

(No Model.)

F. J. RABBETH.
SIGHT FOR FIRE ARMS.

No. 301,628.

Patented July 8, 1884.

Fig 1

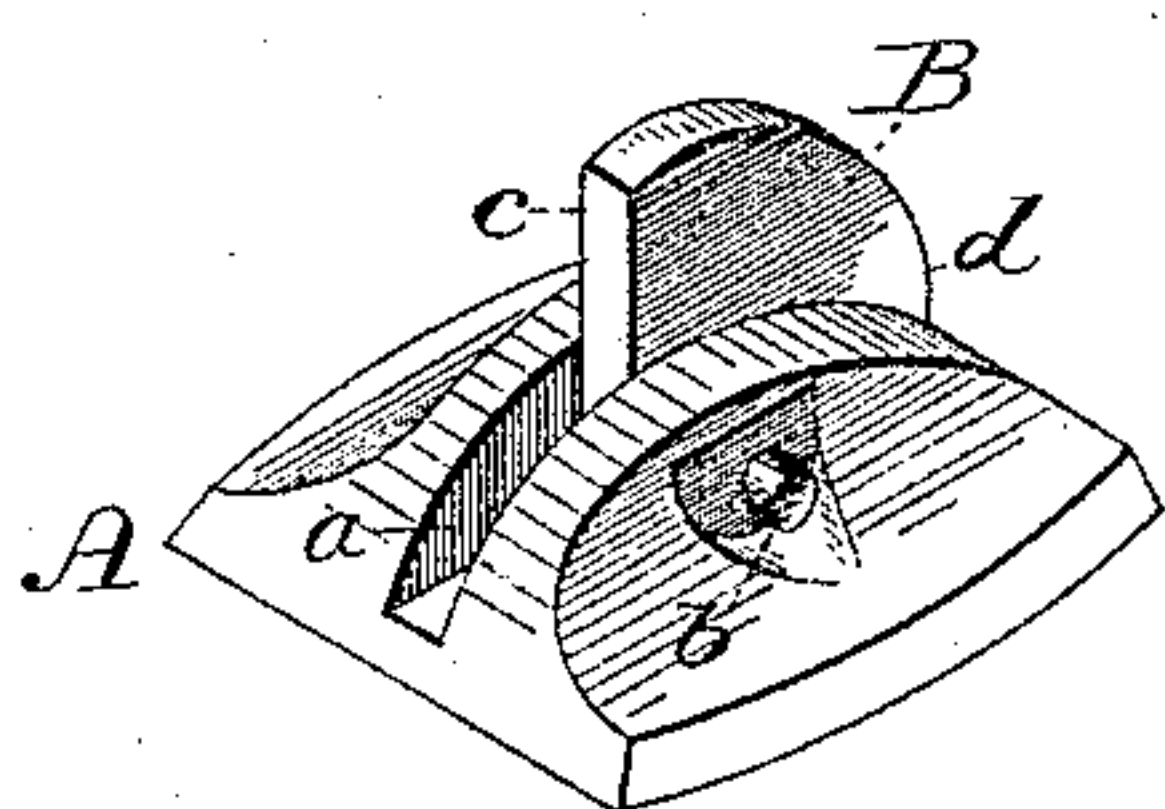


