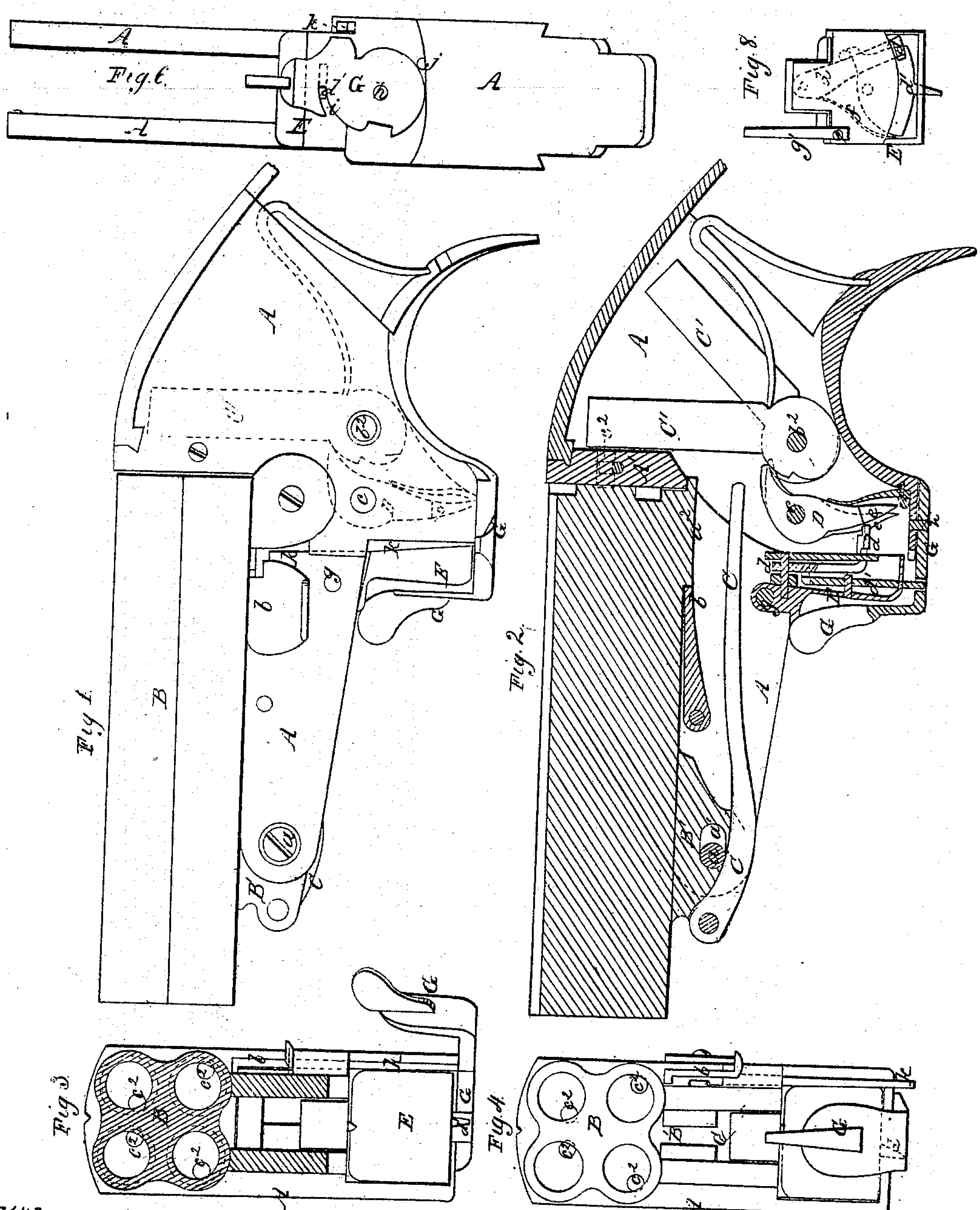
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. J. CHRISTY.

