

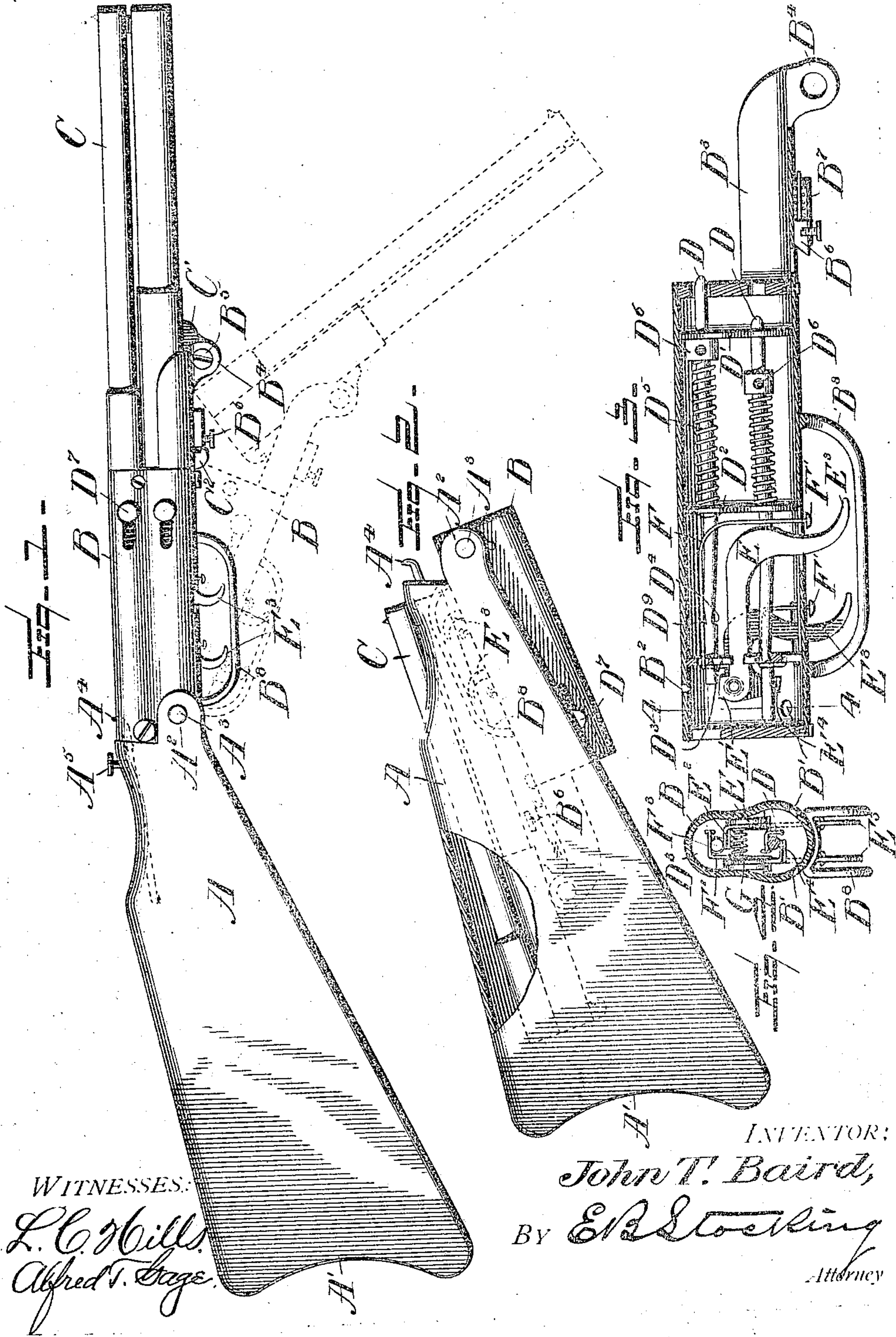
No. 652,583.

Patented June 26, 1900.

J. T. BAIRD.  
FOLDING GUN.

(Application filed Feb. 28, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. BAIRD, OF OLNEY, ILLINOIS.

## FOLDING GUN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 652,583, dated June 26, 1900.

Application filed February 28, 1900. Serial No. 6,313. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN T. BAIRD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Olney, in the county of Richland, State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Guns, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to folding guns, and particularly to a structure in which the barrel and firing-chamber may be disposed within a hollow stock.

