C. P. CLÉMENT.

AUTOMATIC PISTOL.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 20, 1909.

970,307.

Patented Sept. 13, 1910.

Fig. 1.

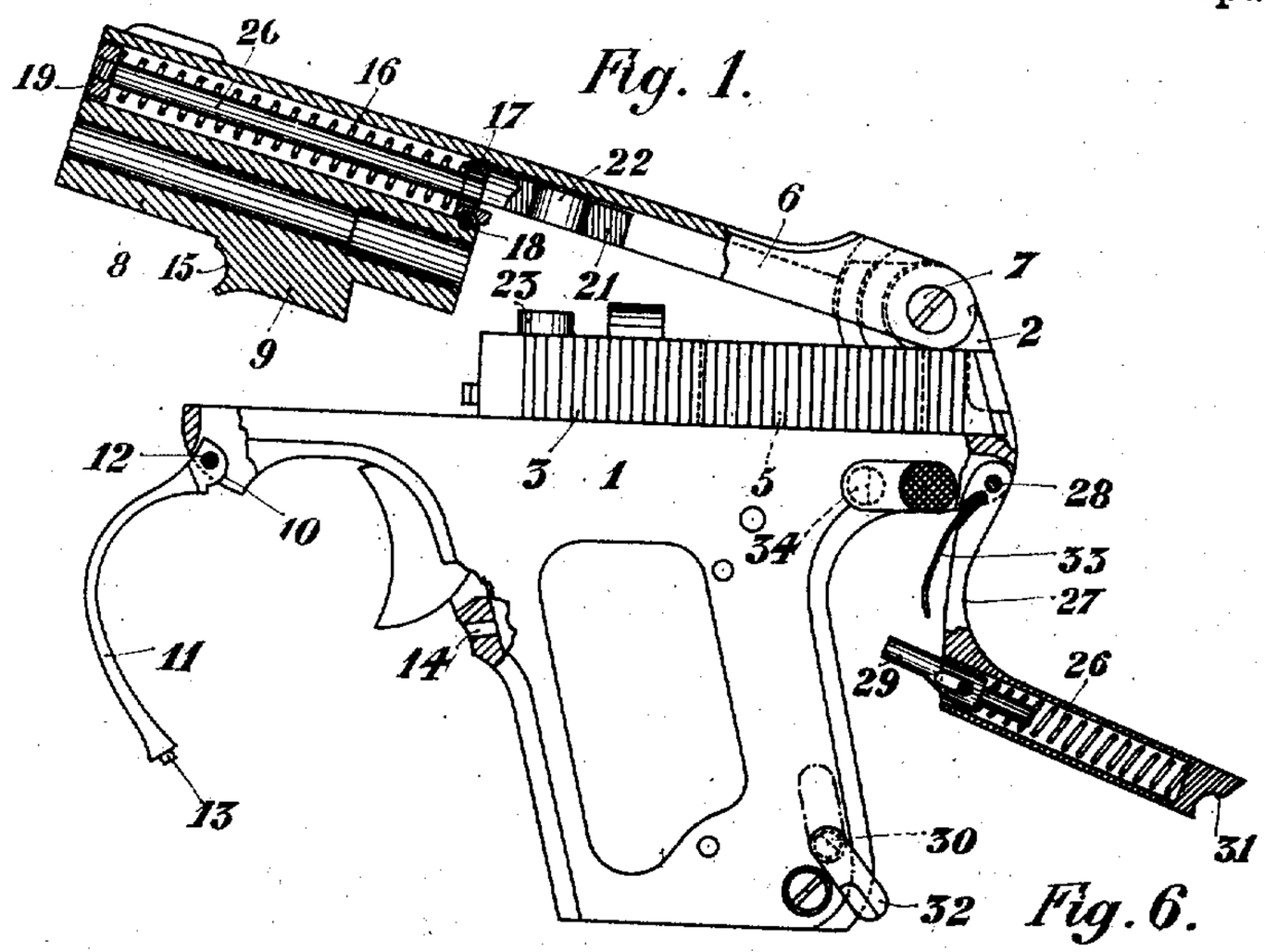
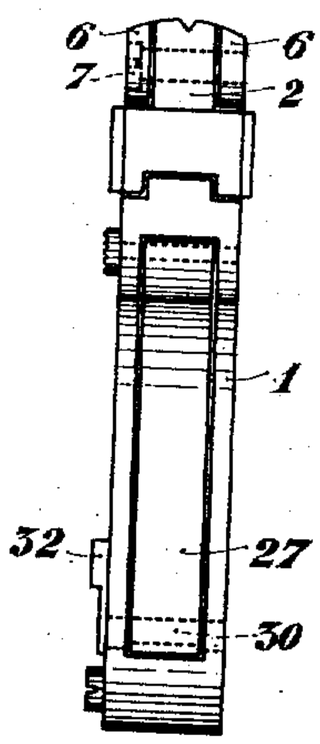


