

F. WESSON.

Improvement in Gun Locks.

No. 125,640.

Patented April 9, 1872.

Fig. 1

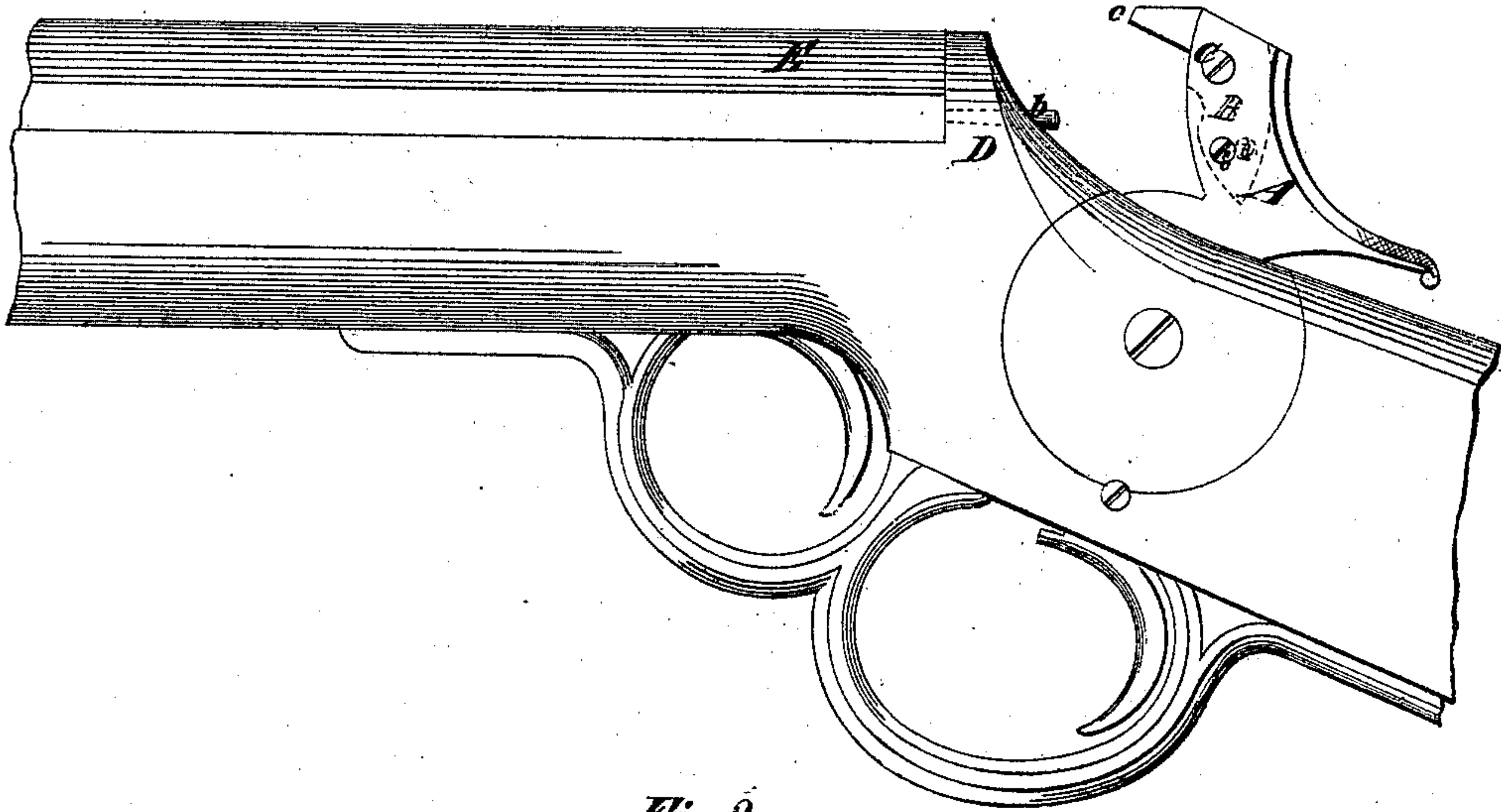


Fig. 2

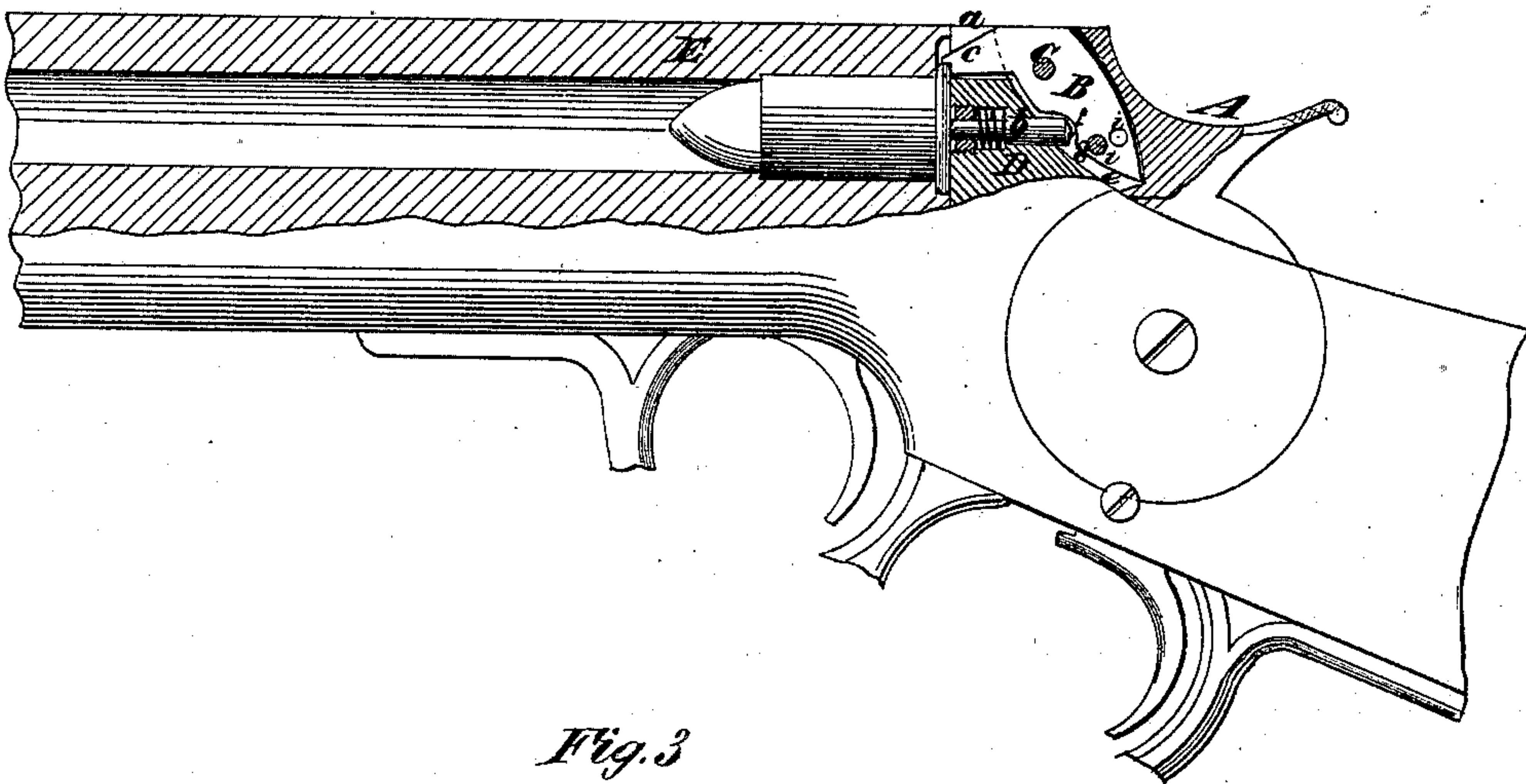
