

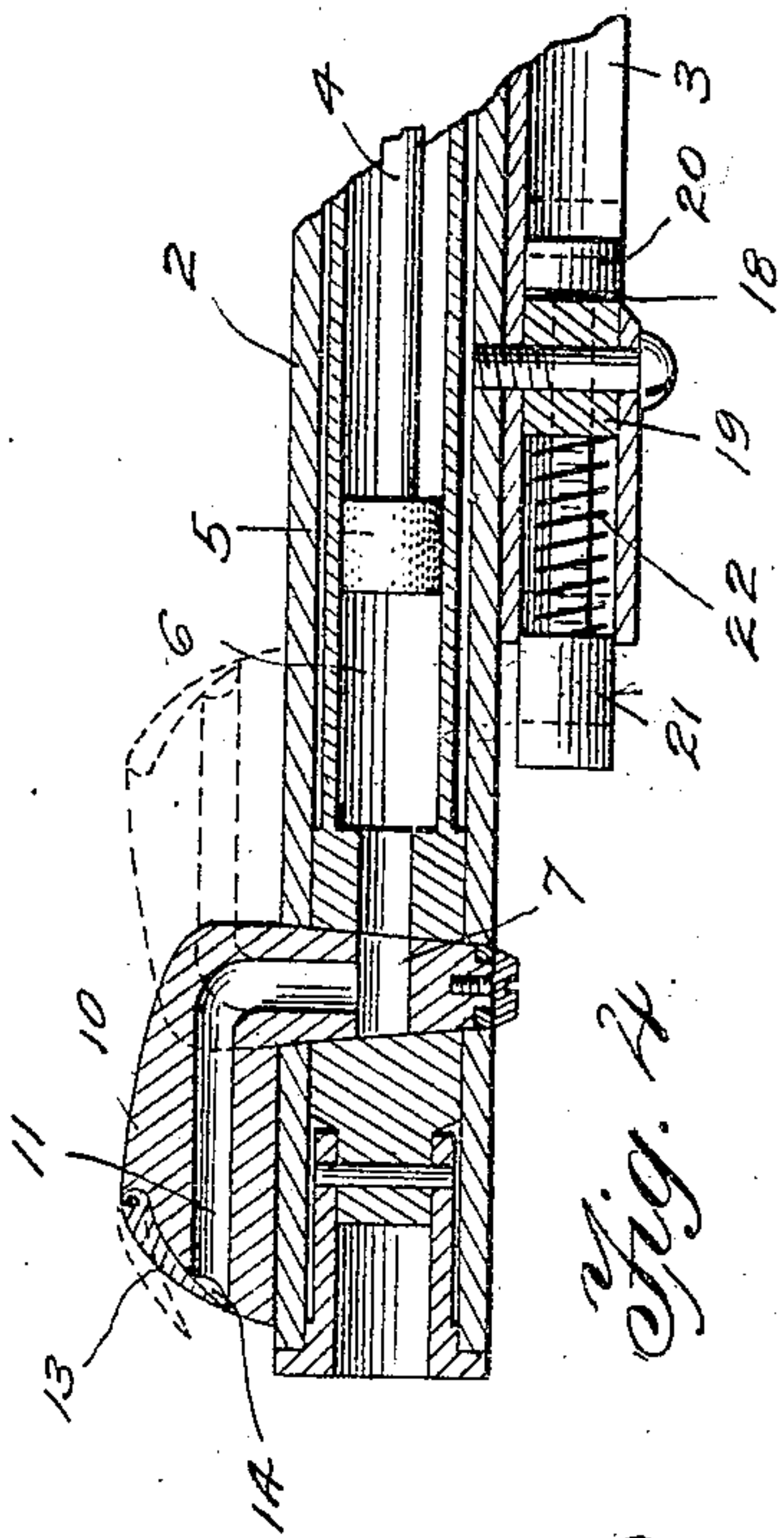
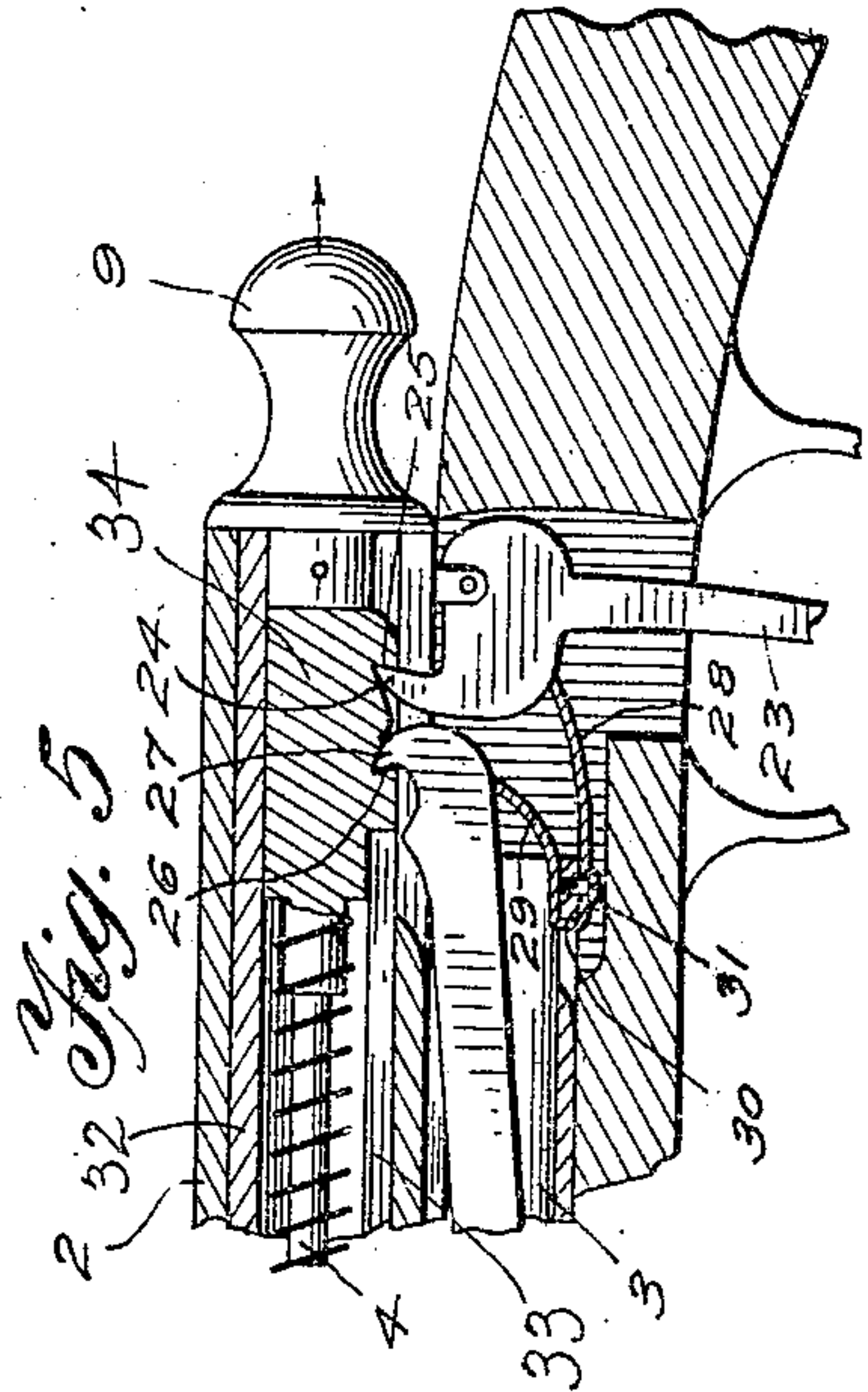
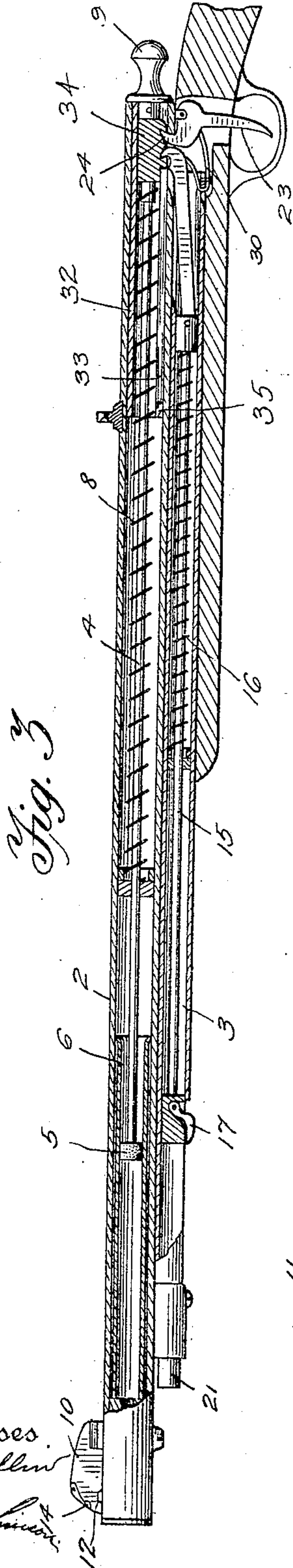
G. P. RIGGS.
TRICK GUN.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 16, 1908.

