W. M. SCOTT.

Gun-Lock.

No. 215,022. Patented May 6, 1879.

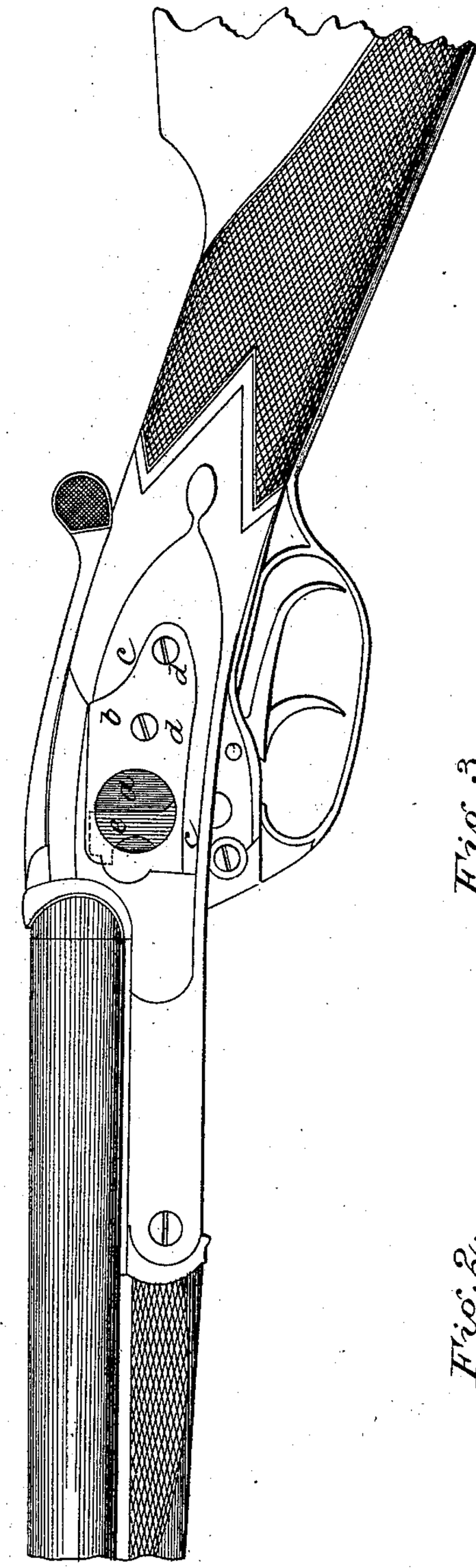

Fig. 1.

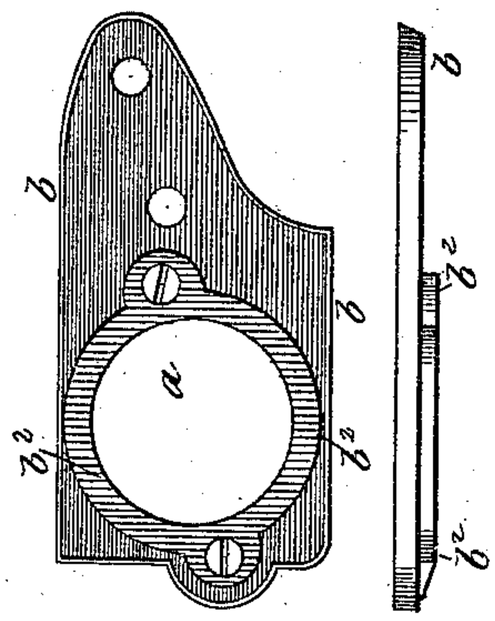

Fig. 3.

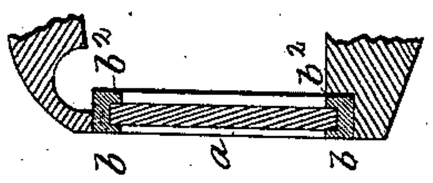

Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

E. A. Dick

W. T. Hutchinson

Inventor:

William Middleditch Scott

by A. Pollok

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM M. SCOTT, OF BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN GUN-LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,022**, dated May 6, 1879; application filed January 30, 1879; patented in England, September 15, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM MIDDLEDITCH SCOTT, of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, England, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Breech-Loading Small-Arms, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification.

My invention relates to breech-loading fire-arms in which the discharging mechanism is concealed or contained within the body of the gun, such guns being commonly called "hammerless guns." The discharging mechanism of this class of guns is cocked by the act of opening the breech for recharging, and when the gun has been charged and laid aside there is no visible means of ascertaining the position of the discharging mechanism.

My invention has for its object to remedy this defect in the said guns; and consists in making in one or both sides of the body and stock of the gun, in the lock-plate, or in other convenient place or places, an aperture or apertures, closed or glazed with glass or other transparent substance, through which the position of the discharging mechanism can be inspected.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings represents, in side elevation, a hammerless gun provided with a glazed aperture or sight-hole in the body or stock for inspecting the position of the concealed hammers of the said gun. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of a portion of the body and stock, and Fig. 3 is a back elevation of the metal plate in which the glazed aperture or sight-hole is formed.

The said glazed aperture or sight-hole is marked *a*, and is carried in the separable or detachable metal plate *b*, which is fitted in a correspondingly-shaped hole at *c* in the side of the body and stock of the gun, the said plate *b* being fixed in its place by the screws at *d d*.

The glazed aperture or sight-hole is made of a strong disk of glass, *a*, or of some transparent material, such as quartz or pebble or rock crystal. This disk of glass *a* is placed over the hole in the metal plate *b* from the back of the said plate, the edge of the said glass disk resting against an annular rim made in the said plate *b*. (See section, Fig. 2.) The disk of glass *a* is fixed over the hole in the plate *b* by the metal ring b^2, which ring is screwed on the back of the said plate *b*. After the disk of glass or other transparent material has been fixed in the plate *b*, the latter is ready to be attached to the gun. A glazed aperture is thus formed, which is flush or nearly flush with the outside of the body and stock. A glazed aperture of the construction described may be applied to both sides of the body and stock.

By an examination of the drawings it will be seen that the hammers *e* can be inspected through the glazed aperture or sight-hole at one or both sides of the gun, and the positions of the said hammers ascertained.

I do not limit myself to the position represented of the glazed aperture or sight-hole, or to the method of constructing and fixing it to the gun. Or, instead of an aperture or apertures glazed as described, a small glazed door or hinged opening may be employed. Instead of a hinged door, a glazed slide may be used. This part of my invention may be applied to hammerless guns in which the barrels are either fixed or turn upon a joint.

By the use of transparent material the cocking mechanism is thoroughly protected both from the weather and the introduction of foreign matter, and at the same time the position of the hammer or hammers may at all times be perceived.

When the glazed apertures—by which I mean apertures covered with transparent material—are on both sides of the gun, the hammers, especially in double-barreled guns, are more readily seen. Glazed doors, including both hinged doors or slides, permit the apertures to be used for access into the interior of the hammer-chamber when desired, for the purposes of cleaning or for other purposes.

Having now described the nature of my invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, I wish to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise details herein described and illustrated, as the same may be varied without departing from the nature of my invention; but

I claim as my invention of improvements in breech-loading small-arms—

A fire-arm provided with an aperture adapted to receive a glass or glazed door, to permit the inspection of the firing mechanism, while excluding foreign substances and otherwise protecting said mechanism, in combination with a plate of transparent material or a glazed door, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM MIDDLEDITCH SCOTT.

Witnesses:

TUCKER DALAND,

JOHN READ.