Breech-loading Fire-arm.

No. 58,064.

Patented Sept. 18, 1866.



Witnesses
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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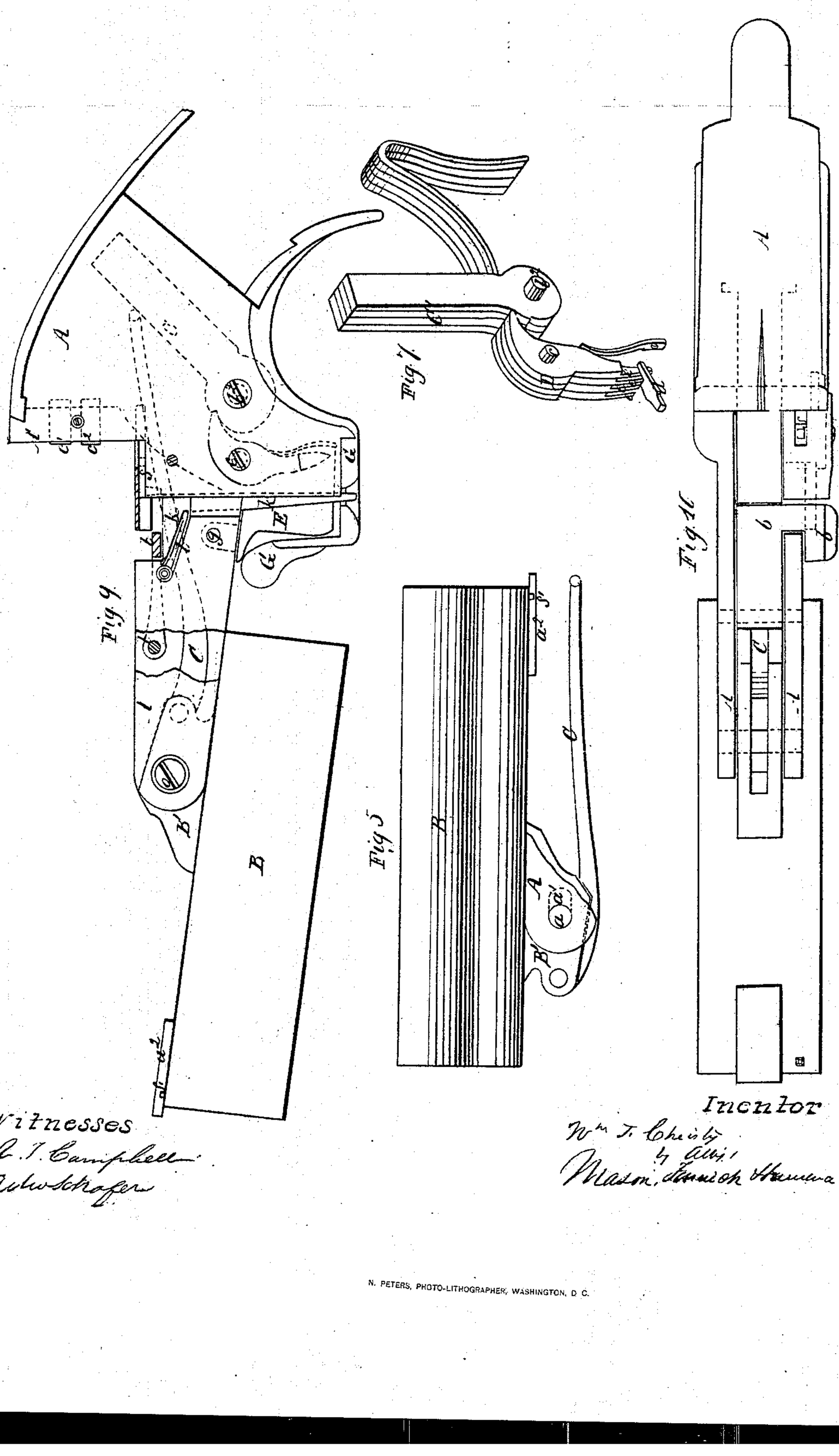