958,712.

Patented May 17, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses.
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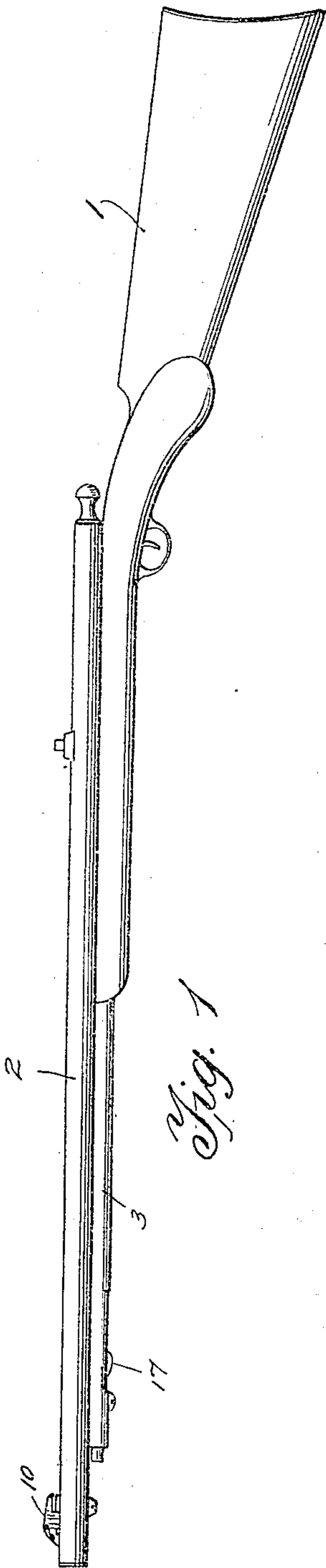


Fig. 1

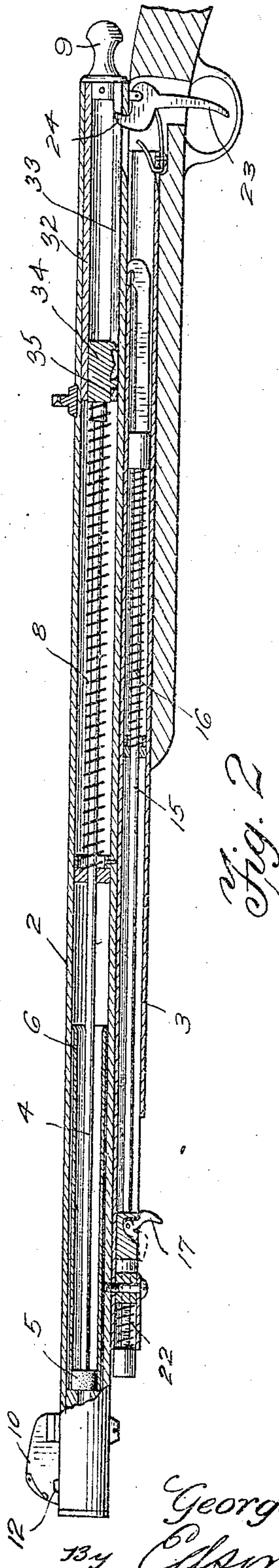


Fig. 2

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE P. RIGGS, OF ST. MARYS, WEST VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR TO ERASTUS DE MOULIN, OF GREENVILLE, ILLINOIS.

