

H. POETTICH.  
FIREARM.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 1, 1908.

923,701.

Patented June 1, 1909.

Fig: 1.

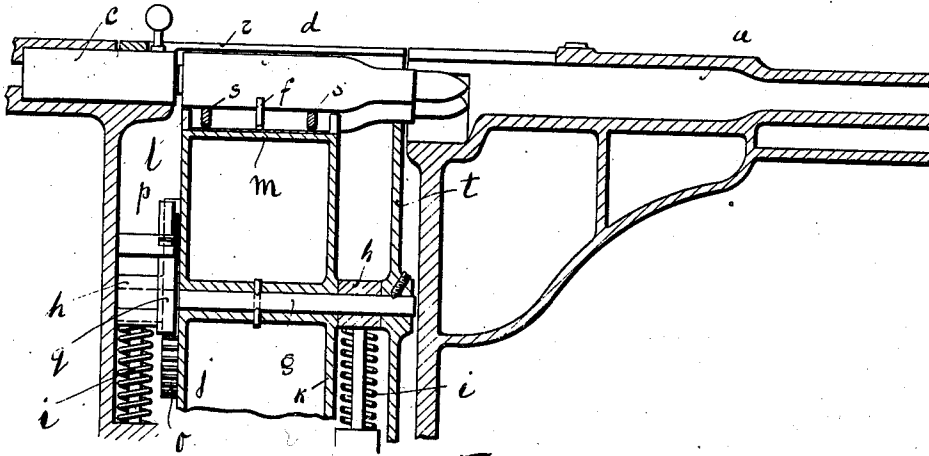


Fig: 2.

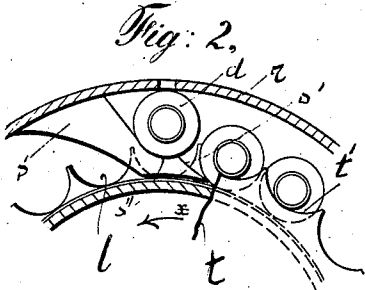


Fig: 3.

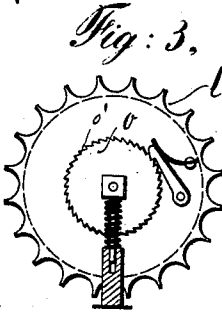


Fig: 4.

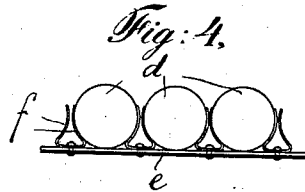


Fig: 5.

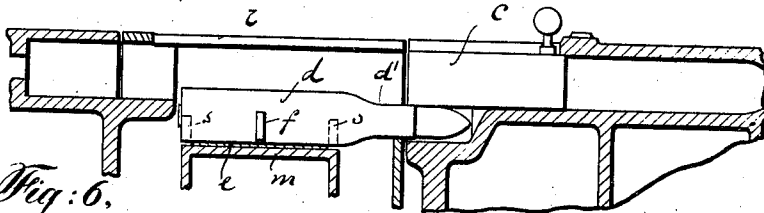
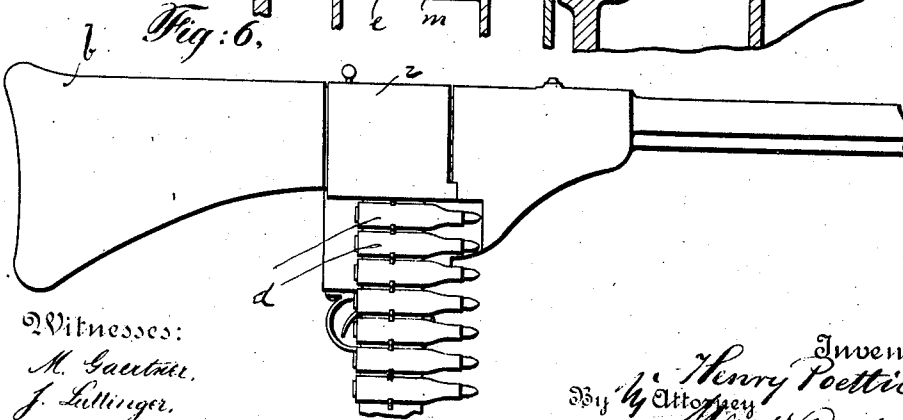


Fig: 6.



Witnesses:  
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J. Luttinger.

Inventor  
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By *h* Attorney  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY POETTICH, OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

## FIREARM.

No. 923,701.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 1, 1909.

Application filed October 1, 1908. Serial No. 455,710.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY POETTICH, a subject of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, residing at New Bedford, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Firearms, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to rifles, revolvers or like fire-arms and has for its object to provide a construction, whereby a continuous loading can be automatically accomplished.

My invention principally consists in the provision of an endless cartridge carrier formed of a strap or band to which the cartridges are detachably secured adjacent to one another in continuous succession. This cartridge carrier is caused to be fed automatically between the barrel and the stock by the shifting of the loading bar, whereby new cartridges are successively brought in position of loading.

My invention also consists in the arrangement and combination of means for effecting the automatic feeding of the cartridge carrier.