Fig. 6.

Fig. 2.



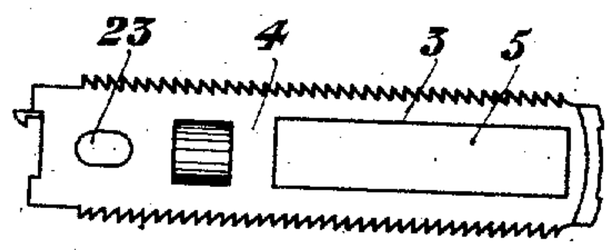


Fig. 4.

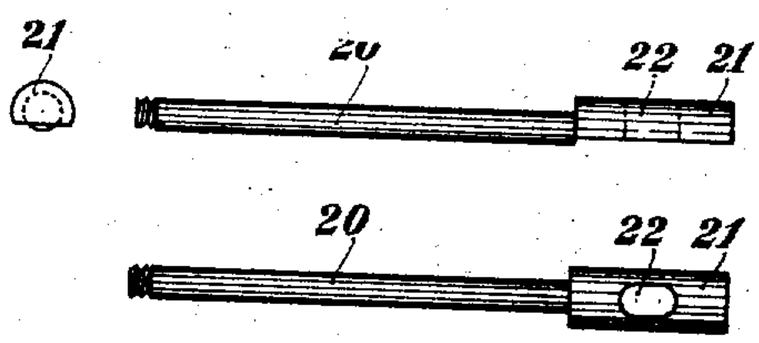


Fig. 5.

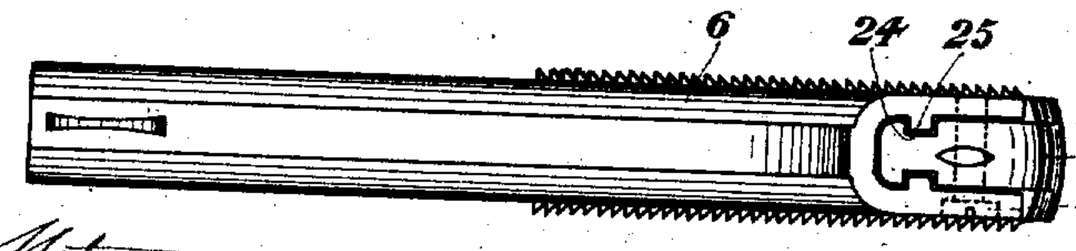


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:
Milton Attenberg.
B C Rust

Inventor:
C. P. Clément
by Foster Freeman Watson & Coit
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES PHILIBERT CLÉMENT, OF LIEGE, BELGIUM, ASSIGNOR TO SMITH & WESSON INCORPORATED, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

AUTOMATIC PISTOL.