The invention has for an object to produce a construction of folding gun in which the stock is formed hollow or recessed to contain both the barrel portion and the firing-chamber of the gun, these two parts being pivoted together, so that the gun when folded is materially shorter in length than heretofore and of less width, thus permitting the convenient introduction of the same into a pocket of the clothing of the user.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear in the following description and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of the folding gun, with the parts shown in dotted lines as partially folded. Fig. 2 is a similar view illustrating the parts in their folded position. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section through the firing-chamber, and Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 3.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In the drawings the letter A indicates the stock, B the firing-chamber, and C the barrel portion of a gun, which may be of any suitable construction or configuration, it being understood that the stock portion A is recessed or hollow for the purpose of receiving the barrel and firing-chamber when the same shall be folded therein. The stock A illustrated is of a hollow character and formed from sheet material having a suitable shoulder-butt A'. At the opposite end the stock is provided with pivoting-ears A<sup>2</sup>, by means of which the firing-chamber B is pivoted thereto by a pin A<sup>3</sup>, passing through the opposite

ears and apertures B' in the firing-chamber. The stock is also provided with a latch A<sup>4</sup>, of any suitable character—for instance, a spring-finger passing through an aperture B<sup>2</sup> in the firing-chamber and provided with a push-button A<sup>5</sup> for the purpose of disengaging the finger and permitting the pivotal movement of the firing-chamber.

The firing-chamber B is adapted to contain any suitable form of firing mechanism—for instance, the firing-pins D, which are found a very desirable construction and will be hereinafter particularly described. This chamber has at its forward portion a rest B<sup>3</sup>, provided with depending pivoting-ears B<sup>4</sup>, adapted to receive the pivot-pin B<sup>5</sup>, passing through the lug C', carried by the barrel C. This barrel is also provided with a locking-hook C<sup>2</sup>, adapted to cooperate with a spring-bolt B<sup>6</sup>, carried within the casing B<sup>7</sup> upon the lower portion of the rest B<sup>3</sup>. This structure permits the convenient and ready releasing of the barrel portion in order that the same may be folded upon the firing-chamber and the two parts then folded within the recessed stock. The lower portion of the firing-chamber is also provided with trigger-guards B<sup>8</sup>, suitably spaced apart, so that the barrel portion C will lie between the same when the parts are folded, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2. In the form of gun illustrated in this application two barrels have been shown, and consequently the firing mechanism is duplicated for cooperation therewith. This forms a desirable form of weapon, embodying both a rifle and shotgun; but the invention is not confined to this combined weapon, but adapted for use with either one or more barrels.

The firing-chamber may contain any form of lock mechanism, and a desirable construction of parts is herewith illustrated in connection with the folding gun, but forms no part of the invention herein claimed.

The firing-pins D are similar in construction, and it will therefore only be necessary to particularly describe one of the same. The pin D is passed through an aperture in a supporting-partition D' at the barrel end of the chamber, thence through an aperture in the tension-plate D<sup>2</sup>, and through an aperture in the locking-plate D<sup>3</sup>. It will here be stated that the pin D is of slightly-elastic material



and the aperture in the tension-plate  $D^2$  is in a slightly-lower horizontal plane than those in the guide-plate  $D^1$  and locking-plate  $D^3$ , thus producing a frictional contact of the ends of the pins with the two last-mentioned plates and causes the locking-notch  $D^4$  upon the pin to engage with the wall of the plate  $D^3$ . For the purpose of releasing the firing-pin this notch is lifted from engagement with the plate  $D^3$  by means of the trigger  $E$ , which, as shown, may be pivoted at  $E^1$  within the firing-chamber and provided with an elevating-lug  $E^2$ , adapted to raise the end of the pin when the trigger is oscillated by contact of the finger with the free end  $E^3$  thereof. The firing-pin is projected by any suitable form of spring—for instance, the coil-spring  $D^5$ —bearing against the tension-plate  $D^2$  at one end and against a collar  $D^6$ , carried upon the pin. This collar is also provided with a setting-pin  $D^7$ , by which the firing-pin may be retracted and placed under tension. With the mechanism just described the movement of the end  $E^3$  of the trigger toward the person using the gun will raise the inner end of the firing-pin, and thus release the same. In order to prevent the accidental release of the firing-pin by reason of the trigger coming in contact with some object, which has been the result of so many disastrous accidents, a safety-catch  $F$  has been provided. This catch extends outward just above the end  $E^3$  of the trigger and is provided with a push-button  $F^1$ , by means of which it can be readily released by an upward movement of the finger as the trigger is pulled rearwardly. The inner end of this catch is secured to the locking-plate  $D^3$ , as shown at  $F^2$ . Above the secured end a horizontal portion  $F^3$  is provided, which forms a locking-bar adapted to engage the notch or recess  $D^4$  upon the upper face of the firing-pin  $D$ . This locking-bar is lifted from contact with the firing-pin either before the trigger is actuated or simultaneously therewith. In the event that two triggers are used to cooperate with independent firing-pins the usual mechanical changes may be necessary to dispose the same within the casing. For instance, the second or rear trigger (shown in Fig. 3) has its lifting-lug  $E^4$  extending downward in order to pass beneath the lower firing-pin  $D$ . When two triggers are used, as just described, the same may be located upon opposite sides of the chamber  $C$  and are separated and held under the proper tension by means of a coiled spring  $G$ , interposed between the same, while the ends  $E^3$  of the two triggers are also disposed adjacent to the opposite trigger-guards  $B^3$ , so as to permit the passage of the barrel between the same when the gun is folded.