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. CHRISTY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN MANY-BARRELED FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **58,064**, dated September 18, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. CHRISTY, of the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Repeating-Pistol; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of one side of the improved pistol. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central section through the pistol. Fig. 3 is a cross-section through Fig. 1, taken at the point indicated by red line *x x*. Fig. 4 is an end view of the pistol. Fig. 5 is a side view of the barrels and the cocking-arm. Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the frame of the pistol and its safety-guard. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the hammers, hammer springs and sears, and the trigger-arm. Fig. 8 is a view of the trigger. Fig. 9, Sheet 2, is a side view of the pistol, with the barrels in a position for cocking the hammers. Fig. 10, Sheet 2, is a top view of Fig. 9.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

This invention relates to certain novel improvements on breech-loading pistols which are provided with swinging barrels, in such manner that in exposing the breech ends of these barrels to receive the charges they will effect the cocking of the hammers.

The main object of my invention is to employ a safety-guard, which shall be securely locked in place over the trigger in the act of releasing the barrels to charge them, and which shall remain in such position until it is desired to discharge the loads, thus preventing liability of accidentally discharging the pistol in handling or carrying it in the pocket, as will be hereinafter described.

Another object of my invention is to so construct a finger-trigger that two or more hammers can be operated by it, and so that it can be adjusted to operate in succession upon the sears of the hammers in the act of moving the safety-guard in front of the trigger to allow of the release of the barrels and the cocking of said hammers, as will be hereinafter described.

Another object of my invention is to so arrange the hammers and the arm upon the barrels that, in the act of raising the barrels to insert the cartridges, said arm shall act directly upon and cock the hammers, as will be hereinafter described.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand my invention, I will describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the frame of the pistol, and B are the barrels, four in number, and united together side by side, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

B′ represents a tenon which is formed on the lower side and near the forward ends of the barrels, which tenon is fitted between the forked portion of the frame A, and pivoted to it by means of a transverse pin, *a*, which passes through an oblong slot, *a′*, through said tenon, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5. This slot *a′* allows the barrels to receive an endwise play when released from their locking-latch. On the bottom of the barrels and at their rear end a tenon, a^2, is formed, the rear end of which projects slightly beyond the rear end of these barrels, and forms a holding-down tongue, which enters beneath the breech-piece A′, as shown in Fig. 2, and holds the barrels down in place. The forward end of this tenon forms a shoulder for receiving in front of it the locking-latch *b*, as shown in Fig. 2.

The barrels cannot be moved until the latch *b* is depressed, as shown in Fig. 9, when they can slide forward, and then swing about the pivot *a*.

To the forward end of the tenon B′ an arm, C, is pivoted, which extends back into the hollow case or frame A a suitable distance, and has a T-head formed on its rear end, which will press upon the four hammers C′ at the same time and force these hammers back to full-cock when the barrels are moved around to the position shown in Figs. 9 and 10, Sheet 2. When the barrels are returned to a position for firing the piece, the arm C will be drawn forward out of the way and assume the position shown in Fig. 2.

Below the breech-piece A′, and a little in rear thereof, the four hammers C′ are pivoted by means of a transverse pin, b^2. These hammers are straight pieces of metal arranged side by side, and having their lower ends rounded

and notched to receive the four sears D, which are pivoted in front of the hammers by a transverse pin, *c*, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 7, and acted upon by springs *c'*. The hammers are each provided with a spring, C^2, and when these hammers are released they strike the rear ends of pins c^2, which pass loosely through the breech-piece A', and which are so arranged as to strike upon the flanges of the cartridges in the barrels, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The lower ends of the sears D are notched, as shown at *e*, Figs. 2 and 7, for the purpose of being acted upon successively by the vibrating trigger-arm *d*, so that, when the hammers are cocked and the barrels in position for firing, the several hammers can be released successively by a simple movement of the trigger, the arm *d* passing from one sear to another until all the hammers are released.