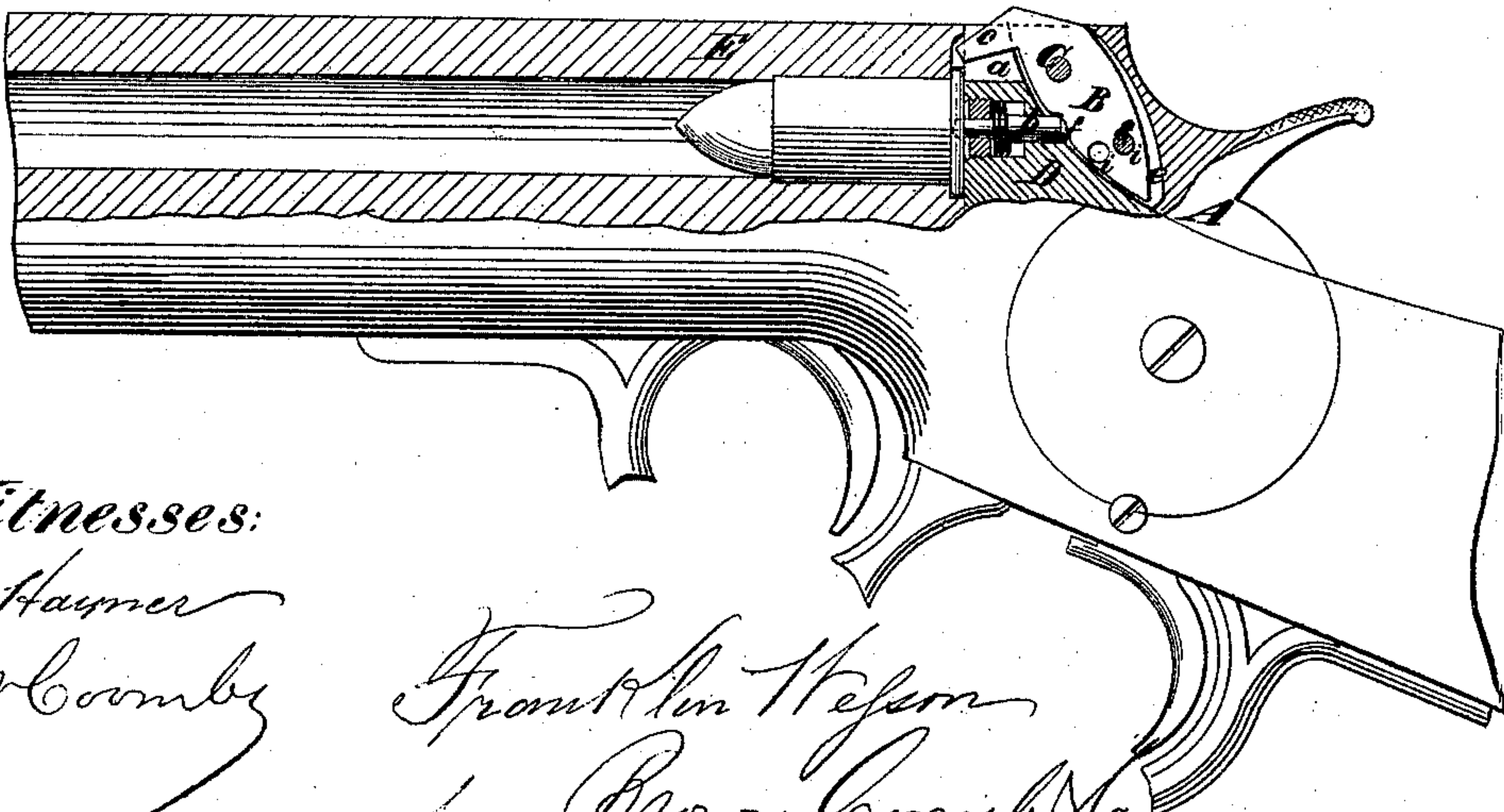


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

Fred Harmer
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN WESSON, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN GUN-LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 125,640, dated April 9, 1872.