From the foregoing description the operation of the several parts will be clearly understood, and it need only be further stated that for the purpose of folding the gun the catch  $B^2$  will first be released, when the barrel portion will be folded between the trigger-guard,

after which the latch  $A^4$  is released and permits the final folding of the barrel and firing-chamber within the stock, as shown in Fig. 2. This places the gun within such a small compass that the same may be readily carried within the pocket of a garment and materially reduces the length, which is necessary when the barrel is only pivoted upon the firing-chamber and folded parallel with the stock. By folding the parts within the stock the width of the folded gun is greatly reduced, as well as the length thereof, and in a device of this character it is highly essential that the mechanism should occupy as little space when folded as possible.

It is obvious that changes may be made in the details of construction and configuration of the several parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a folding gun, the combination with a hollow or skeleton stock having a firing-chamber pivoted to said stock, and provided with a barrel portion, whereby said chamber may when folded be contained within the body of said stock; substantially as specified.

2. In a folding gun, the combination with a hollow or recessed stock, of a firing-chamber pivoted thereto, a latch for holding said firing-chamber in position, a barrel portion pivoted to said firing-chamber, and a latch to hold said barrel in position, whereby the barrel may be folded upon the firing-chamber and both of said parts within the body of the stock; substantially as specified.

3. In a folding gun, the combination with a hollow or recessed stock, of a firing-chamber pivoted thereto, a latch for holding said firing-chamber in position, a barrel portion pivoted to said firing-chamber, a latch to hold said barrel in position, and a rest adapted to receive the inner end of said barrel when in firing position; substantially as specified.

4. In a folding gun, the combination with a hollow or recessed stock, of a firing-chamber pivoted thereto, a latch for holding said firing-chamber in position, a barrel portion pivoted to said firing-chamber, a latch to hold said barrel in position, a rest adapted to receive the inner end of said barrel when in firing position, and guards upon the lower face of said firing-chamber between which said barrel is adapted to lie when folded.

5. In a folding gun, the combination with the stock having a recessed or hollow body portion and pivoting ears, of a firing-chamber pivoted to said stock, a spring-actuated latch for retaining said stock and chamber in firing position, a rest at the barrel end of said chamber provided with pivoting ears at its forward end, a barrel portion pivoted to said ears, and a latch carried by said rest and adapted to engage a projection from said barrel; substantially as specified.

6. In a folding gun, the combination with a



stock, a firing-chamber, of a barrel portion  
having two barrels pivoted to the firing-cham-  
ber, independent firing mechanism for each  
barrel, a trigger-guard located upon the under  
5 side of said firing-chamber, independent trig-  
gers for said firing mechanisms disposed upon  
opposite sides of said chamber adjacent to  
said guard and adapted to receive between  
the same one of the barrels carried by the  
10 barrel portion; substantially as specified.  
7. In a folding gun, the combination with a  
stock having a recessed or hollow body por-  
tion, of a firing-chamber pivotally mounted at

one end of said stock, and a barrel portion  
mounted at the free end of said firing portion 15  
and adapted to fold therein, whereby both the  
firing-chamber and barrel may be folded upon  
and within the hollow body portion; substan-  
tially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 20  
in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN T. BAIRD.

Witnesses:

A. W. MACE,  
JOHN SCHNEITER.