

No. 788,210.

PATENTED APR. 25, 1905.

T. C. JOHNSON.  
GUN.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1904.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

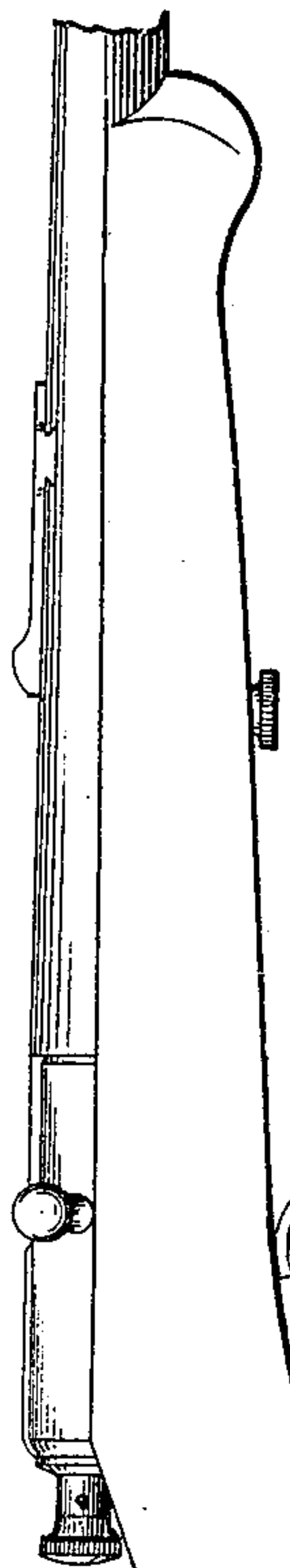


Fig. 3

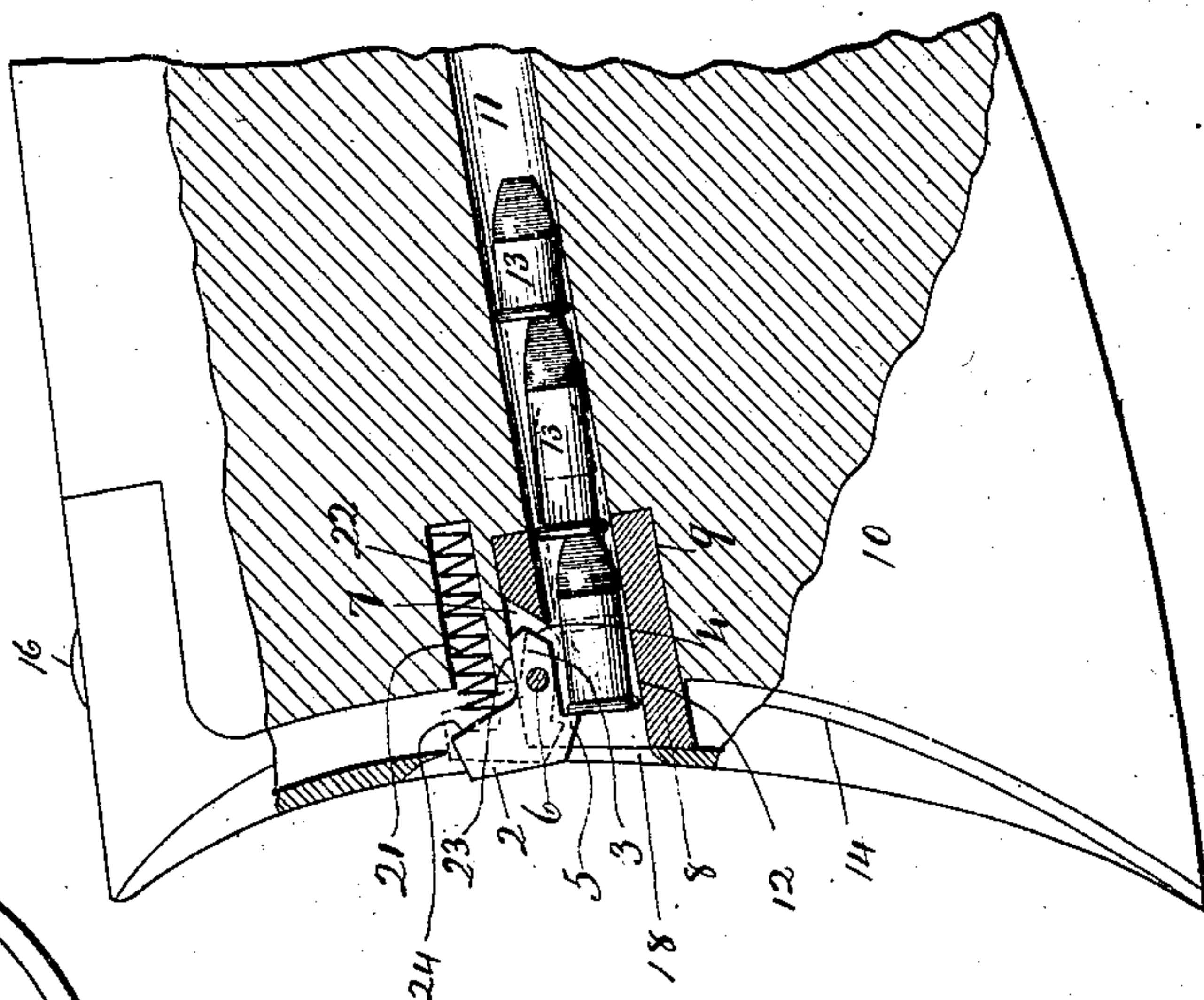


Fig. 2

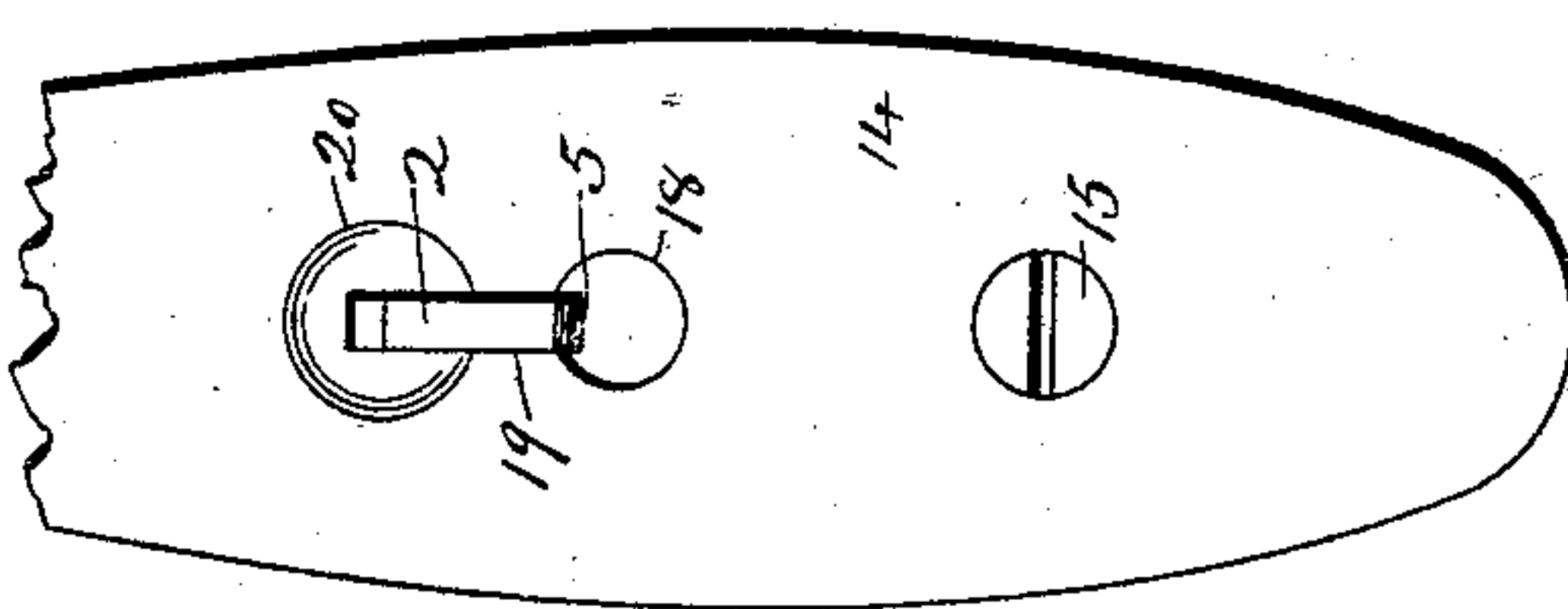