Specification describing an Improved Hammer for Fire-Arms, invented by FRANKLIN WESSON, of Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts.

The object of this invention is to enable both central and rim fire ammunition to be used in the same fire-arm and be exploded by the same hammer; to this end it consists in the novel construction hereinafter specified of a movable nose-piece and novel arrangement of the same within the head of the hammer, whereby it may be adjusted so that its upper portion will effect the discharge of rim-fire ammunition, or so that its lower portion will effect the discharge of center-fire ammunition.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side view of a portion of a breech-loading fire-arm fitted with my improved hammer. Fig. 2 is a partial section of the same cutting through a portion of the hammer and showing its nose-piece adjusted for rim-fire ammunition; and Fig. 3 is a similar view, showing the nose-piece adjusted for center-fire ammunition.

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

The fire-arm represented has a stationary breech, D, and movable barrel E, but the improvement may be applied in connection with other kinds of breech-loaders. Through the upper part of the breech there is an opening, *a*, for the nose of the hammer to strike directly upon the rim of a rim-fire cartridge, and opposite the center of the barrel there is inserted through the breech-piece a firing-pin, *b*, upon which the nose-piece of the hammer may strike to fire a center-fire cartridge. A is the hammer, which is pivoted and operated in the usual manner, but instead of having a solid head has the upper and front part of its head mortised, as shown at *e*, for the reception of the nose-piece B. This nose-piece consists of a flat piece of steel, having at the front of its upper portion a projecting nose, *c*, similar to that on the hammer of many fire-arms in which rim-fire cartridges are used, and just below this nose it is pivoted into a mortise, *e*, of the hammer, by a pin or screw, C, passing through it and the hammer. Below the pivot C there is in the front edge of this nose-piece a recess, *f*, so arranged as to come opposite the firing-pin *b*,

and in its lower portion there are two holes, *i*, one before the other, for the reception of a locking-screw, S, which passes through the hammer and one or the other of the said holes to secure the nose-piece in position.

To adjust the nose-piece B for rim-fire ammunition the forward of its two holes *i* is brought opposite the corresponding hole in the hammer, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the locking-screw or pin *s* inserted through the hammer and nose-piece, locking the latter with the point of its nose *c* so far forward and so depressed, and with the recessed lower portion *f* so far back, that in the action of the hammer the nose *c* will strike the rim of a rim-fire cartridge with which the fire-arm is loaded, but the lower portion of the nose-piece will not strike the firing-pin.

To adjust the nose-piece to operate the firing-pin the locking-screw is removed from the hammer and nose-piece and the nose-piece is shifted to bring the rear hole *i* opposite the corresponding hole in the hammer and the locking-screw is then reinserted and secures the nose-piece in such a position that its nose *c* is too high and far back to come in contact with the rim of the cartridge. The lower recessed portion *f* will come in contact with the firing-pin and operate it, thereby effecting the discharge of the cartridge.

In the front of the hammer-head there is a recess corresponding with the recess *f* in the nose-piece.

The projection *c* on the nose-piece passing through the breech D may be dispensed with and an additional pin, like *b*, may be arranged above the latter for firing rim-fire cartridges, such additional pin being operated upon by the upper part of the movable nose-pin B.

Claim.

The combination of the hammer A, the nose-piece B, the pivot C, the locking-pin S, and the firing-pin *b*, the whole arranged substantially as herein described.

FRANKLIN WESSON.

Witnesses:

EDWARD IRWIN,
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