F. WESSON.

Breech-Loading Fire-Arm.

No. 103,694. Patented May 31, 1870.

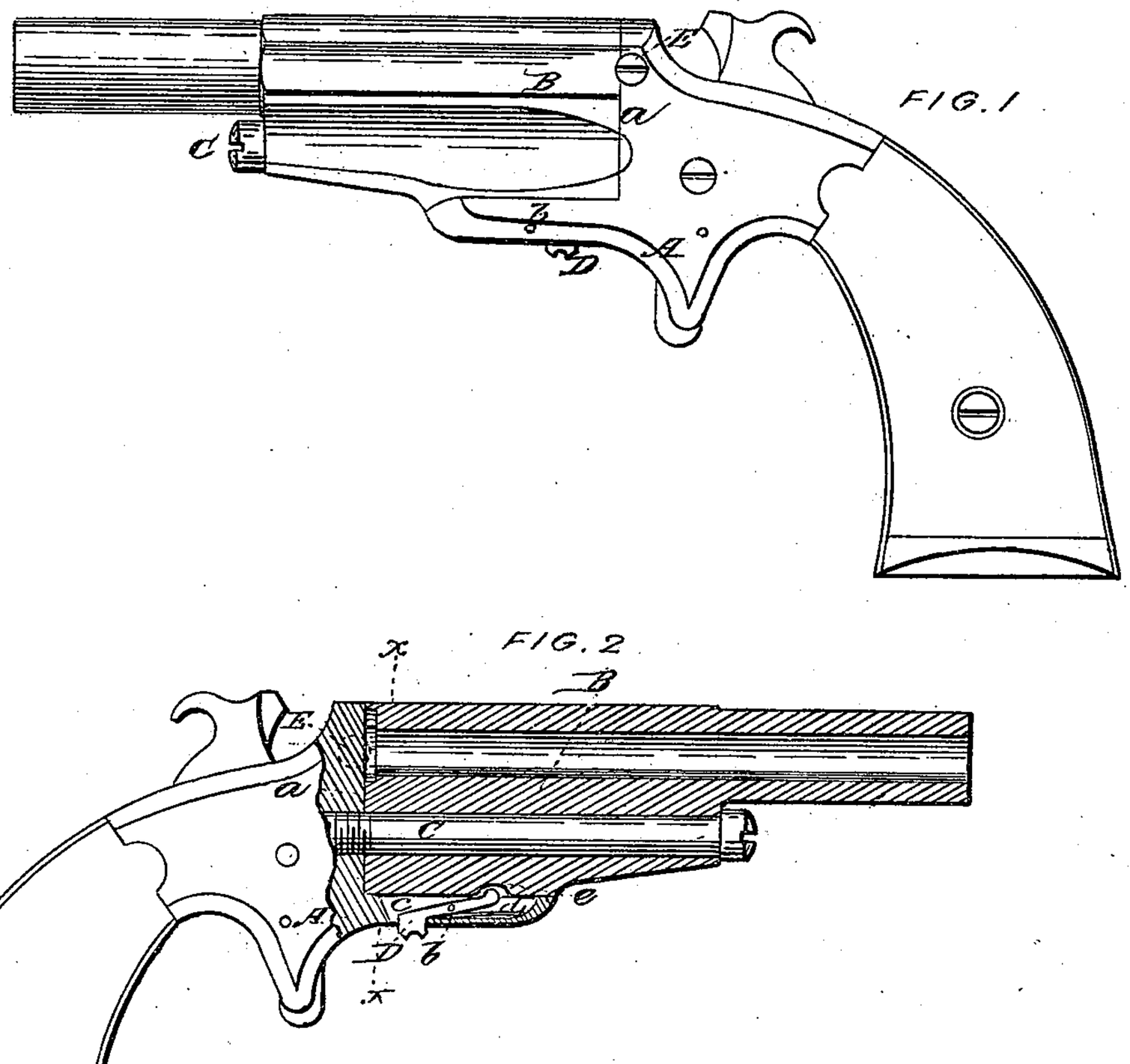


FIG. 1

FIG. 2

FIG. 3

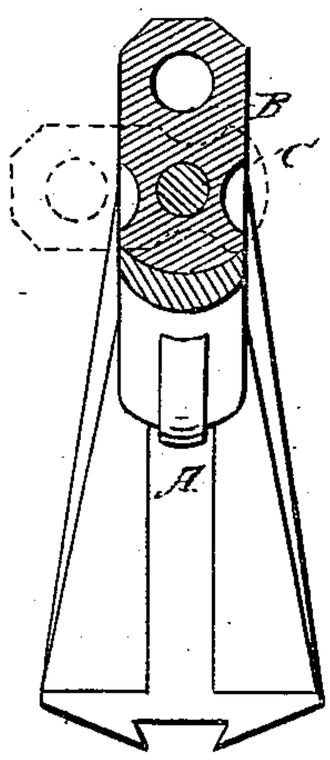


FIG. 5

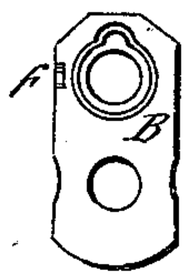
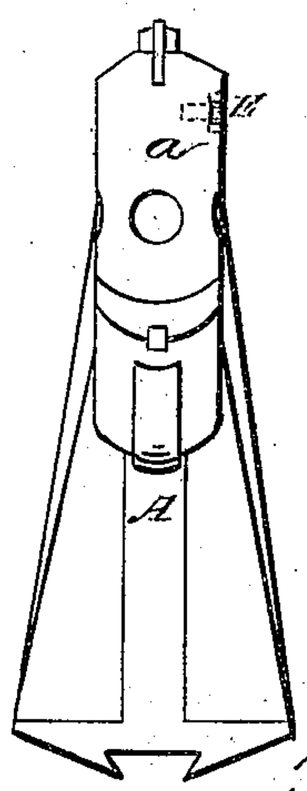


FIG. 4



WITNESSES:

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FRANK WESSON, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 103,694, *dated May* 31, 1870.

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, FRANK WESSON, of the city and county of Worcester, in the State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pistols, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a side view of a pistol or pocket-rifle, with the rear end of its frame constructed to receive a breech or shoulder rest, whereby the arm may readily be converted into an ordinary rifle or gun;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same;

Figure 3, a transverse section, taken as indicated by the line *x x* in fig. 2; and

Figure 4, an end view of the frame, looking toward the breech, with the barrel detached.

Figure 5 is an inside end view of the barrel.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My improvement consists in a novel construction and arrangement of stops for facilitating the turning of the barrel, to open it at the breech, and to lock or hold the same when closed, whereby increased convenience is afforded and greater durability secured, also a firmer and more positive stop-action generally obtained.

Referring to the accompanying drawing—

A represents the frame, and

B, the barrel, arranged to turn on a pin, C, secured to the frame, to admit of the barrel being opened at the breech, by turning it to one side out of line with the breech *a*.