Fig 2

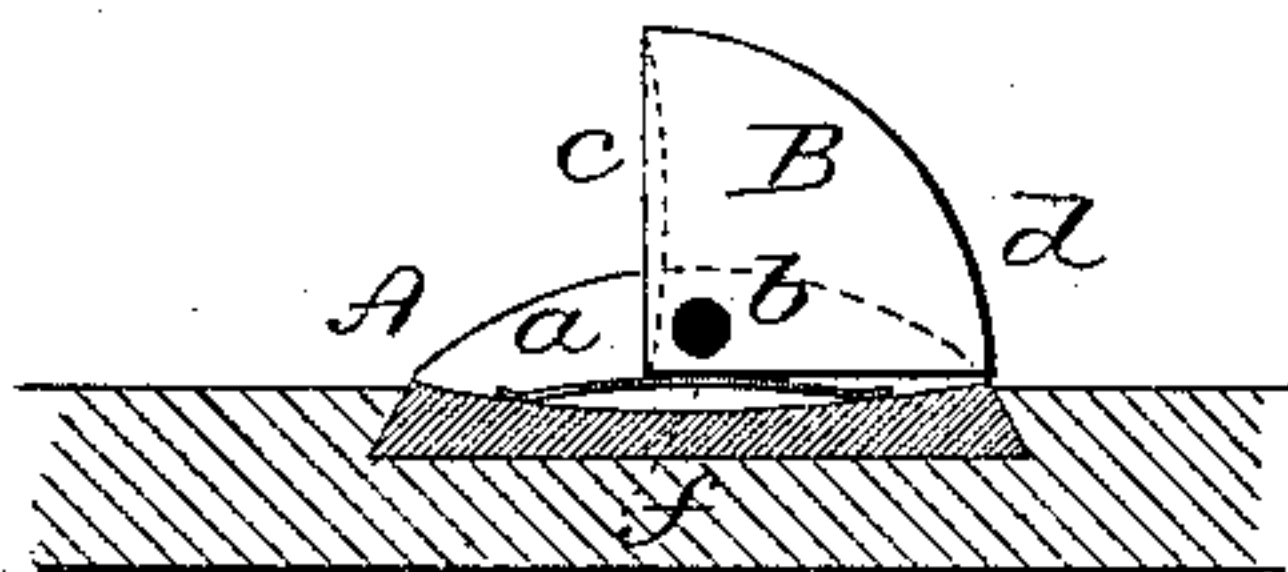


Fig 3

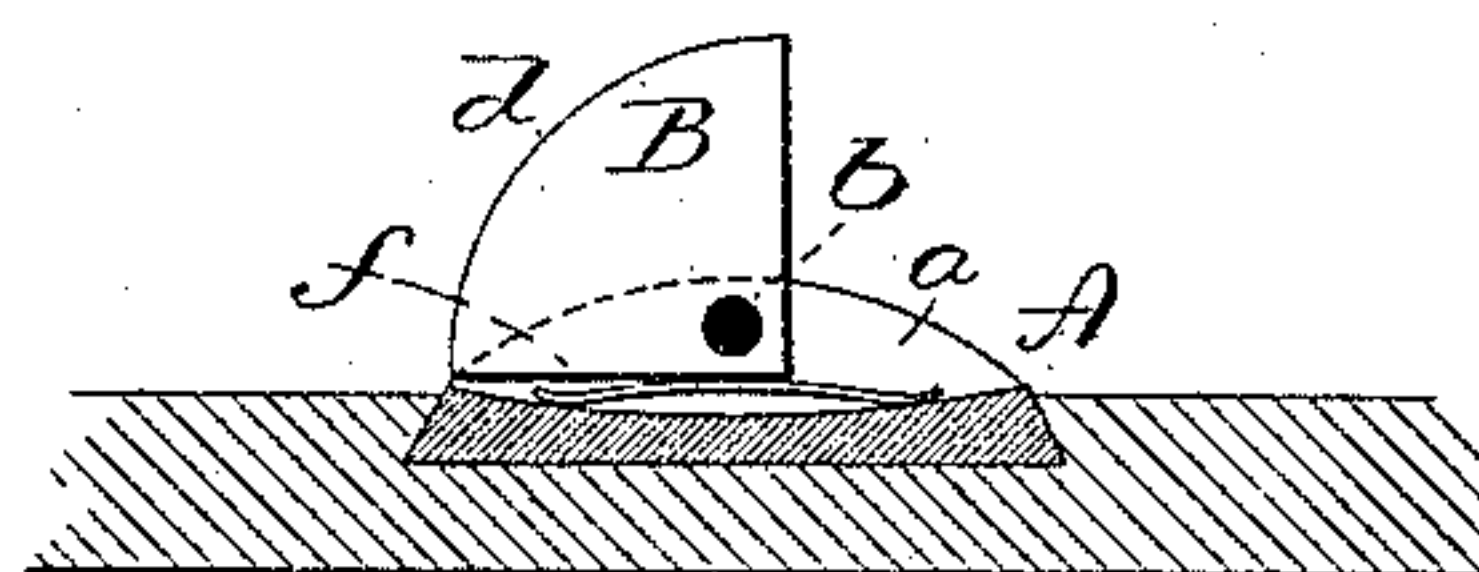
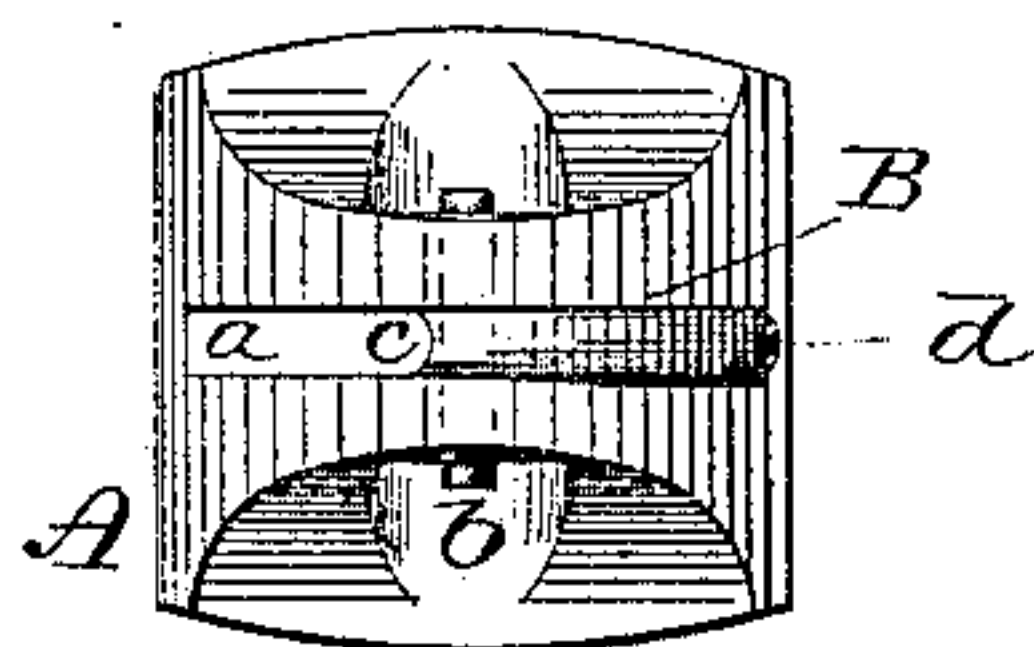


