

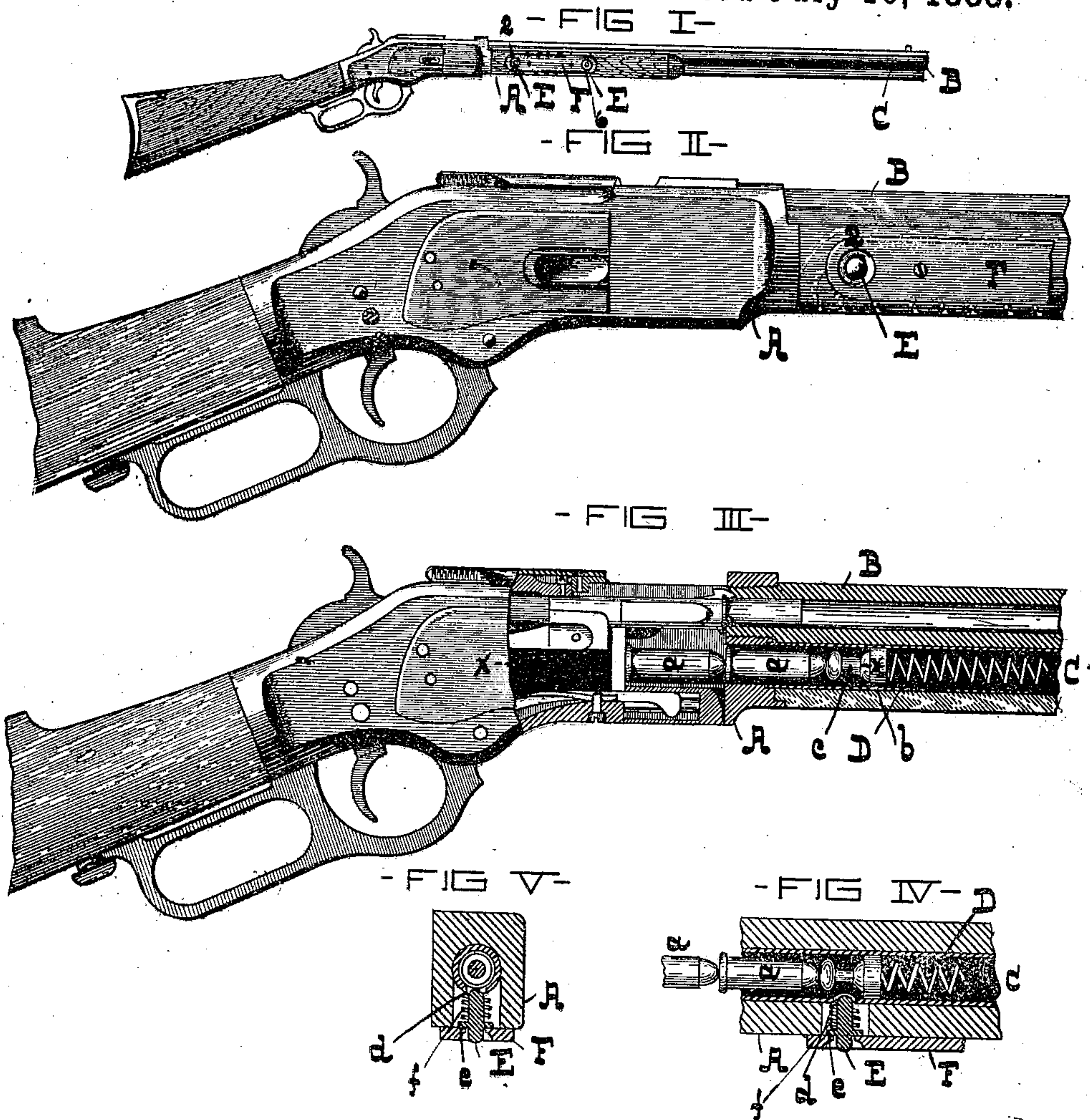
(No Model.)

