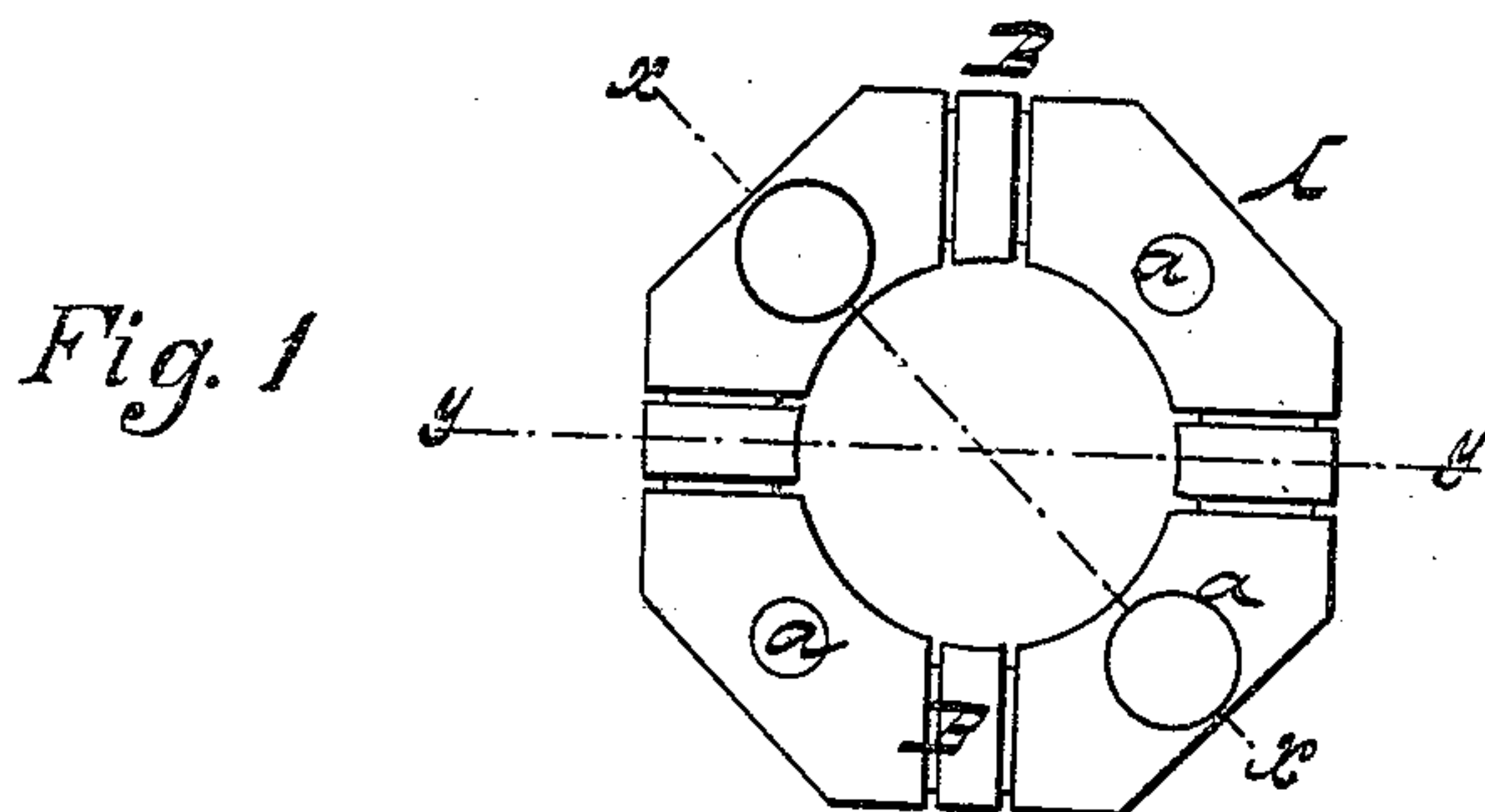


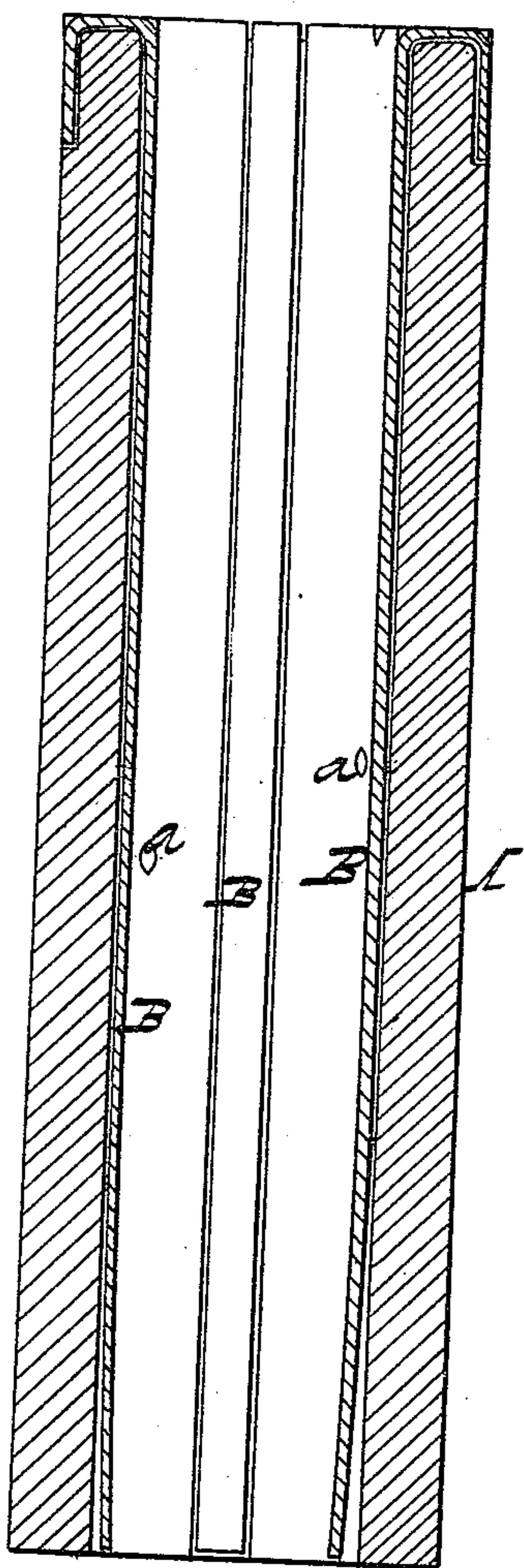
J. BARNETT.  
BREECH-LOADING FIRE ARM.