970,307. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Sept. 13, 1910.**

Application filed July 20, 1909. Serial No. 508,595.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES PHILIBERT CLÉMENT, gun-maker, subject of the King of Belgium, residing at Liege, Belgium, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Automatic Pistols; 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.

The present invention relates to an automatic pistol of the fixed barrel type, which is particularly designed so as to permit of same being readily opened and to render the different parts easily accessible.

Referring to the accompanying drawing Figure 1 represents the pistol in elevation, partly in section, and shown opened. Fig. 2 is an end view. Fig. 3 is a plan. Fig. 4 represents in plan, the bolt separately. Fig. 5 shows in side elevation, in plan and end view the rod which connects the bolt to the re-action spring. Fig. 6 shows the ring or plug which serves as an abutment for this spring.

The pistol consists essentially of the body or frame 1, provided at the rear end and upon the upper side, with a block 2, acting as a guide for the sides 3 of the bolt 4 and as an abutment for the latter, when it is driven backward by the recoil.

The bolt 4 is of a solid and heavy construction as shown in Fig. 4, and it is only recessed or slotted-out at the rear end, at 5, to allow of passing around the block 2. The casing 6, whose rear end is pivoted about an axis 7 carried by the block 2, carries at its forward end the barrel 8, or is made in one piece with same. The casing 6 covers the bolt 4, while the barrel 8 comes immediately in front of the latter (Fig. 1). The barrel 8 is provided upon its underside with a projecting part 9 which engages in the body 1 and which is adapted to be engaged by a nose 10 of the trigger guard 11 which is pivoted at the forward end, near the nose 10, upon a pin 12 carried by the body 1. This trigger guard 11 is in the form of a spring and carries at its free end a stud 13 which engages, by a snap action, in a recess 14 formed in the front of the body 1.

The elasticity of the spring 11 maintains the trigger guard in place and insures the engagement of the nose 10 in the recess 15 of the lump 9 of the barrel 8; the latter is thus securely held in position. By exerting a slight pressure on the trigger guard 11 the stud 13 is disengaged from the recess 14, and allows of the casing 6 turning about the axis 7.

The reaction spring 16 is located in the fore part of the casing 6, above the barrel 8. It bears at its rear end against a ring or plug 17, fixed in position by means of a pin 18 passing through the walls of the casing 6, and at its front end against the head 19 of a rod 20 which extends through said ring 17. The spring 16, surrounds said rod which terminates, at its rear end, in a flattened head 21. This head 21 is provided with an oval or other shaped slot 22 in which engages, when the pistol is closed, a projection 23 carried by the top side of the bolt 4. This arrangement allows, by simply removing the pin 18, of withdrawing the rod 20 and the spring 16 without separating the two parts, which facilitates their assemblage. When the rod 20 is connected to the bolt 4, the reaction spring 16 tends constantly to force the latter forward.

In order to give to the hinge-pin 7 the necessary strength and to allow of it resisting, without breakage, the shocks produced by the recoil, the upper part of the block 2 is so formed at its forward end as to fit into the rear forked end of the casing 6 and to constitute supplementary points of connection (Figs. 1 and 3). In the example represented this is obtained by forming grooves 24 in the lateral walls of the block 2 in which corresponding curved ribs or projecting parts 25 on the casing 6 engage. The curved form given to the grooves 24 and ribs 25 permits of the rotation of the casing 6 about the hinge 7. The firing spring 26 is located at the rear of the body in a member 27 conforming to the shape of the rear end of the

handle and capable of turning about an axis 28 carried by the body 1; this spring 26 bears at one end against the part 27 and at the other end against a plunger 29 by means of which it acts upon the hammer of the firing mechanism. This member 27, which engages between the side walls of the body 1, (Fig. 2) is maintained in its normal position by a flattened or recessed pin 30 which is adapted to engage with a corresponding recess 31 in the end of the part 27. The pin 30 carries a small external lever 32 which the shooter can easily operate when he wishes to turn the spring-carrier member 27 about its hinge to gain access to the parts constituting the firing mechanism. It is obvious that any other means can be employed for maintaining the part 27 in its normal position. Said part 27 preferably carries a spring 33 which acts upon the safety device 34 when the pistol is closed and which serves, in the known manner, to maintain this safety device in its two extreme positions.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:

1. In a pistol, the combination of a body having a rigid upwardly extending abutment, a sliding bolt engaging said abutment and limited in its reciprocations thereby, a casing pivotally connected with said abutment and adapted to cover the bolt, and a barrel carried by said casing.

