

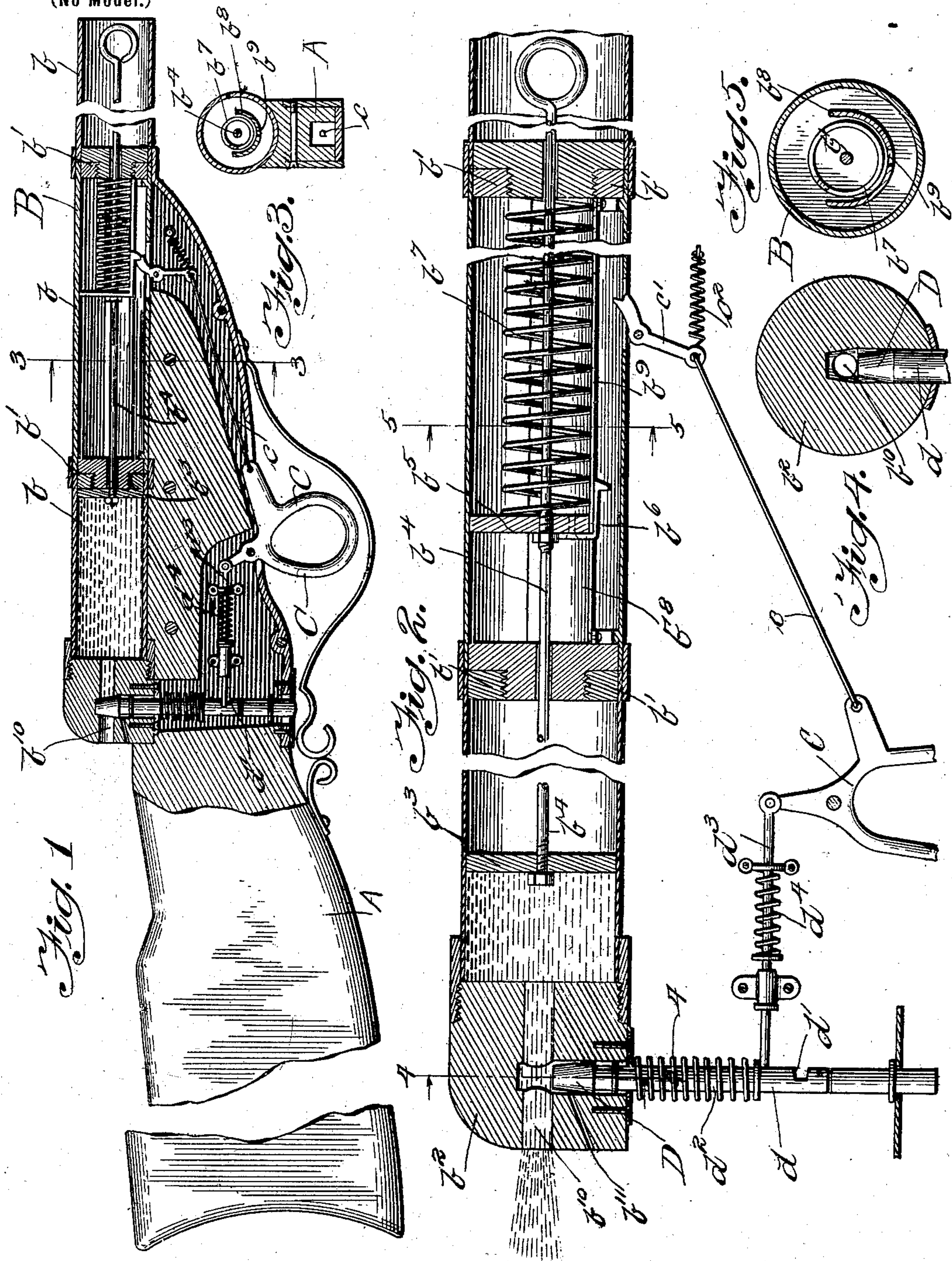
No. 702,478.

Patented June 17, 1902.