No. 176,276.

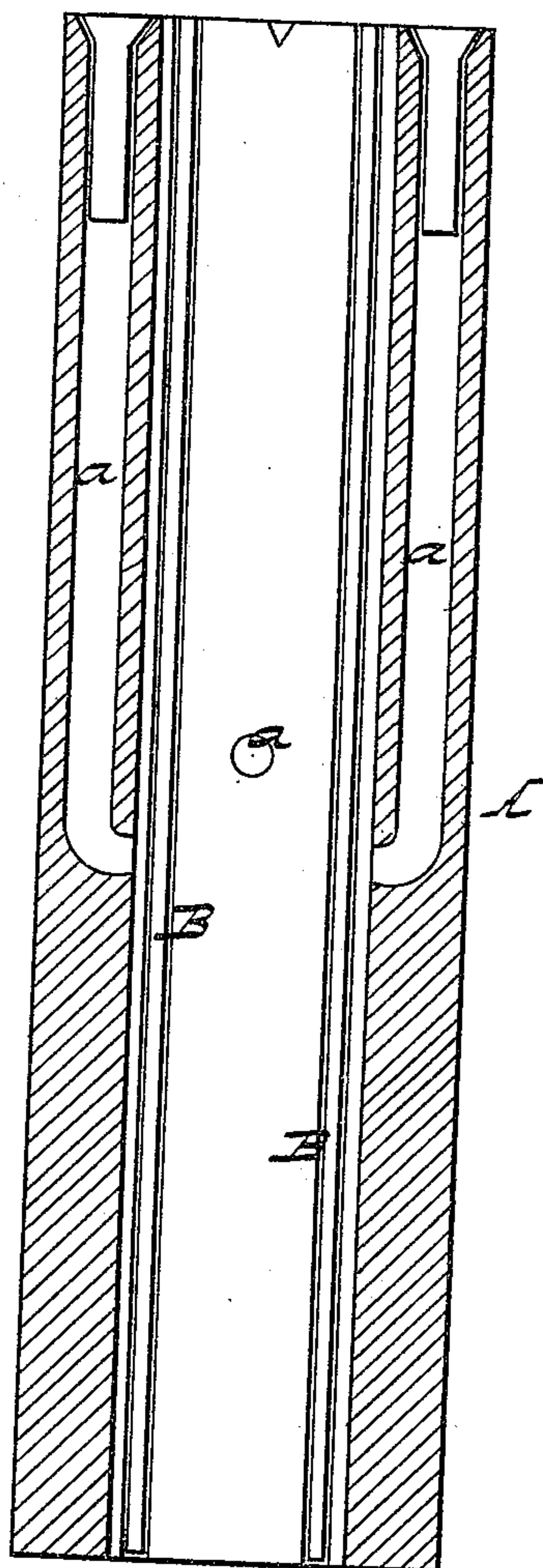
Patented April 18, 1876.



*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*



WITNESSES  
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INVENTOR  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOHN BARNETT, OF LEXINGTON, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BREECH-LOADING FIRE-ARMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 176,276, dated April 18, 1876; application filed March 17, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN BARNETT, of Lexington, in the county of Richland and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a rear view of my improvement in fire-arms; and Figs. 2 and 3 are sectional views taken, respectively, through the dotted lines *x x* and *y y* of Fig. 1.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are denoted by like letters.

This invention relates to a certain improvement in fire-arms, and is especially adapted to such having accelerating-chambers; and it consists of the combination, with the barrel, around the bore of which in the breech is a number of lesser chambers, of retarding-springs, substantially as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawing, A refers to the barrel of a cannon, used to simply illustrate the application of my improvement, it being susceptible for use in any of the other species of fire-arms, as will be apparent hereinafter. Around the bore of the barrel A, in its breech, are accelerating or lesser chambers *a a*, with their inner ends communicating with the bore, as shown, to permit of the accelerating charges from the said chambers being discharged into the bore. B B are flat springs, having their

inner ends secured, as shown, or in any other known way, to the breech of the barrel A, and extending in grooves or slots in the latter, with the length of its bore, to be out of the way of the ball, &c., when at rest. The outer or free ends of the springs B B are curved inwardly, and converge to prevent the recoil produced by the exit of the ball acting upon the inner or secured ends of the springs.

The primary object of the springs B B is to retard the movement of the ball in the bore, to allow it to receive the full force of the accelerating charges while in the barrel. The springs may extend the entire length of the barrel, or not, as required.

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

1. The herein-described improvement in fire-arms, consisting of the combination, with the barrel A, having accelerating-chambers, of the retarding-springs B B, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In combination with the barrel A, provided with accelerating-chambers, the springs B B, curved at their outer ends inwardly, so as to slightly converge, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN BARNETT.

Witnesses:

JAMES M. BLAIR,  
SAML. ABERNETHY,  
DAVID L. KING.