The trigger E is of a box form, and adapted for receiving within it a lever, *d'*, and also the vibrating arm *d*, which latter is acted upon by a spring, *f*, that forces the projecting portion of the arm *d* to one side of the trigger, and holds it there until pressed to the opposite side by a movement of the lever *d'*, the lower end of which projects from the bottom of the trigger, as shown in Figs. 6 and 8.

The trigger-case is pivoted to the frame A, in front of the sears D, by means of a pin, *g*, and its lower end is pressed forward by means of a spring, *g'*. The position of this trigger E with respect to the sears D is clearly shown in Fig. 2, in which view it will be seen that one hammer has been released from its sear, and the arm *d* moved to the next sear, in a position to release its hammer when the trigger has been drawn back.

G represents a trigger-guard, which consists of a right-angular piece of metal having a curved slot, *i*, in its bottom portion and a finger-piece formed on its upright portion. This guard is pivoted at *h* to the frame A, as shown in Figs. 2 and 6, so that it can be swung from a position in front of the trigger (shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 6) to the position shown in Fig. 3, in which latter position it will be checked by a pin, *j*. The slot *i*, which is through the guard G, is intended for receiving the lower projecting portion of the trigger-lever *d'*, and moving this lever so as to cause it to adjust the arm *d* back to the position shown in Figs. 4, 6, and 7, so that this arm will operate upon the first sear on the right-hand side, then on the next, and so on to the last one.

To adjust arm *d* as above stated, the guard G must be moved to the position shown in Fig. 6, in front of the trigger, in which position the projection of lever *d'* will prevent the trigger from being moved and the piece discharged.

The trigger can only be pressed back when the guard G is moved around, as shown in Fig. 3, and this guard can only be thus moved when the barrels are locked in a position for firing, as I will now proceed to show.

The latch *b*, which is used for locking the barrels in place, is acted upon by means of a slide, *k*, which is pressed upward by a spring, *l*. (See Fig. 9.) The lower end of this slide *k* is caused to project below the bottom portion of frame A, to which the guard is pivoted, when the latch *b* is depressed, as shown in Fig. 9, and thus prevent the guard G from being moved from its position in front of the trigger. The slide is held in said depressed position by means of a sliding piece, *s*, (shown in Figs. 9 and 10,) which has a hole in it for receiving a pin, *s'*, on the bottom of the barrels. This slide *s* is moved forward over the slide *k* in the act of exposing the breech ends of the barrels, and left in this position until the barrels are brought back against the breech-piece A', when the slide *s* will allow the spring *l* to force the slide *k* and latch *b* to the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The operation is as follows: The guard G being in front of the trigger E, the latch *b* is depressed and the breech ends of the barrels B moved forward and upward. This operation depresses the slide *k* and moves the slide *s* over it, so as to prevent the guard G from being moved out of place accidentally. The barrels B are moved around to the position indicated in Figs. 9 and 10, for the purpose of causing the arm C to cock the hammers. The cartridges being inserted in their places, the barrels are then moved back to a position for firing the piece, when the slide *k* will be released and the latch *b* allowed to move in front of the tenon a^2, and thus lock the barrels in place. When desired, the guard G can now be moved to one side and the trigger acted upon by the finger.

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

1. The application to the trigger E of a vibrating arm, *d*, and lever *d'*, constructed in such manner as to effect the release of the hammers in succession, substantially as described.

2. The application of a guard, G, to the trigger E, in combination with a contrivance which will lock this guard in front of the trigger when the breech of the barrel is exposed, substantially as described.

3. In combination with a barrel which has an end play and which is pivoted to the frame of the piece, the spring-latch *b*, slides *k* and *s*, and a trigger-guard, G, arranged so as to operate substantially as described.

W. J. CHRISTY.

Witnesses:
WM. DAVIS,
JOHN BEATTY.