TRICK-GUN.

958,712.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 17, 1910.

Application filed December 16, 1908. Serial No. 467,823.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. RIGGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Marys, in the county of Pleasants and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trick-Guns; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to trick guns designed especially for use in secret societies, in and about initiations, etc.

The gun is adapted for discharging a stream of water either in a forward or rearward direction while an explosive cap or tablet is simultaneously exploded.

The present invention has for its objects, among others, to produce a more complete illusion of an ordinary firearm, to simplify the construction of the operating parts, and at the same time make the price of the complete gun so reasonable that it can be purchased and employed by secret societies in general.

Further objects of the invention will become apparent from the following description.

The invention consists broadly in providing means for discharging water and causing an explosion at the same time.

The invention also consists in providing the barrel with a discharge nozzle or plug which may be turned so as to direct the discharge in either a forward or rearward direction.

The invention consists further in mounting an imitation sight on said nozzle or plug whereby the illusion is rendered more complete.

The invention consists further in employing an auxiliary barrel in which is mounted mechanism for causing an explosion and providing plungers in main and auxiliary barrels adapted to move in the same direction for discharging water and causing the explosion.

The invention also consists in the use of mechanism for retaining both plungers in their retracted positions and for simultaneously releasing them.

The invention also consists in the features of construction and combinations of devices hereinafter described and specified in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a side view of a gun constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view thereof, part of the stock being broken away and the plungers being shown in their forward positions. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the plungers in their rear positions. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view of the forward ends of the two barrels showing more particularly the construction of the nozzle, imitation sight and the explosive tablet retaining device, and Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view of the rear ends of said barrels showing more particularly the trigger construction and the means for retaining the plunger in the auxiliary barrel in its retracted position.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 designates the stock which is made like that of an ordinary firearm. The main barrel 2 is supported on the stock in the usual manner while the auxiliary barrel 3 is arranged below and parallel to said main barrel. Within the main barrel is arranged a water-discharging plunger 4, the forward portion 5 of which fits snugly within a tube 6 whereby water is drawn into said tube by suction through the valve 7 when said plunger is retracted or drawn rearward. The plunger is pressed by a spring 8 mounted around the intermediate portion thereof, said spring serving to move the plunger forward when released for discharging the water from the tube 6. The rear end of the plunger rod is secured to the cocking mechanism which is provided with a knob 9 which protrudes from the breech of the barrel and may be conveniently grasped for charging the gun with water.

The nozzle or plug 7 carries an imitation sight 10 at its upper end through which the common water inlet and discharge passage 11 is formed. Said nozzle or plug may be turned so as to direct the discharge of water either in a forward or rearward direction. A stop 12 is preferably placed at the front end of the barrel to arrest the movement of the sight when it reaches a position where

the discharge will be directly forward. The vent or outer opening of the passage 11 in the imitation sight is preferably normally concealed by a hinged cover 13 which, however, is displaced or raised by the stream of water when it is discharged. When in its normal position where it conceals the vent, said cover leaves lateral openings 14 through which water may be drawn into the passage 11 for charging the gun.

In the auxiliary barrel is mounted a firing or exploding plunger 15 which is normally held in a forwardly extended position by a spring 16. Said plunger may be withdrawn or pulled back by means of a trigger 17 which, when not in use, may be folded against the barrel where it will be out of the way and unobserved. In Fig. 1, this trigger is shown in its folded position while in Fig. 2 it is shown extended.

The form of explosive which I prefer to use is a tablet or cap 18 illustrated in Fig. 4. This tablet or cap is placed between a fixed block 19, in the front end of the auxiliary barrel, and a spring-pressed retaining block 20 which has an extended portion 21 projecting from the front end of said barrel whereby it may be depressed by the fingers to permit the insertion of the tablet or cap. A spring 22 interposed between the fixed block and the portion 21 normally holds the movable block against said fixed block under sufficient pressure to retain the tablet or cap between them. The firing plunger is adapted to strike said movable block and explode the cap or tablet when the gun is operated.