W. R. MILLER.

LOAD INDICATOR FOR CARTRIDGE MAGAZINES.

No. 385,942.

Patented July 10, 1888.



WITNESSES-

David Fisher  
John C. Hison.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. MILLER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## LOAD-INDICATOR FOR CARTRIDGE-MAGAZINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,942, dated July 10, 1888.

Application filed March 27, 1888. Serial No. 268,706. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. MILLER, of the city of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Repeating Fire-Arms, of which the following is a specification.

This invention consists in applying to the magazine of a repeating-rifle a device whereby the number of cartridges or filled shells contained therein may be ascertained by the sense of touch.

In carrying out this invention I provide the head of the magazine-spring with a lateral depression and the stock with one or more spring-bolts distributed throughout its length, any one of which may be pressed by the finger and made to enter a perforation in the magazine and pass into the depression in the magazine-spring head, when such depression is directly opposite to it. By this arrangement the position of the spring-head can be ascertained, and consequently the number of cartridges remaining in the magazine.

In the further description of the said invention which follows, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, and in which—

Figure I is an exterior side view of a repeating-rifle embodying my improvements. Fig. II is an enlarged side view of a portion of the improved rifle, and Fig. III a partly-sectional view of the same. Figs. IV and V are details of the invention, as hereinafter described.

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

In the said drawings, A, B, and C are respectively the stock, barrel, and magazine of the improved rifle.

D is the magazine-spring which feeds the cartridges, two of which are shown and denoted by *a*. This spring is fitted with the usual head, *b*, which is kept in contact with the last cartridge in the magazine. I form in the side of the head *b* a depression, *c*, and provide the stock with one or more perforations, *d*, preferably at the side, as shown in Fig. IV, which is a longitudinal section of a part of Fig. III, and taken on the dotted line *x x*, and

extend the said perforations through the side of the magazine.

E E are bolts situated in the perforations *d* of the stock, each having a collar, *e*, between which and the side of the magazine is confined a spiral spring, *f*. A plate, F, secured to the outside of the stock, limits the outer movement of the bolts E.

By reference to Fig. I it will be seen that I have provided the rifle with only two spring-bolts, they being numbered in Fig. I 2 and 6. Bolt 2 is placed directly opposite the cavity *c* in the head *b* when the same occupies the position shown in the drawings—that is to say, when there are only two cartridges in the magazine—and bolt 6 is arranged for six cartridges. When the bolt 2 can be pressed in by means of the finger, so that its inner end will enter the cavity in the head, it indicates that there are only two cartridges remaining in the magazine, and when bolt 6 is operative in a similar manner there are six cartridges in the magazine. While it is only necessary that the rifle should have one bolt E, and that placed so as to indicate that the supply of cartridges is nearly exhausted, I do not restrict myself to one, or, in fact, to any number, as this is a matter of choice and does not affect the character of the invention. Whether the head *b* is fastened to the magazine-spring or loose from it, it has a tendency to turn. I therefore make the cavity in the head by turning, thus forming an annular groove, as shown in the drawings. This construction obviates the necessity of employing, in connection with the head, a guide to prevent its turning in the magazine.

I do not restrict myself to the arrangement of the head and spring as shown and described for the purpose in view, as my invention extends to a device which may be operated from the exterior of the stock to ascertain the position of the head of the magazine-spring within the magazine, and through it the number of cartridges remaining in the magazine.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a repeating-rifle, the wall of the magazine perforated and the head of the magazine-spring provided with a lateral indentation or

cavity, combined with a bolt in the stock which may be operated from the outside of the magazine to bring its end into the said indentation or cavity, substantially as and for the purpose  
5 specified.

2. In combination with the magazine C, having the perforation *d*, and the head *b* of the magazine-spring having the indentation or

cavity *c*, the spring-bolt E in the stock, the inner end of which is adapted to enter the said cavity, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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Witnesses:

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