C. H. RADCLIFFE.
WATER GUN.

(Application filed Dec. 19, 1901.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:

J. B. Neale

Robert H. Allen

Inventor:

Charles H. Radcliffe
by Arthur F. Demand
Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. RADCLIFFE, OF ELGIN, ILLINOIS.

WATER-GUN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,478, dated June 17, 1902.

Application filed December 19, 1901. Serial No. 86,481. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. RADCLIFFE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Elgin, county of Kane, and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Water-Guns, of which the following is a specification.

My invention contemplates a device somewhat in the nature of a toy, and is designed more particularly for use in lodges, secret societies, and like organizations. To such end the device preferably has the appearance of an ordinary gun and is provided with the usual barrel, stock, and trigger. In addition to these, however, the gun is constructed with ejecting devices adapted to be released by the trigger. These ejecting devices are adapted to eject water or other fluid from the rear end of the gun-barrel. In this way the candidate is led to believe that only an ordinary gun is to be fired. Upon pulling the trigger, however, a discharge of water is received full in the face. The ejecting mechanism can be of any suitable known or approved form.

Broadly considered, my invention contemplates a toy, or, more strictly speaking, a device for use in initiations, having substantially the appearance of an ordinary gun, but, as explained, provided with means for ejecting water or other fluid into the face of the operator or person pulling the trigger. The nature and operation of my invention will, however, hereinafter more fully appear.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal section through a water-gun constructed according to my invention, the stock of the gun being shown in elevation and both the stock and the forward portion of the barrel being broken away for convenience of illustration. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view of the rear portion of the barrel and the trigger mechanism, showing the same in position to discharge the water. Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line 3 3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on line 4 4 in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a cross-section on line 5 5 in Fig. 2.

As thus illustrated, my invention comprises, preferably, a gun-stock A and a gun-barrel B, the same being suitably connected and shaped to give the appearance of an ordinary gun. The barrel B can, if desired, be made in sections, the sections *b* being connected to-

gether by means of screw-threaded joints *b'*. The rear end of the barrel is preferably provided with a solid end portion *b²*. Arranged within the interior of the gun-barrel is a plunger *b³*, having its rod or stem *b⁴* extending forwardly through two of the threaded joints *b'*. This stem or rod *b⁴* is preferably provided with a shoulder *b⁵* and also with a small lug or projection *b⁶*. A coil-spring *b⁷* is preferably provided and arranged for compression between the shoulder *b⁵* and the threaded joint *b'*. Preferably a guide or support *b⁸* is provided for the spring and the shoulder *b⁵*, and this guide or support is preferably provided on its underside with a longitudinally-extending slot *b⁹*. The said plunger and its rod or stem are thus adapted for reciprocation in the barrel of the gun, and during such reciprocation the lug or projection *b⁶* slides in the said slot *b⁹*. With this arrangement it will be seen that the tendency of the said spring is to normally hold the plunger *b³* against the solid end portion *b²*. This solid end portion is preferably provided with a discharge-opening *b¹⁰*. The trigger C is preferably and desirably arranged as shown and is connected by a rod *c* with the dog or releasing device *c'*. A spring *c²* serves to normally hold the trigger and said dog or releasing device in the position shown in Fig. 1. It will be seen, therefore, that when the plunger and its rod or stem are drawn forward, as shown in Fig. 1, the said lug or projection *b⁶* then engages the said dog or releasing device *c'* and that the latter then holds the plunger in the position shown in said Fig. 1. In this way the plunger can be set and held by the trigger mechanism, and the space between the plunger and the solid portion *b²* can then be filled with water or other fluid, and upon drawing back the said trigger the plunger will then be released and the water discharged from the opening *b¹⁰*. It is desirable, however, that some suitable valve mechanism be provided for preventing the water or fluid from leaking through the passage *b¹⁰* before the gun is discharged. As a simple and effective arrangement I provide the valve D, having a stem *d*, provided with a notch *d'*. A spring *d²* holds the valve normally closed. When closed, the said notch *d'* is engaged by the locking-bolt *d³*, which is held normally in engagement with the said