A trigger 23, pivoted on the rear end of the main barrel, is provided with a dog or catch 24 adapted to engage a notch 25 in the rear portion of the water discharging plunger when the latter is retracted. The rear portion of said plunger is also provided with a second notch 26 adapted to be engaged by a dog or catch 27 on the rear end of the firing plunger when it is retracted. It will thus be seen that the trigger retains the water discharging plunger in its retracted position while the firing plunger is held back by engagement with said water discharging plunger, whereby the release of the latter, upon pulling the trigger, will permit both plungers to move forward simultaneously. The dogs or catches 24 and 27 are pressed respectively by the arms 28 and 29 of a spring 30 which is preferably formed in a single piece bent upon itself to form said arms and secured in any suitable manner in proper position as by the screw 31 connected to the rear end of the auxiliary barrel.

To charge the gun ready for use, the front of the main barrel is placed in water so that the sight is submerged. The water discharging plunger is then drawn back

by grasping and pulling the knob 9 of the cocking mechanism until the dog on the trigger engages the notch 25 therein. The firing or cap exploding device may or may not be used in connection with the water discharging mechanism. If it is to be used, the firing plunger is then drawn back by grasping and pulling the folding trigger 17 which is of course first turned down into position to be grasped, and subsequently folded again. Said firing plunger is retracted until its dog 27 engages with the notch 26 in the water discharging plunger. The explosive cap or tablet is then inserted between the fixed block 19 and the movable block 20 by pressing upon the projection 21 and allowing it to return to its normal position after said cap or tablet is in place. The gun is now ready to be used or discharged, the direction in which the water is sent being governed by the position of the imitation sight. Thus, if the gun is to be used by a member of a secret society for throwing water into the face of a candidate, during an initiation, the sight is turned so as to point forward. If the gun is given to the candidate to be discharged, the sight is first turned to point rearward so that the water will be directed back into his face.

While I have herein shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, I am aware that changes may be made in details without departing from the spirit or sacrificing the advantages of the invention. I, therefore, reserve the right to make such changes as fairly fall within the scope of the following claims in view of the drawings and this specification.

The cocking mechanism may be formed in a separate tubular piece or sleeve 32, as illustrated, to which the knob 9 is attached. Said sleeve is provided with a slot 33 through which the block 34 secured to the plunger rod 4 and having the notches 25 and 26 extends for engagement by the trigger dog 24 and dog 27. The inner end of this slot is closed, as at 35, whereby it will engage said block 34 and cause the plunger to be drawn back when the knob 9 is withdrawn. When said block has become locked in its rear position by the trigger, the slot in the sleeve 32 permits said sleeve to be pushed back into the breech of the barrel where it will be no more observed than when the gun is not charged with water.

I claim:

1. In a trick gun, the combination, with a main barrel and means therein for discharging water, of an auxiliary barrel and means therein for exploding an explosive.

2. In a trick gun, the combination, with a main barrel and water discharging mechanism in said barrel, of an auxiliary barrel, mechanism for exploding an explosive

therein, and a trigger adapted to simultaneously operate said water-discharging mechanism and said exploding mechanism.

3. In a trick gun, the combination, with
5 a barrel having a common water inlet and discharge opening in its muzzle end, of a spring pressed suction plunger in said barrel adapted to draw water into the same when the muzzle end of the barrel is sub-
10 merged and said plunger is drawn rearward, and means for retaining said plunger in its rear position and for releasing the same to discharge the water.

4. In a trick gun, the combination, with a
15 barrel, of a nozzle fitted therein and adapted to be turned so as to discharge in either a forward or rearward direction, a spring-pressed plunger adapted to force water through said nozzle, and means for controlling said
20 plunger.

5. In a trick gun, the combination, with a barrel, of a nozzle fitted therein and adapted to be turned so as to discharge in either a forward or rearward direction, an imitation
25 sight carried by said nozzle and having a discharge passage therein, a spring-pressed plunger adapted to force water through said nozzle, and means for controlling said plunger.

30 6. In a trick gun, the combination, with a barrel, of a nozzle fitted therein and adapted to be turned so as to discharge in either a forward or rearward direction, an imitation sight carried by said nozzle and having a
35 discharge passage therein, a cover which normally conceals said passage but is displaced when water is discharged there-through, a spring-pressed plunger adapted to force water through said nozzle, and
40 means for controlling said plunger.

