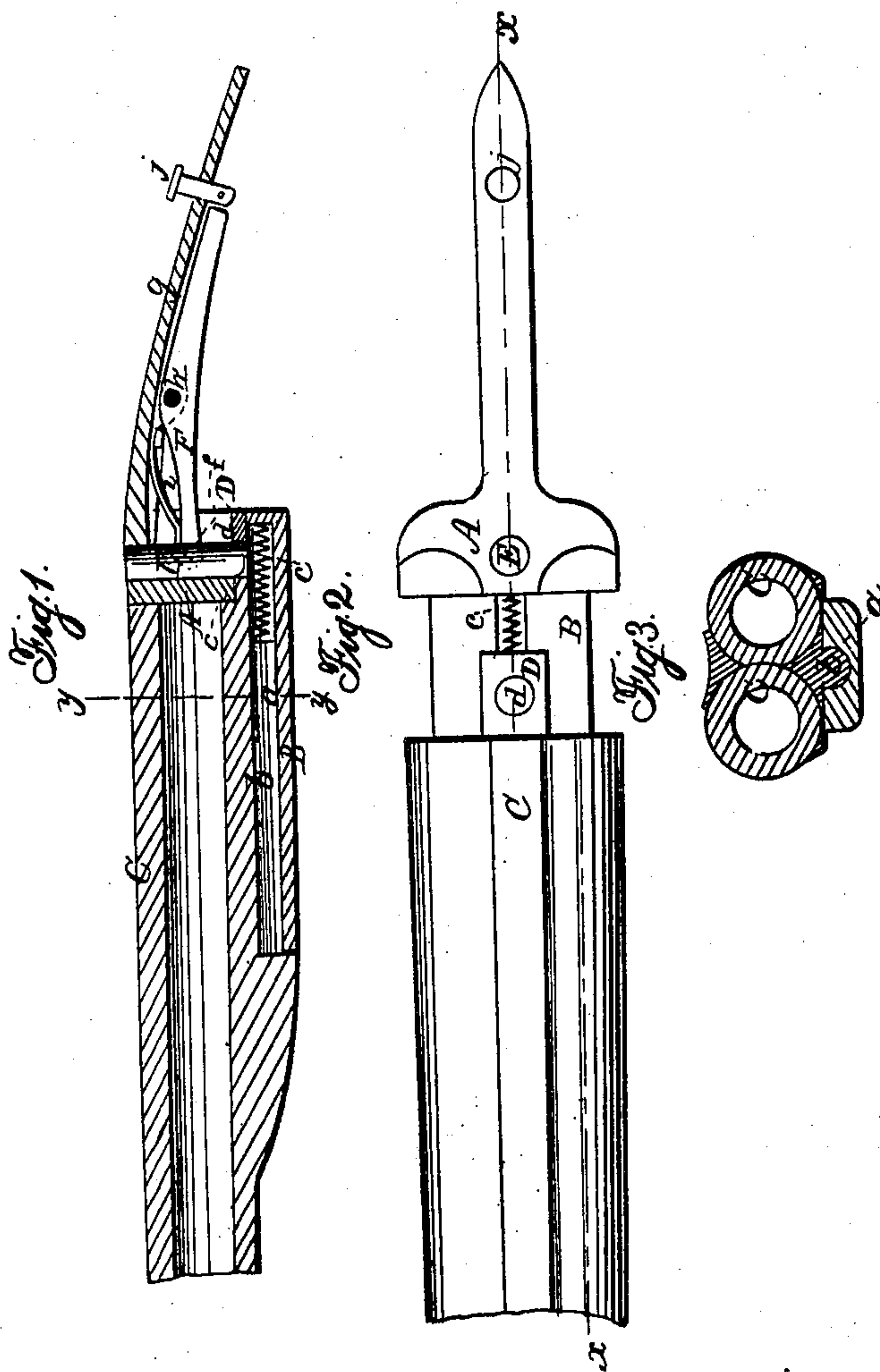


C. H. ALSOP.
Breech-Loading Fire-Arm.

No 76,374

Patented Apr. 7, 1868



Witnesses:
Theo. Inaacke
W. T. Newn

Inventor:
Chas. H. Alsop
Per Munn & Co
Attorneys

United States Patent Office.

CHARLES H. ALSOP, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO
JOSEPH W. ALSOP, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 76,374, dated April 7, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

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, CHARLES H. ALSOP, of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms; and that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, hereinafter referred to, forms a full and exact specification of the same, wherein I have set forth the nature and principles of my said improvement, by which my invention may be distinguished from all others of a similar class, together with such parts as I claim, and desire to have secured to me by Letters Patent.

This invention consists in a novel manner of constructing the breech, and applying the barrels thereto, and in a peculiar fastening or catch for the barrels, as hereinafter fully shown and described, whereby the piece may be loaded or charged with the greatest facility, and the parts rendered very permanent and durable. In the accompanying sheet of drawings—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of my invention, taken in the line *x x*, fig. 2.

Figure 2, a plan or top view of the same, the barrels of the piece being in a forward position on the plate or bar of the breech, ready for loading.

Figure 3, a transverse section of the same, taken in the line *y y*, fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

A represents the breech, which is constructed with a plate or bar, B, extending forward, and forming a bed for the rear part of the barrels, C, to rest and slide upon, the plate or bar and the breech being all in one piece. The plate or bar has a groove, *a*, made longitudinally and centrally in its upper surface, and of circular form, as shown in fig. 3, and in this groove a rib, *b*, at the under side of the barrels C, is fitted, and allowed to slide freely, a spiral spring, *c*, being placed in the groove *a*, between the end of the rib *b* and the rear of the groove *a*, (see more particularly fig. 1.)

At the rear ends of the barrels there is a lip, D, which extends backward, and is perforated with a hole, *d*. This lip, when the ends of the barrels C are in contact with the breech A, is in an opening, *e*, in the breech, and has the lower end of a pin, E, fitted in it. This pin is fitted vertically in the breech, is allowed to slide freely therein, and is connected by a pivot, *f*, to a lever, F, underneath the tongue or shank *g* of the breech, *h* being the fulcrum-pin of the lever. This lever has a spring, *i*, bearing upon it, which has a tendency to keep the pin E in the perforation of the lip D.

In order to load the piece, the rear end of the lever F is pressed down by bearing upon a pin, *j*, which extends up through the tongue or shank *g*, the lower end of said pin being pivoted to the lever. The pin E is thereby raised out from the perforation in the lip D, and the spring *c* throws the barrels C forward on the plate or bar B, so that the charge or cartridges may be readily inserted in the rear ends of the barrels. The barrels C are then drawn back, and the lip D enters the opening *e*, shoves up the pin E, which is provided with a bevelled lower end, the pin, under the influence of the spring *i*, dropping into the hole *d* of the lip, when said hole comes in line with the pin. The piece is then ready for firing.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The spiral spring *c*, in combination with the groove *a* in the plate B, the rib *b*, upon the under side of the barrels, the perforated lip D, and the vertical pin E, having a bevelled end, all arranged as described, whereby, as the pin E is raised by the spring-lever F, the spring *c* throws the barrels forward, for the insertion of the cartridge, as herein shown and described.

2. The catch or fastening, composed of the vertical pin or bolt E, fitted in the breech, and pivoted to the spring-lever F, in combination with the perforated lip D, at the under side of the rear of the barrel or barrels, and the recess *e* in the breech, to receive the lip, all arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

Witnesses:

LEONIDAS C. VINAL,
CHAS. G. R. VINAL.

CHAS. H. ALSOP.