Fig. 4

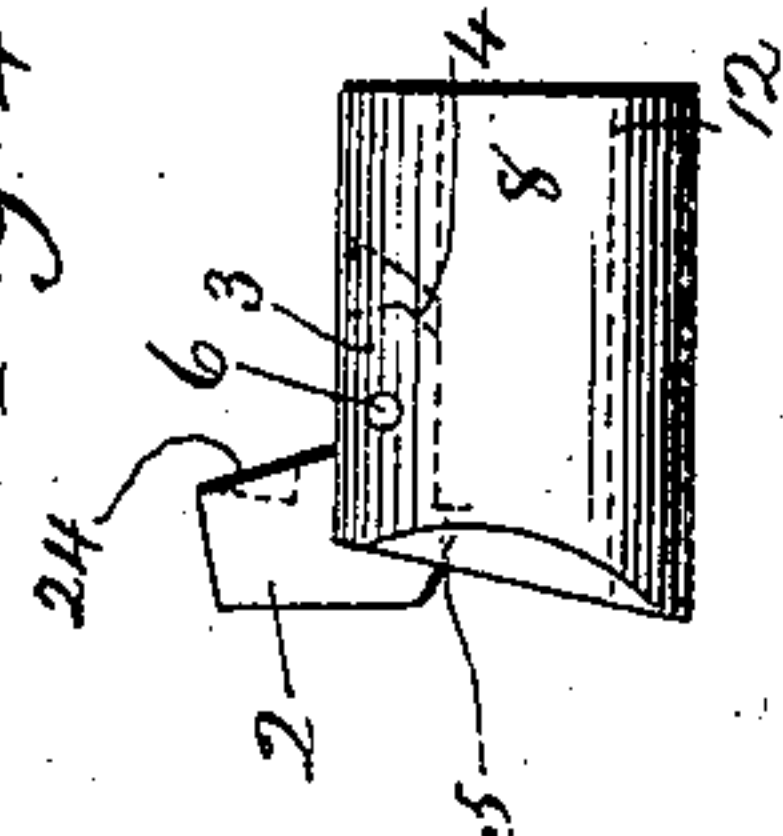


Fig. 5

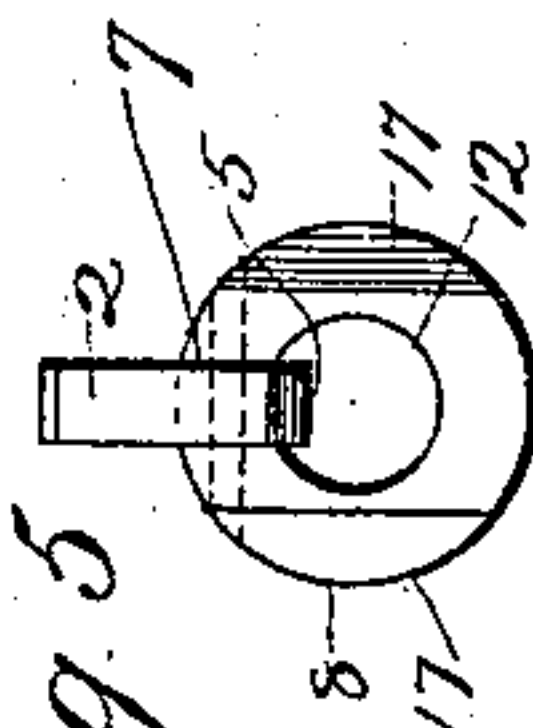
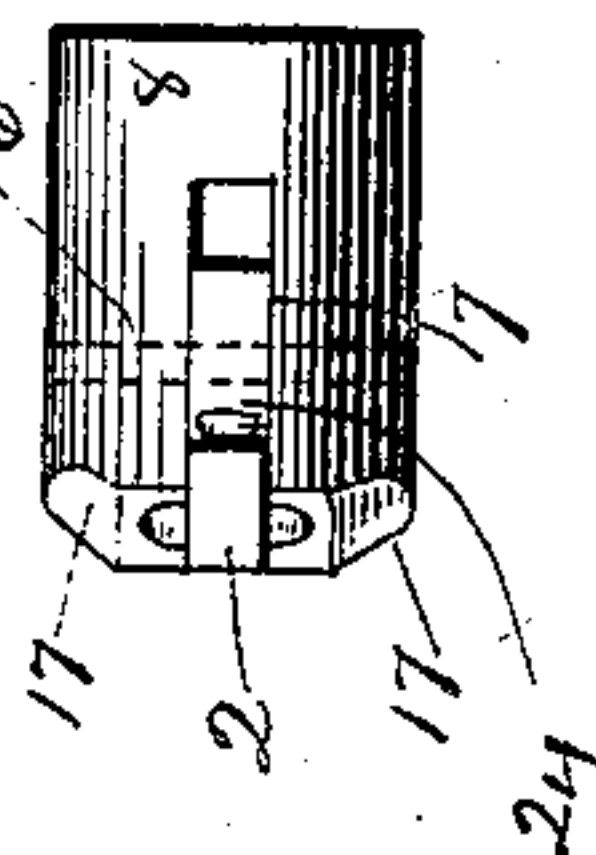


