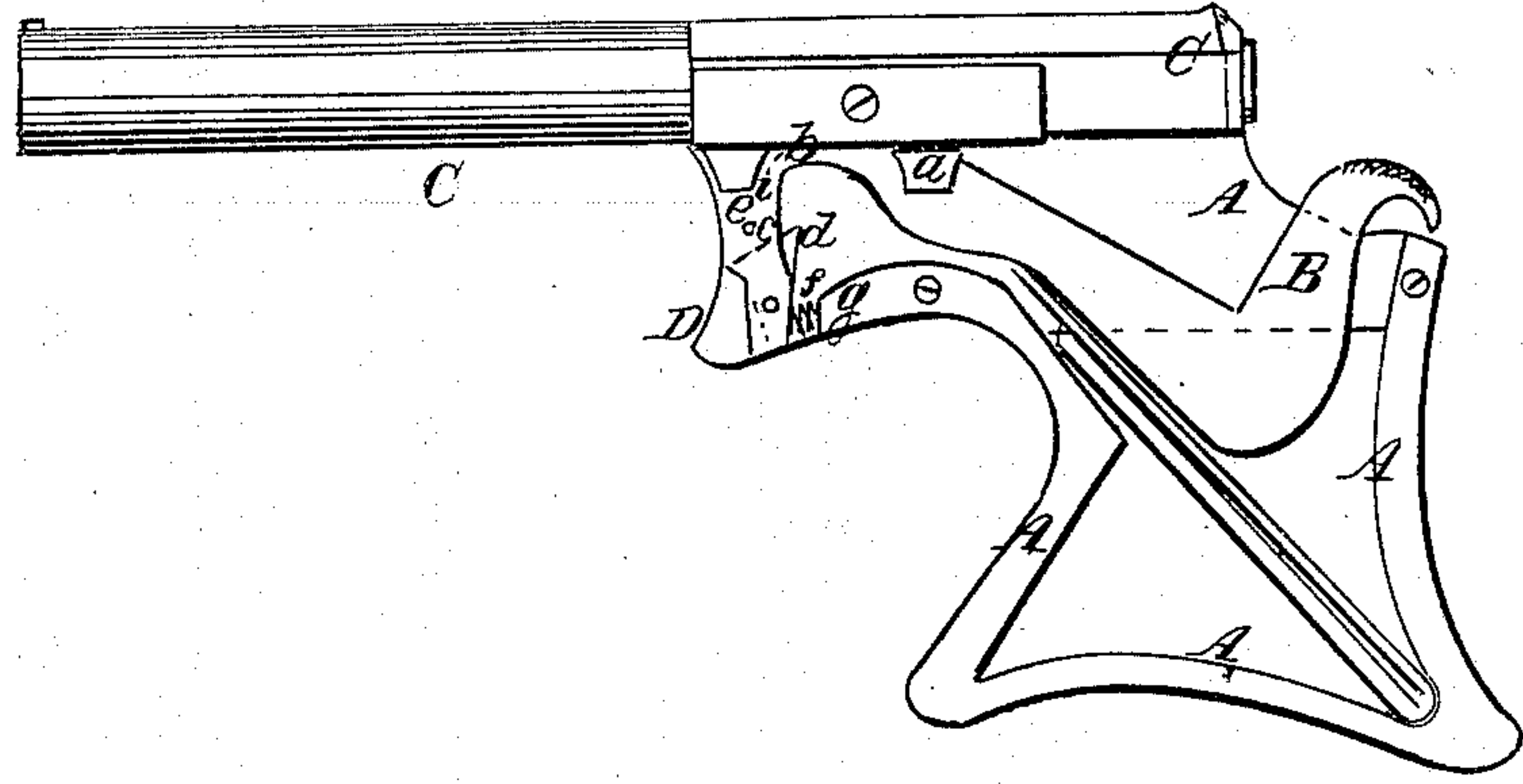


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 53,543, dated March 27, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH RIDER, of Newark, in the county of Licking and State of Ohio, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a skeleton view of a small-arm constructed after my plan, with the hammer standing at the half-cock. Fig. 2 represents a similar view of the arm with the hammer at the full-cock.

Similar letters of reference, where they occur in the separate figures, denote like parts of the arm in both of the drawings.

In fire-arms where the hammer is underhung and serves the double purpose of hammer and breech-piece no provision heretofore has been made for holding the hammer at half-cock, and when loaded it had to be carried with the hammer down upon the cartridge or firing-pin, which is very dangerous, or carried at the full-cock, which was even more dangerous.

My invention consists in combining with an arm that has a barrel bored through and through, and which is loaded and fired at the rear or breech, and has an underhung hammer that serves the double purpose of exploding the charge and of taking the recoil of the exploded charge, a combined half and full cock trigger, so that said hammer may stand firmly at half-cock, and be free to be thrown against the priming or firing pin when at full-cock by the ordinary pulling of said trigger, as will be explained.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawings.

A represents the frame of the arm; B, the

hammer, pivoted thereto at *a*, and its tail projecting still farther forward under the barrel and terminating in a hammer-sear, *b*. *c* is the barrel, which is bored through and through and is charged at its rear.

D is the trigger, which is pivoted to the frame at *e*, and is composed of two pieces, *d e*, the former pivoted to the latter, and both forced out at their lower ends by a coiled spring, *f*, interposed between them and the portion *g* of the frame.

The piece *d* has a sear on its inner upper end, upon which the hammer-sear *b* is caught when at half-cock, and where it is firmly held; and though the trigger may be moved to its full extent when the hammer-sear is resting on the sear of the half-cock trigger, yet it cannot fly or be released, thus making the arm perfectly safe to be carried when it is loaded and the hammer at the half-cock.

At the top of the piece *e*, which I term the "full-cock" trigger, there is a sear, *i*, upon which the hammer-sear takes and is held when the hammer is brought to the full-cock. When in this position the pulling of the trigger allows the hammer to fly and explode the charge.

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

In combination with an underhung hammer, such as described, a combined half and full cock trigger, *d e*, pivoted to the frame and to each other, and acting in connection with the tail *b* of the hammer, so that the hammer may be securely held at half-cock and operate in the usual well-known manner at full-cock, thus making the arm perfectly safe to carry when loaded, substantially as described.

JOSEPH RIDER.

Witnesses:

W. H. THOMAS,
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