Fig 4



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS J. RABBETH, OF BOSTON, MASS., ASSIGNOR TO THE WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS COMPANY, OF NEW HAVEN, CONN.

SIGHT FOR FIRE-ARMS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,628, dated July 8, 1884.

Application filed May 26, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS J. RABBETH, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new Improvement in Sights for Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a perspective view; Fig. 2, a sectional view of the sight as attached to the barrel, the sight standing with the dark surface at the rear; Fig. 3, the same as Fig. 2, except that the sight is turned rearward to expose the curved or light surface; Fig. 4, a top view of the sight.

This invention relates to an improvement in the forward sight for fire-arms, and particularly to that class known as "open sights." These sights are of two classes, one of which rises vertically and so as to expose a vertical surface to the rear. Looking over the barrel at this sight, it presents a dark surface, because of no substantial reflection of light. In the use of such a sight in dark surroundings or against a dark object it is substantially invisible. In the other class the rear surface of the sight is curved upward and forward. This sight reflects the light to such an extent as to present a very light appearance, and therefore against a dark object is visible and the most desirable sight, but against a light object or in bright light the sight is not so readily distinguished.

The object of my invention is to construct a sight which may be convertible from a dark sight to light, or vice versa; and the invention consists in a sight hinged in a base upon a pivot, so as to be turned thereon in a plane parallel with the axis of the barrel, one side presenting the curve upward and forward or light sight, the other the vertical or dark sight, and so that, as occasion may require, the sight may be turned to either of the said two positions, as more fully hereinafter described.

A is the base, which is constructed to enter the transverse groove in the upper side of the

barrel, in the usual manner of introducing the forward sight, and as seen in Fig. 2. In the upper side of this base is a slot, *a*, the plane of the slot being substantially parallel with the axis of the barrel to which the sight is to be attached.

B is the sight, which is arranged in the slots *a* and hung upon a pivot, *b*. This sight is quadrant shape, as seen in Fig. 2, the pivot *b* being near the angle. Standing in the position on the barrel seen in Fig. 2, the straight side *c* of the sight is at the rear, and therefore presents what may be called the "dark sight," the straight or vertical surface *c* producing no reflection which will light that side. The sight turned rearward upon its pivot will present the curved side *d* to the rear, as seen in Fig. 3. This curved side will reflect the light, and to such an extent as to produce a white or light sight, that surface being polished for the purpose, and thus the sight may be converted from a dark sight in Fig. 2 to a light sight in Fig. 3, or vice versa, by simply turning the sight upon its pivot. The darkness of the straight side will be materially improved by making the edge concave, as seen in Fig. 4, and whereby reflection of light to the eye of the person sighting the gun will be impossible. The back or curved side may be rounded—that is, made convex in transverse section—as also seen in Fig. 4, and add to its reflecting capacity and increase its whiteness; but the two sides, if made plain, accomplish the desirable object of the invention. The thickness of the sight should be substantially that of the slot *a*, within which it is hung, and so that the walls of the slot will produce sufficient friction to retain the sight in either position to which it may be turned.

The spring *f* may be arranged in the bottom of the slot, to bear against the under edge of the sight, and serve to throw and hold it in either of its extreme positions.

Instead of making the face *c* vertical, it may to advantage be undercut, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 2, the overhanging end increasing the darkness of that rear exposed edge.

I claim—

1. The herein-described convertible sight

for fire-arms, consisting of the base A, constructed for attachment to the barrel of the arm, the sight B, hung upon a pivot in said base, and so as to be turned thereon forward and backward, the rear exposed edge of the sight in one position showing a vertical or dark surface, the rear exposed edge, when turned to the other position, curved upward and forward, substantially as described.

10 2. The combination of the base A, constructed for attachment to the barrel of the arm, and with a slot, *a*, parallel with the axis of the barrel, the sight B, hung upon a pivot in said slot, so as to turn to the front or rear, as the
15 case may be, the exposed rear surface, when turned forward, substantially vertical, and the

exposed rear edge, when turned backward, curved upward and forward, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the base A, constructed for attachment to the barrel, the sight B, hung upon a pivot in the base, and so as to be turned backward or forward in a plane parallel with the axis of the barrel, the rear exposed face, when turned forward, concave in transverse section, and the rear exposed face, when turned to the rearward, convex in transverse section, substantially as described.

FRANCIS J. RABBETH.

Witnesses:

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