Fig. 6



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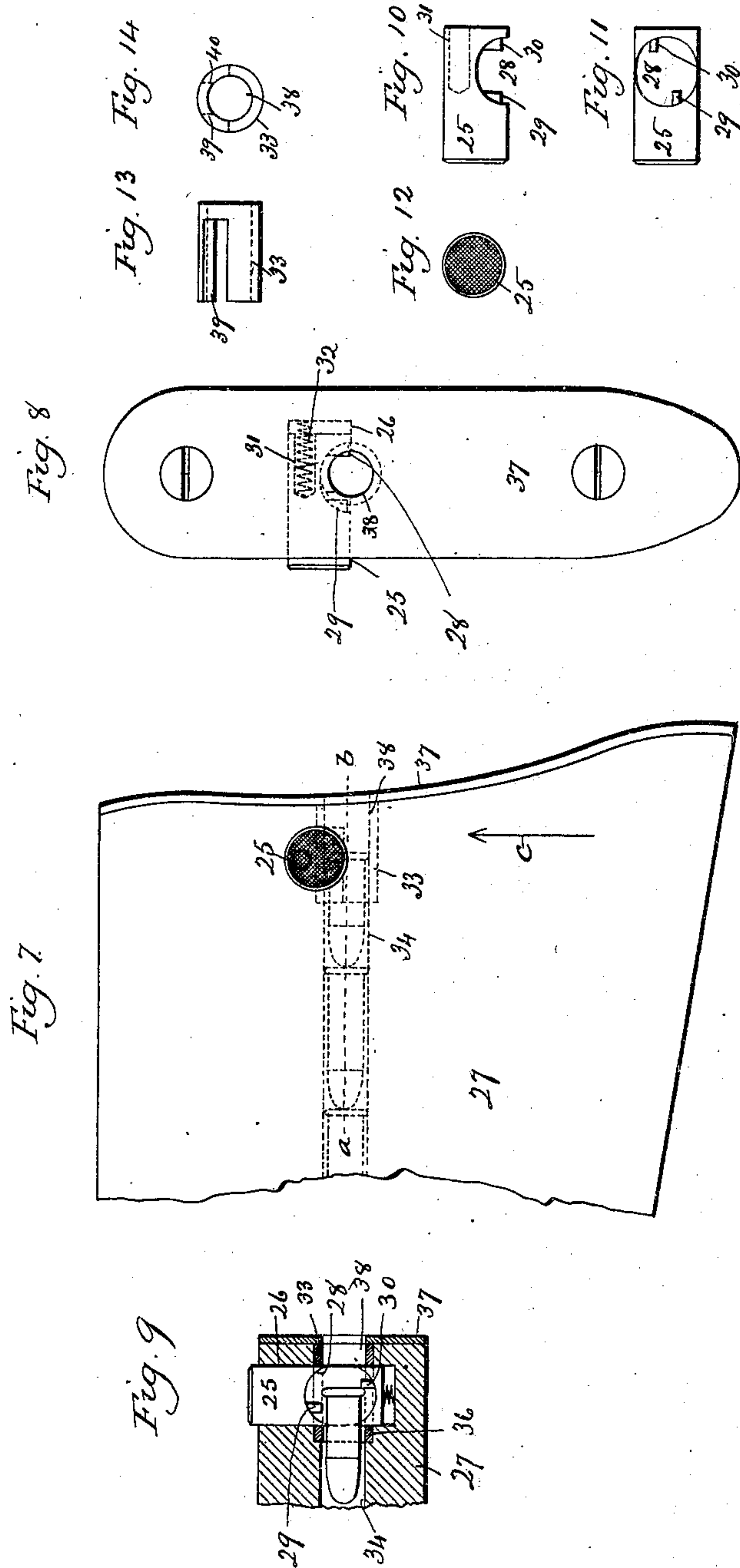
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T. C. JOHNSON.  
GUN.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1904.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS C. JOHNSON, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS COMPANY, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION.

