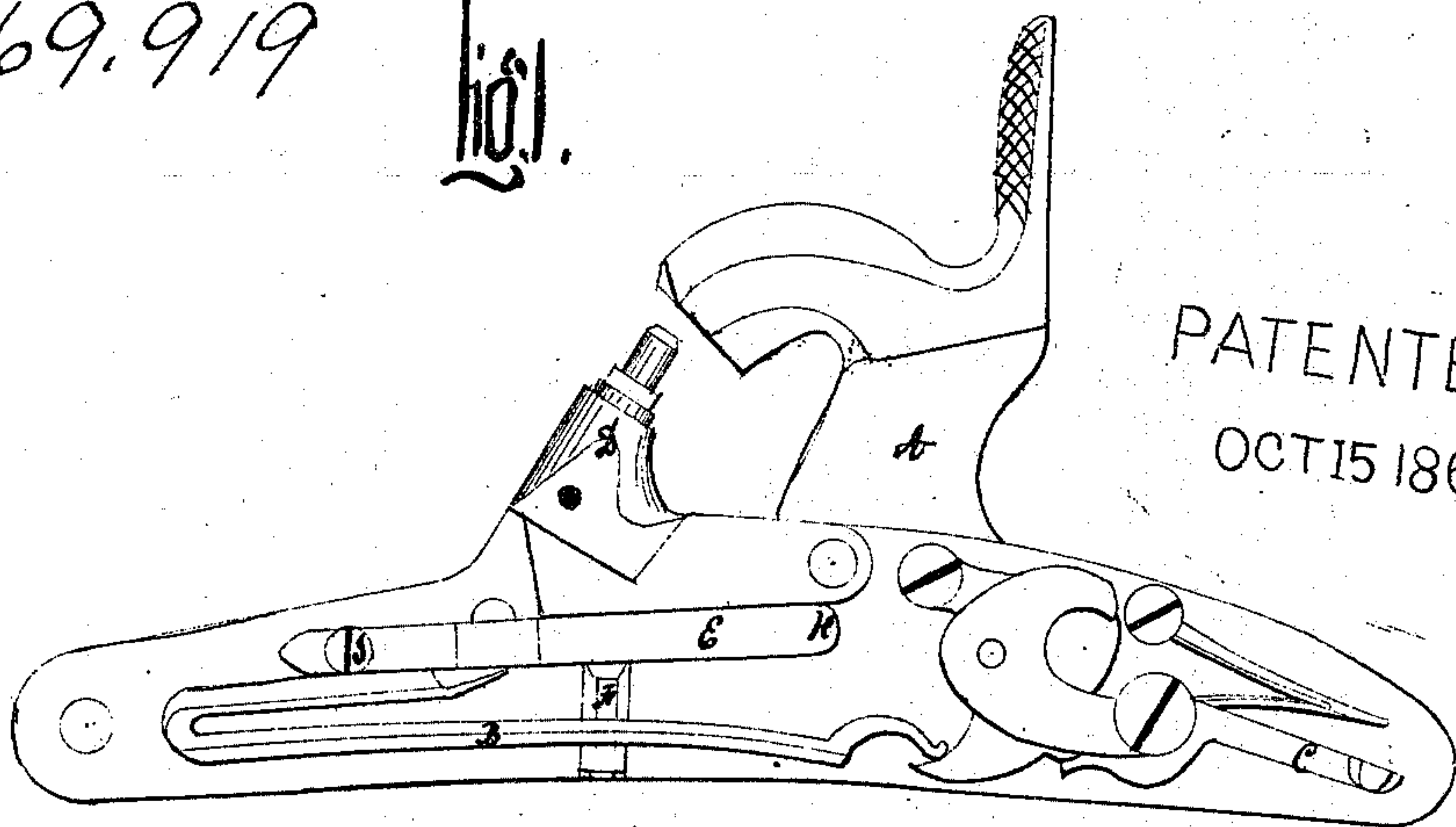


Wm F. Kussmaul. Lock for Fire Arms

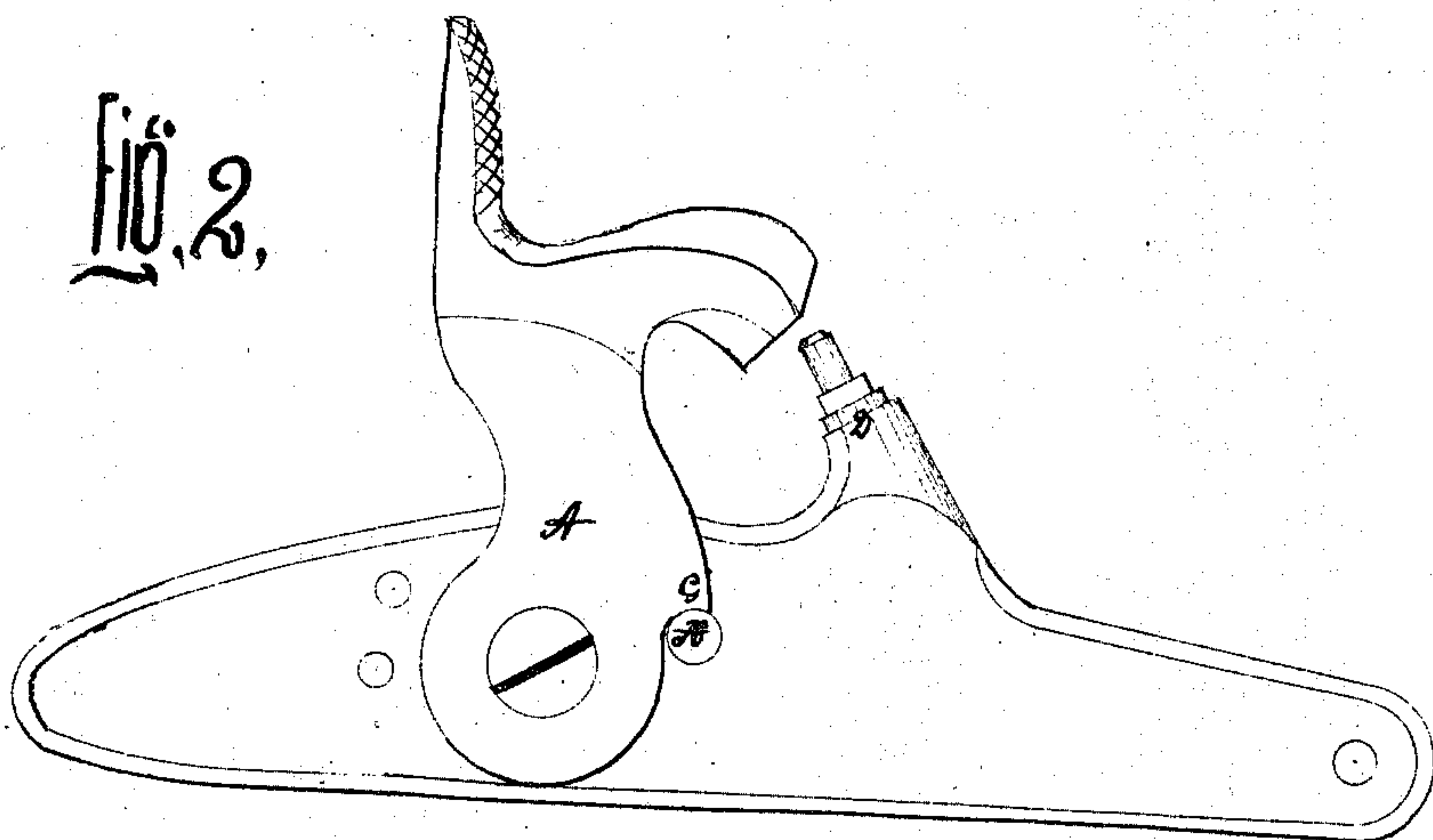
69.919

Fig. 1.



PATENTED
OCT 15 1867

Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

J. L. Kemm
Jas. A. Pettit

Wm. F. Kussmaul
By Messrs. H. C. & Co.,
Attorneys.

United States Patent Office

WILLIAM F. KUSSMAUL, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 69,919, dated October 15, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN SAFETY GUN-LOCKS.

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, WILLIAM F. KUSSMAUL, of the city and county of Baltimore, and State of Maryland, have invented a new and improved Lock for Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my lock, showing the inside of the same.

Figure 2 is an elevation, showing the outside of the lock.

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

In this invention a spring-stop is provided, which catches under a shoulder of the hammer, and holds it up from the cap when the gun is not in use. When the gun is cocked the spring-stop automatically retires, and leaves the hammer to descend upon the cap.

The object of this invention is to provide a means by which the discharge of a gun, from any accidental violence to its hammer when not cocked, may be prevented.

In the drawings, the lock of the common Springfield musket is shown, in which A represents the hammer, B the main-spring, C the sear, and D the nipple and tube. My improvement consists in attaching to a gun-lock the parts E and F, the former having a head, H, working through a hole in the face-plate of the lock, against which the shoulder G, cut in the front side of the hammer, rests when the gun is not cocked. The part represented by E is simply a stout spring, fastened to the inside of the face-plate at I, and having the head H at its other extremity, the head having the shape of a stout pin or bolt projecting through a hole in the face-plate when the spring E is unbent. The part represented by F is a little plate, with its edges and upper end bevelled, sliding vertically in a bed in the inside of the face-plate, into which it is dove-tailed, in such a manner that its upper bevelled extremity may be slid under