Pivoted to the frame, below the barrel, as at *b*, within a recessed portion, *c*, is a stop-lever, D, controlled by a spring, *d*, to shoot it, at its one end, into lock with a notch, *e*, in the lower or foot portion of the barrel, when the latter is closed or turned in line with the breech.

The other or outer end of this stop-lever D is made to project through the frame, so that, by pressure on it from the outside of the frame, said operating stop is released from its lock of the barrel, to allow of the swinging of the latter on its center pin C, and serving to give a positive hold on the barrel during the turning of it.

To prevent that destructive and frequent wear on this operating stop D by the barrel, in closing, which would be incidental to the barrel's striking it, and which is apt to throw the barrel out of its proper line with the breech, I arrange, on the upper front portion of the frame, at the closing side of the breech, a fixed stop, E, formed by a pin, screw, or projection, and make, in the end of the barrel, at its closing side, a recess, *f*, for the same to enter, when the barrel is closed, and so that the barrel strikes said stop when thrown in line with the breech. This relieves the operating stop D from strain, and prevents it from working loose.

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

The combination and arrangement, relatively to each other, of the operating stop D, made to project through the frame for operation from the exterior, as described, the fixed stop E, the frame A, with its breech *a*, the pin C, and barrel B, essentially as specified.

Witnesses:
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