## GUN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 788,210, dated April 25, 1905.

Application filed June 1, 1904. Serial No. 210,719.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS C. JOHNSON, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Guns; 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 broken view, in side elevation, of a gun provided with my invention; Fig. 2, a broken view, in rear elevation, of the butt of the gun; Fig. 3, a broken view of the butt of the gun, partly in side elevation and partly in vertical section; Fig. 4, a detached view of the double-acting cartridge-gate and the tubular mouthpiece in which the same is mounted; Fig. 5, a view thereof in rear elevation; Fig. 6, a plan view thereof; Fig. 7, a broken view, in side elevation, of the butt of a gun furnished with one of the modified forms which my invention may assume; Fig. 8, a rear view thereof; Fig. 9, a view thereof in horizontal section on the line *ab* of Fig. 7 and looking upward from below in the direction of the arrow *c*; Fig. 10, a detached view, in side elevation, of the gate; Fig. 11, a reverse plan view thereof; Fig. 12, a rear end view thereof; Fig. 13, a detached view, in side elevation, of the tubular mouthpiece; Fig. 14, an end view thereof.

My invention relates to an improvement in that class of single shotguns which have their butt-stocks bored for the temporary reception of cartridges, the object of my present invention being to provide a simple, convenient, and reliable gate for holding the cartridges in place and limiting their removal to one at a time.

With these ends in view my invention consists in a gun having certain details of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In carrying out my invention as shown in Figs. 1 to 6, inclusive, of the drawings I employ a double-acting cartridge-gate having the

general form of a bell-crank lever and comprising an upwardly-extending finger-piece 2 and a forwardly-extending shank 3 and formed with a front cut-off 4, located at the inner forward corner of the shank, and with a rear cut-off 5, located at the rear end of the shank and extending downward therefrom, the front cut-off 4 consisting of a beveled face and the rear cut-off 5 consisting of a nose or tooth. The said gate is pivotally mounted upon a pin 6, extending transversely through it in a longitudinal slot 7 in the top of the rear end of a tubular mouthpiece 8, set into a circular chamber 9, formed in the rear end of the butt-stock 10 concentric with a longitudinally-arranged bore-like cartridge-chamber 11, which extends forward into the butt-stock a greater or less distance according to the capacity for cartridges which it is desired to have. The bore of the tubular mouthpiece forms a cartridge-passage 12, located in line with the long cartridge-chamber 11 and forming an extension of the rear end thereof. When the gate is swung on its pin 6, the front cut-off 4 and the rear cut-off 5 are alternately thrown into the said cartridge-passage 12 of the mouthpiece, and therefore into the path of the cartridges 13, as will be explained later on. The tubular mouthpiece 8 is held in place in its circular chamber 9 by the engagement with its rear or outer end of the inner face of the butt-plate 14, which is itself secured to the butt-stock 10 by screws 15 and 16 in the ordinary manner. As shown, the mouthpiece 8 is held against rotation by the formation at its rear end of vertically-arranged bevels 17, adapting it to fit against the inner face of the butt-plate, which is curved in cross-section; but this is not essential. The said butt-plate is formed with a feeding-opening 18, conforming in size to and registering with the cartridge-passage 12 of the mouthpiece, and therefore located in line with the cartridge-chamber 11 in the butt-stock. A vertically-arranged slot 19 leads out of the upper edge of the feeding-opening 18 and receives the inner edge of the finger-piece 2 of the gate, whereby the mouthpiece will be prevented from rotating in the chamber 9 if other pro-