2. In a pistol, the combination of a body having an upwardly extending projection, a sliding bolt mounted on the body and having a slot through which said projection extends, a pivotally mounted casing carrying a barrel and adapted to inclose the bolt, and means for securing the casing in closed position.

3. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a sliding bolt, means on the body for guiding and limiting the reciprocations of the bolt, a casing pivotally connected to the body at one end and carrying a barrel, said casing being adapted when in closed position to cover the bolt, and means for securing the casing in such closed position.

4. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a sliding bolt mounted on the body, a casing pivotally connected with the body adjacent its rear end and having a barrel formed integral therewith, said casing being adapted to cover the bolt when in closed position, and means for locking the casing in such position.

5. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a sliding bolt mounted on the body and limited in its movement by an abutment thereon, and a casing pivotally connected with said abutment and having a barrel formed integrally therewith, said casing covering the bolt when in closed position.

6. In a piston, the combination of a body having an upwardly extending projection, a sliding bolt, a casing adapted to cover the bolt and having its rear end bifurcated and extending on opposite sides of said projection on the body, a barrel carried by the casing, a recoil spring in said casing and connected to the bolt, a pivotal connection between said projection and casing, and intermeshing grooves and ribs on the opposing surfaces of said casing and projection.

7. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a sliding bolt mounted on the body, a casing pivotally connected with the body and carrying a barrel, said casing covering the bolt when in closed position, and an adjustable trigger guard adapted to engage the casing and hold it in closed position.

8. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a sliding bolt mounted on the body, a casing adapted to cover the bolt pivotally connected with the body, a barrel carried by said casing, and an adjustable trigger guard adapted to engage the barrel to hold the casing in closed position.

9. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a sliding bolt mounted on the body, a casing adapted to cover the bolt pivotally connected with the body, a barrel carried by said casing, and a trigger guard pivotally connected with the body and adapted when the casing is in closed position to engage the barrel.

10. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a sliding bolt mounted on the body, a casing adapted to cover the bolt pivotally connected with the body, a barrel carried by said casing, a recoil spring mounted in the casing, and a rod connected with said spring and adapted to engage the bolt when the casing is in closed position, the connection between the bolt and rod being covered by the casing.

11. In a pistol, the combination of a body, a barrel, a sliding bolt, and a casing pivotally connected with the body and movable to and from a position where it will cover the bolt, the connection between the casing and the body including interlocking grooves and projections extending concentric with the axis about which the casing turns.

12. In a pistol, the combination with the body and a barrel pivotally connected with the body, of an adjustable trigger guard mounted on the body and adapted to be adjusted to engage the barrel and prevent the same from being turned about its pivot.

13. In a pistol, the combination with a body, and a barrel pivotally connected with the body, of a trigger guard pivotally connected with the body and adapted to be engaged with the barrel, when the latter is in position for use to prevent movement thereof about its pivot.

14. In a pistol, the combination with a body, and a barrel pivotally connected with

the body, of a resilient trigger guard pivotally connected with the body adjacent its forward end and having its rear end adapted to be removably inserted in a socket formed in the body, said guard having a projection adapted to engage the barrel when the latter is in firing position and the rear end of the guard is in said socket.

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

CHARLES PHILIBERT CLÉMENT.

Witnesses:
A. PENDLETON CRUGER,
JOHN C. CRUGER.