To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDMOND GUNN, of Charleston, in the district of Charleston and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a portion of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view and partial section of a fire-arm constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same, taken in the line x x of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the same.

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

This invention consists in a lever and a sliding retractor so combined with a chambered breech-block hinged at one side that the said lever not only serves as a thumb-piece whereby the breech-block may be turned laterally from the breech-receiver to uncress the breech, but may also be used to operate the extractor to expel the empty cartridge-shells from the breech-block, and be employed to securely lock the breech-block in position when the breech is closed.

To enable others to understand the construction and operation of my invention, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings.

The barrel A is securely fixed in a breech-receiver, B, which is open at the top and at one side, and is attached to the stock C in any suitable manner.

The breech-block represented at D is hinged to the bottom of the breech-receiver, at the open side thereof, as shown at a, and has formed and extending entirely through it a longitudinal chamber, b, which, when the breech is closed, is in line with the bore of the barrel, with its rear end closed by the recoil-bearing c of the breech-receiver, the aforesaid rear end furthermore having formed in it an annular rabbet for the reception of the flange of the metallic cartridge-shell.

The extractor is shown at E, and slides in a longitudinal slot provided for its reception within the outermost side of the breech-block, and the head d of which, when the aforesaid block is in its place to close the breech, is situated forward of the rabbet just mentioned, in such manner as to catch upon the flange of the cartridge-shell in ejecting the same. This ex-