T. C. JOHNSON.

PROTECTOR FOR THE FRONT SIGHTS OF SHOULDER FIREARMS.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 21, 1914.

1,162,367. Patented Nov. 30, 1915.

Fig. 1.

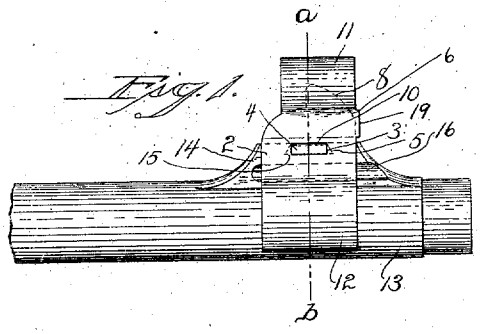


Fig. 2.

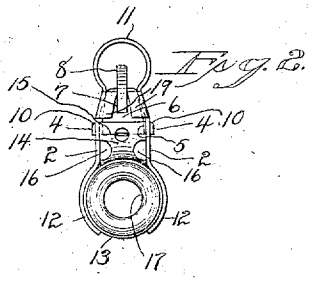


Fig. 3.

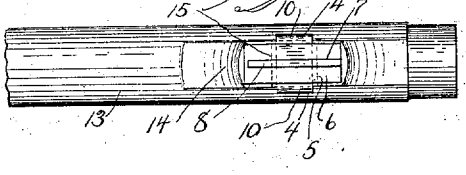


Fig. 4.

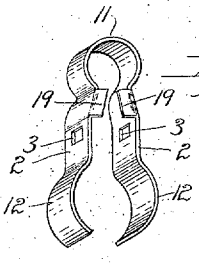


Fig. 6.

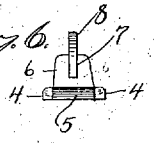


Fig. 8.

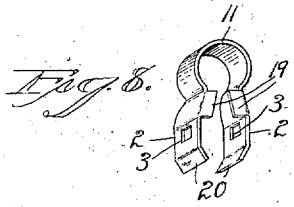


Fig. 7.

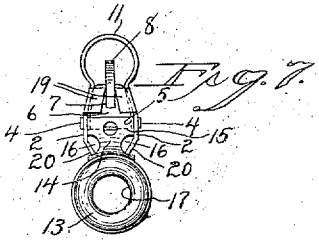
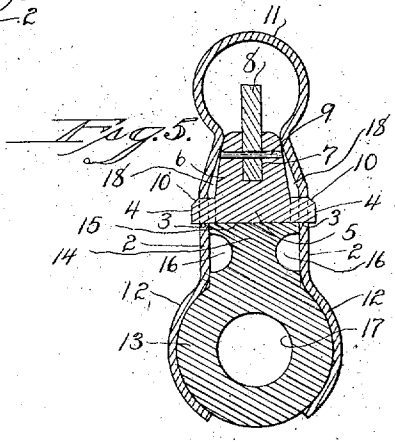


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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

PROTECTOR FOR THE FRONT SIGHTS OF SHOULDER-FIREARMS.

1,162,367. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 30, 1915.

Application filed October 21, 1914. Serial No. 867,736.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS C. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Protectors for the Front Sights of Shoulder-Firearms; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the characters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this application, and represent in—

Figure 1 a broken view in side elevation of the muzzle-end of a gun-barrel having applied to it one form which my improved front-sight protector may assume. Fig. 2 a view thereof in front elevation. Fig. 3 a plan view with the protector removed. Fig. 4 a detached perspective view of the protector. Fig. 5 a view in transverse section on an enlarged scale on the line *a*—*b* of Fig. 1. Fig. 6 a detached view in front elevation of the sight. Fig. 7 a view in front elevation of a gun-barrel having applied to it one of the modified forms which my improved front-sight protector may assume. Fig. 8 a detached perspective view of the modified form of protector shown in the preceding figure.

My invention relates to an improved protector for the front-sights of shoulder firearms, the object being to produce a simple, convenient, durable and effective device of the character described.

With these ends in view, my invention consists in a protector for the front-sights of shoulder firearms, the said protector having certain details of construction as will be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In carrying out my invention as herein shown, the resilient depending arms 2 of my improved guard are formed with alined rectangular locking-openings 3 adapting the arms to be engaged with retaining-lugs 4 located at the respective ends of a transverse, dovetail rib 5 formed integral with the lower end of a sight-body 6 having a central vertical slot 7 in which a thin sight-blade 8 is secured by a pin 9. The locking-openings 3 are exactly adapted in size to the cross-sections of the retaining-lugs 4 so that when the guard is applied, it will be firmly held against displacement in any direction, but will still be capable of being removed with the proper appliance. The outer upper corners of the lugs 4 are formed with bevels 10 for spreading the arms 2 apart preparatory to their locking engagement with the lugs 4 from which they are disengaged with so much difficulty that the protector is, when in use, firmly held in place against dislodgment or movement in any direction. The upper ends of the arms 2 are united by a substantially circular loop 11 which encircles the blade 8 and protects the same against any injury tending to impair the accuracy of the firing of the arm. The lower ends of the arms 2 are bowed outwardly as at 12 to clasp the gun-barrel 13 which is formed near its muzzle-end with an integral sight-base 14 the top of which is intersected by a transverse undercut dovetail slot 15 for the reception of the dove-tail rib 5 which is driven into it at which time the metal of the base may be somewhat stretched. In order that this stretching may not distort the barrel, the base is formed, as shown, with two oppositely located longitudinally arranged displacement-grooves 16 which take up or absorb any stretching of the base and prevent the transmission of strains to the walls of the bore 17 of the barrel. In mounting the sight in the sight-base it may be necessary to move the transverse rib 5 laterally in the transverse slot 15 for which reason the body 6 must be made somewhat narrower in width than the width of the sight-base 14. To provide for the lateral adjustment of the sight, spaces 18 must be left between the same and the upper ends of the arms 2 of the protector. In order that light passing through these compensation spaces may not confuse the marksman, the arms 2 are formed upon their rear edges and near their upper ends with binders or wings 19 closing the openings 18.

My improved protector being made of a single piece of resilient sheet-metal and sprung over the sight and sight-base for the registration of locking-openings in its arms with locking-lugs upon the sight body, is simple, durable and convenient. When once in place the protector will not be dislodged in any ordinary use of the arm.

In the modified construction shown by Figs. 7 and 8, the lower ends of the arms 2 are cut off and turned inward to form

fingers 20 which are entered into the displacement-grooves 16.

I claim:—

In a shoulder firearm, the combination with the barrel thereof, of a sight-base located upon the muzzle-end of the said barrel and formed with a transverse slot, a front sight having a transverse rib adapted to enter the said slot and extending at its ends to form projecting retaining-lugs, and a sight-protector comprising a loop, and two depending arms furnished with locking-openings adapted to fit snugly over the said retaining-lugs to which they correspond in cross-section, whereby the protector is firmly held in place against deflection in any direction.

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

THOMAS C. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

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F. C. EARLE.