7. In a trick gun, the combination, with a barrel, of a nozzle fitted therein and adapted to be turned so as to discharge in either a forward or rearward direction, an
45 imitation sight carried by said nozzle and having a discharge passage therein, a cover which normally conceals said passage but when closed leaves lateral passages leading thereto, a spring-pressed plunger adapted to
50 force water through said nozzle, and means for controlling said plunger.

8. In a trick gun, the combination, with a barrel, of a nozzle fitted near the forward end thereof and adapted to be turned so
55 as to discharge in either a forward or rearward direction, a spring-pressed plunger adapted to draw water into the barrel through said nozzle when drawn rearward and to force the water out through said
60 nozzle when released, and means for retaining said plunger in its rearward position and for releasing it when desired.

9. In a trick gun, the combination, with a main barrel, and means to discharge water
65 therefrom, of an auxiliary barrel, a device

for holding an explosive tablet in said auxiliary barrel, a spring pressed plunger adapted to explode said tablet, and means to operate said plunger simultaneously with the water discharging mechanism. 70

10. In a trick gun, the combination, with a main barrel and means to discharge water therefrom, of an auxiliary barrel, a device for holding an explosive tablet in said auxiliary barrel, a spring pressed plunger
75 adapted to explode said tablet, a folding trigger for setting said plunger, and means for releasing said plunger whereby it will explode the tablet at the same time that the water is discharged from the main barrel. 80

11. In a trick gun, the combination, with a main barrel and means to discharge water therefrom, of an auxiliary barrel, a positive retaining device for an explosive tablet arranged in the forward end of said auxiliary
85 barrel and having a portion projecting from said end for operating the same, a spring pressed plunger adapted to explode said tablet, and means to operate said plunger simultaneously with the water discharging
90 mechanism.

12. In a trick gun, the combination, with a barrel, of a spring pressed suction plunger adapted to discharge water from said barrel, a knob at the rear end of the barrel for
95 drawing back said plunger to charge the barrel with water, a trigger adapted to engage a notch in said plunger for retaining the latter in its retracted position, an auxiliary barrel, a device in said auxiliary bar-
100 rel for causing an explosion including a spring-pressed firing plunger, and a catch on the rear end of said firing plunger adapted to engage a notch in the water-discharging plunger when both are retracted. 105

13. In a trick gun, the combination, with a barrel, of a spring-pressed suction plunger adapted to discharge water from said barrel, a knob at the rear end of the barrel for
110 drawing back said plunger to charge the barrel with water, a trigger adapted to engage a notch in said plunger for retaining the latter in its retracted position, an auxiliary barrel, a device in said auxiliary
115 barrel for causing an explosion including a spring-pressed firing plunger, and a catch on the rear end of said firing plunger adapted to engage a notch in the water-discharging plunger when both are retracted, and springs for holding said trigger and
120 catch in engagement with the respective notches in the water-discharging plunger.

14. In a trick gun, the combination, with a barrel, of a spring-pressed suction plunger adapted to discharge water from said barrel,
125 a knob at the rear end of the barrel for drawing back said plunger to charge the barrel with water, a trigger adapted to engage a notch in said plunger for retaining the latter in its retracted position, an auxiliary barrel, 130

a device in said auxiliary barrel for causing an explosion including a spring-pressed firing plunger, and a catch on the rear end of said firing plunger adapted to engage a notch in the water discharging plunger when both are retracted, and springs formed of a single piece bent upon itself and provided with two arms, one engaging the trigger and the other adapted to engage the trigger and the other adapted to engage said catch for holding these parts in engagement with the respective notches in the water-discharging plunger.

15. In a trick gun, the combination, with

a main barrel, of a plunger in said barrel, an auxiliary barrel, a plunger in said latter barrel, the first plunger adapted to discharge water while the second plunger is designed to explode an explosive, and means for operating said plungers whereby they are moved in the same direction to perform their respective functions.

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

GEORGE P. RIGGS.

Witnesses:

CLYDE B. JOHNSON,

O. C. SWEENEY.