vision is not made therefor. The said slot 19 intersects a shallow circular recess or cup-like depression 20, formed in the outer face of the butt-plate at a point directly above the feeding-opening 18, and enables the gate to be conveniently operated by its finger-piece without necessitating the undue projection thereof from the outer face of the butt-plate. A spiral spring 21, located in a spring-socket 22 in the butt-stock 10, engages at its outer end with the inner edge of the finger-piece 2 and provides for holding the gate in its normal position, in which its rear cut-off 4 sufficiently enters the bore 12 of the mouthpiece to engage with the head of the rearmost cartridge. The said spring 21 is prevented from turning the gate unduly on its pin 6 by the engagement of the upper edge of the gate with the wood of the butt-stock 10 at the point 23, while the gate is prevented from being unduly turned on its pin 6 under pressure upon the outer edge of its finger-piece 2 by the engagement of the forward edge of its said finger-piece with the wood of the butt-stock at the point 24, all as shown in Fig. 3.

To fill the cartridge-chamber 11, the gun is held muzzle downward and a cartridge inserted into the feeding-opening 18 bullet end first, but prevented from entering the passage 12 of the mouthpiece 8 to any extent by the rear cut-off 5 of the gate, the finger-piece 2 of which is now pressed inward, whereby the said rear cut-off 5 is cleared from the path of the bullet, which is allowed to enter the passage 12, but when the gate is turned to clear its cut-off 5 from the bullet its front cut-off 4 is moved into the path of the bullet, so as to engage the body thereof. The bullet is then held by the cut-off 4 of the gate until the user of the gun removes the pressure of his finger from the finger-piece 2, when the spring 21 acts to turn the gate and release the bullet, which is now free to gravitate into the bottom of the chamber 11, which is filled by repeating the foregoing operation. I wish to note in this connection that in the construction described cartridges of various lengths may be used, it being only necessary to make the distance between the cut-off 5 and the cut-off 4 shorter than the length of the shortest cartridge.

To remove the cartridges from the chamber 11, the gun is held in position so that the action of gravity will cause the cartridges to descend from the said chamber into the mouthpiece 8, in which they will be intercepted by the rear cut-off of the gate, with which the head of the rearmost cartridge will be engaged. The thumb is now used to push against the finger-piece 2 of the gate, whereby the cut-off 5 is cleared from engagement with the head of the rearmost cartridge, which is thus allowed to escape into the hand of the user. The very act of operating the gate to release the rearmost cartridge causes the front cut-off

of the gate to be thrown into the path of and intercept the now rearmost cartridge, which is the cartridge which was just in advance of the cartridge that has been removed. Now when pressure on the finger-piece 2 is let up the rear cut-off 5 is brought into position to engage with the head of this cartridge. It will thus be seen that it is impossible to remove but one cartridge at a time, or, in other words, but one cartridge for each manipulation of the gate.

My improvement virtually converts a single-shot gun into a magazine-gun, because it enables the user to charge the gun with a relatively large number of cartridges, though the same cannot be automatically fed in the gun as in a repeating gun. It provides convenient means for carrying the cartridges and avoids the soiling of the clothes from the cartridges.