the spring E, and bend it so as to withdraw the head or bolt H. The vertical plate F has a notch in its side, through which passes the main-spring B. When the gun is cocked the main-spring is of course bent, and the slide F, by the action of the main-spring pressing upward against the shoulder of the notch just referred to, is thrust up under the spring E, withdrawing the bolt H, and leaving the outside of the face-plate clear of all obstructions to the descending hammer. When the hammer falls, the main-spring is of course unbent again, and as it descends it withdraws the slide F from behind the spring E, leaving the bolt H to project again through the face-plate. This, it is obvious, would prevent the descent of the hammer upon the cap, were not the bolt H so situated that before the slide F is withdrawn, so as to liberate the spring E, the shoulder of the hammer at G has already partially covered the aperture in which the bolt H moves, and prevented the latter from projecting beyond the face-plate. As the gun is again cocked, the moment the shoulder G passes the hole in which the bolt moves, the bolt is released and projects through the hole, preventing the falling of the hammer from any point short of the "full cock." As the shoulder G is not in existence upon other gun-hammers than mine, I cut away the front side of ordinary hammers to form it, as shown in the drawings. My invention renders it impossible that the hammer should explode the cap, unless when the gun is cocked for the purpose. It makes no difference which way any accidental force may be applied to it. If the force is applied directly towards the cap, it is expended upon the bolt H at once; if applied in the opposite direction, it either cocks the gun, or, falling short of that, leaves the hammer to fall back upon the still projecting bolt.

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

The spring E, having the bolt H, in combination with the vertical slide F, the main-spring B, and the shoulder G, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

To the above specification of my improvement I have signed my hand this 13th day of May, 1867.

WM. F. KUSSMAUL.

Witnesses:

JAMES H. GRIDLEY,

NATHAN K. ELLSWORTH.