valve-stem by a spring d^4 . This locking-bolt, it will be observed, is arranged for reciprocation and connected at its forward end to the upper portion of the trigger C. In this way
 5 the said valve mechanism is adapted to operate simultaneously with the plunger or ejecting mechanism. When the trigger is pulled, the plunger is released simultaneously with the opening of the valve. It will
 10 be seen, therefore, that I not only provide simple and effective mechanism for discharging the water or other fluid, but also that I provide simple and effective cooperating mechanism for controlling the discharge-
 15 opening. Furthermore, all of the devices and mechanisms are operated and controlled by a single trigger. If desired, a drain-opening b^{11} can be provided in the solid end portion of the barrel, so as to permit the water or other fluid
 20 to drain off readily after a discharge. Thus it will be seen that I provide a device which has all the appearance of an ordinary gun, but which is adapted to surprise the operator, probably the candidate for initiation into a
 25 secret society, by a rearward discharge of water. Practical jokes of this character are an essential and necessary feature of lodge and secret-society initiations, and for this reason I have, as stated, given the aforede-
 30 scribed device the appearance of an article which will very readily lead the candidate to expect a result very different from that which actually follows.

What I claim as my invention is—

35 1. A toy or device for use in initiating candidates into lodges, secret societies and other like organizations, consisting of a gun-stock, a gun-barrel mounted upon said stock, a trigger, said barrel being adapted to contain wa-
 40 ter or other fluid and having a rear discharge-opening, ejecting mechanism for ejecting water or other fluid through said discharge-opening, and a locking device for locking the ejecting mechanism in condition to eject the
 45 water, said locking device being connected with and operated by the said trigger.

2. A toy or device for the purpose described, consisting of a device having substantially the shape and appearance of an ordinary gun,
 50 the same being provided with a rear discharge-opening and also with a chamber for water or other fluid, ejecting devices for ejecting the water or other fluid through said discharge-opening, and a trigger for releasing
 55 said ejecting devices and thereby discharging the water into the face of the operator.

3. A toy or device for the purpose described, consisting of a device having the shape and appearance of an ordinary gun, the same be-
 60 ing provided with a rear discharge-opening,

ejecting devices for ejecting any desired substance or fluid through said discharge-opening, and a trigger for releasing said ejecting devices.

4. A toy water-gun for use in the manner 65 described, comprising a gun-stock, a gun-barrel, said gun-barrel being constructed with a water-chamber and also a rear discharge-opening, a spring-pressed plunger inclosed by said barrel and adapted for ejecting the water 70 through said discharge-opening, and trigger mechanism for holding said plunger in position to eject the water.

5. A toy or the like for the purpose described, consisting of a device in the nature 75 of and having substantially the shape and appearance of a gun, the rear end of the gun-barrel being provided with a discharge-opening, a water-chamber in said gun, a spring-pressed plunger inclosed by said gun-barrel 80 and adapted to eject water through said discharge-opening, trigger mechanism for releasing said plunger, and a valve device operated by said trigger and adapted to control said discharge-opening. 85

6. In a toy device of the character and for the purpose specified, the combination of a gun-stock, a gun-barrel, said gun-barrel being provided with a rear discharge-opening and a water-chamber, a spring-pressed plunger 90 inclosed by said gun-barrel and adapted to eject the water through said discharge-opening, a trigger device for releasing said plunger, a reciprocating valve held normally seated by a spring and adapted to control said 95 discharge-opening, and a locking-bolt operated by said trigger device and adapted for releasing said valve, the trigger thereby operating to simultaneously release said plunger and open said discharge-opening. 100

7. A toy for use in initiating candidates into lodges, secret societies and like fraternal organizations, consisting of a device having substantially the shape and appearance of a firearm, the same being constructed with a 105 water-chamber and a rear discharge-opening adapted to direct the discharge into the face of the operator, ejecting mechanism for forcing the water through said discharge-opening, and a trigger device for releasing said eject- 110 ing mechanism at the moment when the usual discharge or report is expected from the firearm.

Signed by me at Chicago, Cook county, Illinois, this 14th day of December, A. D. 1901. 115

CHARLES H. RADCLIFFE.

Witnesses:

FRANK L. KRIETE,
 M. E. HENDERSON.