In the modified construction shown by Figs. 7 to 14, inclusive, of the drawings my improved double-acting cartridge-gate takes the form of a plug 25, having its outer end roughened and located in a horizontally-arranged circular chamber 26, formed in the butt-stock 27 and entering the same transversely from one side thereof, but not extending through to the other side thereof. Toward its inner end and in its lower face this plug is formed with a semicircular clearance-opening 28, extending from front to rear and containing an inwardly-projecting front cut-off 29 and a corresponding rear cut-off 30, located diagonally opposite each other, with the former in advance of the latter. At its inner end the plug is formed with a socket 31 for the reception of a coiled spring 32, the outer end of which rests upon the bottom of the chamber 26, the spring exerting a constant effort to push the plug or gate outward into its normal position. This plug or gate is located at a right angle to and above a tubular mouthpiece 33, forming an extension of the rear end of a cartridge-receiving bore or chamber 34, arranged longitudinally in the butt-stock 27, the mouthpiece 33 being located in a chamber 36 concentric with the bore 34 and held in place by the engagement of a butt-plate 37 with its rear end. To permit the cut-offs 29 and 30 to be alternately thrown into the cartridge-passage 38 of the mouthpiece 33, the same is formed with two oppositely-located horizontally-arranged slots 39 and 40, respectively, receiving the cut-offs 29 and 30. In the normal position of the plug 25 the back cut-off 30 will be entered through the slot 39 in the mouthpiece 31 in position to be engaged with the head of the rearmost cartridge. When, however, the plug is pushed transversely inward by the user of the gun against the tension of the spring 32, the back cut-off 30 is cleared from the cartridge-passage 38 and the rearmost cartridge released; but as the cut-off 30 moves out of the



passage 38 the front cut-off 29 moves into the said passage in time to engage with the next cartridge but one to the rear, so as to intercept the same. Then when inward pressure upon the plug is removed the spring 32 acts to push the plug outward again, whereby the back cut-off 30 is moved into position to intercept the now rearmost cartridge at the same time the same is released by the movement out of the passage of the front cut-off, so that the cartridge will be caught and intercepted by the rear cut-off 30 after it is released by the front cut-off 29 and before it has had a chance to escape.

In view of the modification shown and described and of others that may obviously be made I would have it understood that I do not limit myself to the constructions herein set forth, but hold myself at liberty to make such departures therefrom as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a gun, the combination with a butt-stock having a cartridge-receiving chamber extending forward into it from its rear end, of a mouthpiece located at the rear end of the said chamber and forming a continuation thereof, and a manually-operated double-acting cartridge-gate having two cartridge cut-offs located one in advance of the other and alternately moved into the passage of the mouthpiece whereby only one cartridge can be removed at a time from the said chamber.

2. In a gun, the combination with a butt-stock having a cartridge-receiving chamber, of a mouthpiece, a manually-operated double-acting cartridge-gate mounted in the said mouthpiece and having two cartridge cut-offs located one in advance of the other and alternately entering the cartridge-passage of the said mouthpiece for engaging with the cartridges, whereby only one cartridge can be removed at a time from the said chamber, and a butt-plate applied to the butt-stock over the said mouthpiece and having a cartridge-feeding opening registering with the said cartridge-receiving chamber.

3. In a gun, the combination with a butt-stock having a cartridge-receiving chamber extending forward into it from its rear end, of a mouthpiece, a pivotally-mounted double-acting cartridge-gate having a finger-piece by means of which it is operated, and also having a rear cut-off and a front cut-off alternately entered by the swinging of the said gate on its pivot into the path of the cartridges through the mouthpiece, and a spring coacting with the said gate to hold it in its normal position.

4. In a gun, the combination with a butt-stock having a cartridge-receiving chamber, of a tubular mouthpiece having a cartridge-passage, a double-acting cartridge-gate pivotally mounted in the said mouthpiece and formed with a front and a rear cut-off alternately entering the said passage as the gate is operated, whereby only one cartridge can be removed at a time, and a butt-plate having a feeding-opening registering with the cartridge-passage of the mouthpiece, a slot for the reception of the outer end of the gate, and a recess to facilitate the operation thereof.

5. In a gun, the combination with a butt-stock having a cartridge-receiving chamber, of a mouthpiece having a cartridge-passage, a double-acting cartridge-gate in the general form of a bell-crank lever, the said gate being pivotally mounted in the said mouthpiece and comprising an upwardly-extending finger-piece and a forwardly-extending shank and formed with a front and a rear cut-off alternately entering the said passage as the lever is swung on its pivot by its said finger-piece whereby only one cartridge can be removed at one time, and a butt-plate registering with the cartridge-passage of the mouthpiece and having a slot for the reception of the finger-piece of the gate which is thus exposed for the manual operation of the gate.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS C. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

DANIEL H. VEADER,  
GARDNER W. ALLEN.