To make my invention more clear the same is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of a rifle, a part of the stock and the cartridge chamber being broken off; Fig. 2 is a partial cross section thereof; Fig. 3 a rear view of one of the feeding wheels; Fig. 4 shows a part of the cartridge carrier; Fig. 5 shows the normal position of a cartridge prior to loading and when the breech block is within the barrel, and Fig. 6 is an elevation of the rifle with a part of the cartridge carrier extending outward from the loading chamber.

With reference to the drawing, *a* is the barrel of a gun, *b* the stock thereof and *c* the breech block. The cartridges *d* are carried upon a long strap or band *e* which may be of any desired length and to which the cartridges are detachably secured by spring fingers *f*. Rotatively mounted between the barrel and the stock is a pin *g* journaled in bearings *h* that are yieldingly supported upon springs *i*, so that the pin is capable of moving in vertical direction at the exercise of a slight pressure thereon. Rigidly secured to this pin are disks or wheels *j*, *k* which are of equal diameter and which on their circumference are provided with semicircular

notches *l* that are adapted to embrace the enlarged portion of the cartridges. The space between the two disks or wheels is occupied by a drum *m* which may be integral with or rigidly connected with the wheels, and which serves as a guide for the band or strap *e*.

Concentrically arranged upon and integral with or rigidly connected with one of the disks or wheels *j*, *k* is a ratchet wheel *o*. The teeth *o'* of this ratchet wheel are so spaced as to correspond with one-half of the distance between two cartridges or the notches *l* of the wheels *j* and *k*.

Stationarily secured to the wall of the cartridge chamber *p* is a spring-actuated pawl or dog *q*, which is adapted to engage the teeth of the ratchet wheel *o* and to cause the feeding of the latter and the wheels *j* and *k*, respectively, when, upon the depression of the said wheels or pin *g*, respectively, the latter, by the springs *i*, are again forced into normal position. The depression of the wheels and pin *g*, respectively, is effected automatically while withdrawing the breech block from the barrel. As the same is caused to pass from the reduced portion *d'* to the enlarged portion of the cartridge that lies just at the rear of the barrel eccentrically thereto (see Fig. 5), the latter is pressed downward depressing the wheels *j* and *k*.

From the inner surface of the cover *r* of the chamber downwardly projects in somewhat oblique position an arm *s*, the lower forward end of which is so shaped as to engage the cartridge from below during the feeding movement of the strap *e* in the direction of the arrow *x* and to cause its detachment from the strap. As the feeding of the latter continues the detached cartridge rises upon the inclined surface *s'* of the arm *s* until it drops into a circularly curved notch *s''* in which the cartridge rests. Thereby the cartridge is raised into concentric position relative to the barrel to be ready for loading. By shifting the breech block from left to right the cartridge is caused to enter the barrel.

In order to bring the succeeding cartridge into the same position normally occupied by the preceding cartridge, I provide a third wheel *t* at a certain distance away from and in front of the wheel *k*. This wheel *t* is of somewhat larger diameter than the wheels *j* and *k* and is provided with notches *t'* that are not as deep as the notches *l* of

the former wheels but are of about the same width. These notches *t'* are adapted to normally embrace the reduced front end of the cartridges. As a cartridge is being shifted into the barrel the enlarged portion thereof is projected through the corresponding notch *t'* of the larger wheel *t* and thereby causes the depression of the wheel *t*, and consequently of the pin *g* which results, in the aforesaid manner, in a further feeding of the cartridge carrier *e*. As stated above, each feeding carries a cartridge one-half of the distance between two cartridges, forward. Hence, by this subsequent feeding of the cartridge carrier caused by wheel *t*, the succeeding cartridge is brought precisely into the same position normally occupied by the preceding cartridge. By the withdrawal of the breech block, and while the latter is caused to pass over this second cartridge, the wheels *j* and *k* of the pin *g*, respectively are again depressed, and upon their release from the breech block the new cartridge is brought into loading position, and so on in succession.

The lower parts of the long cartridge carrier *e* extend at both sides outward from underneath the cover *r* of the chamber (as shown in Fig. 6), and may be concealed in any suitable manner.

I do not wish to restrict myself to the particular construction shown, and what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

35 1. In fire-arms, a breech block, a long cartridge carrier, cartridges detachably secured thereto, notched wheels and spring-actuated yielding bearings therefor, said

wheels serving as guides for the said cartridges, means for feeding the cartridge carrier, and means for the automatic detachment of the cartridges from the carrier and adjustment thereof in loading position.

2. In fire-arms, a breech block, a long cartridge carrier, cartridges detachably secured thereto, notched wheels and spring-actuated yielding bearings therefor, said notched wheels serving as guides for the cartridges, means for feeding the cartridge carrier, said feeding being effected automatically upon the depression of the notched wheels by the breech block and the subsequent return thereof, and means for the automatic detachment of the cartridges from the carrier and the adjustment thereof in loading position.

3. In fire-arms, a breech block, a long cartridge carrier, cartridges detachably secured thereto, notched wheels, spring-actuated yielding bearings therefor, said wheels serving as guides for the said cartridges, a ratchet wheel rigidly connected with the notched wheels, and a stationary spring-actuated pawl engaging said ratchet wheel and effecting the feeding of the cartridge carrier, and means for the automatic detachment of the cartridges from the carrier and the adjustment thereof in loading position.

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

HENRY POETTICH.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH E. CAVANAUGH,  
MAX D. ORDMANN.