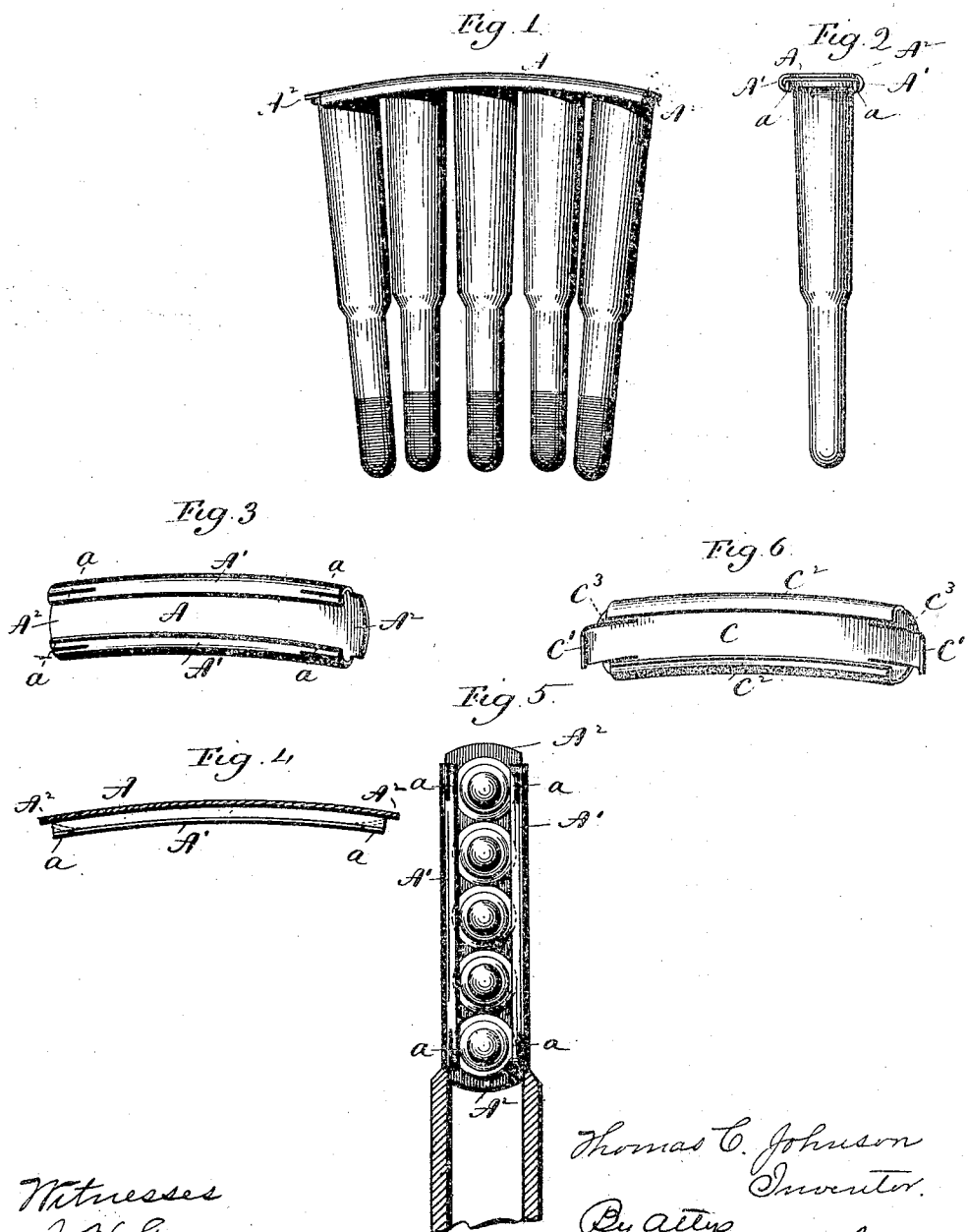


(No Model.)

T. C. JOHNSON.
TEMPORARY CARTRIDGE HOLDING CLIP.

No. 587,584.

Patented Aug. 3, 1897.



Witnesses
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THOMAS C. JOHNSON, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE
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TEMPORARY CARTRIDGE-HOLDING CLIP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 587,584, dated August 3, 1897.

Application filed September 28, 1896. Serial No. 607,139. (No model.)

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 Improvement in Temporary Cartridge-Holding Clips; 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 view in side elevation of a clip constructed in accordance with my invention and charged with five cartridges; Fig. 2, an end view of the clip; showing one cartridge; Fig. 3, an inside perspective view of the clip; Fig. 4, a view thereof in central longitudinal section with the retaining-fingers shown in their bent positions by broken lines; Fig. 5, a view of the clip in front elevation, showing how it is applied to the magazine of a box-magazine firearm preparatory to the expulsion of its contained cartridges into the magazine; Fig. 6, an inside perspective view of one of the modified forms which my invention may assume.

My invention relates to an improvement in temporary cartridge-holding clips, the object being to produce at a very low cost of manufacture a simple, light, effective, and readily-manipulated clip designed for the segregation, as it were, of a charge of cartridges, and for conveniently handling the same, and for introducing them into the magazine of a box-magazine firearm with the utmost facility.

With these ends in view my invention consists in a trough-like longitudinally bowed temporary cartridge-holding clip open at both ends, which are adapted to engage a box-magazine firearm, so as to hold the clip in right position while the cartridges are being manually forced out of it into the magazine thereof.

My invention further consists in 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 5, inclusive, of the drawings my improved trough-like clip is open at both

ends, longitudinally bowed, and comprises a flat body portion A and two corresponding longitudinally-arranged flanges A' A', extending inwardly toward each other over the inner face of the said body portion. The said body portion is extended at each end beyond the ends of the said flanges to form short locating-fingers A² A², adapted in width to fit closely within the rear end of the box-magazine B of a gun, as shown in Fig. 5, the said fingers permitting either end of the clip to be applied to the box-magazines indifferently and preventing it from being laterally deflected therein, the ends of the flanges A' A' adjacent to the locating-finger entered into the magazine supporting the clip thereupon. Each of the flanges A' is slit at each end to form a flexible retaining-finger a. Under this arrangement there is a pair of these fingers at each end of the clip, and the respective fingers of each pair are located on opposite sides of the longitudinal center of the clip. After the clip has been charged by slipping the heads of the cartridges into it under the flanges the said fingers are pressed inward, so as to "lay hold of," so to speak, the outer portions of the outer cartridges, whereby all the cartridges are retained within the clip under ordinary conditions of usage, the hold upon the cartridges being sufficiently tenacious to permit the clip to be freely handled and considerably thrown about without endangering the dislodgment of the cartridges.

After the clips are charged they are packed in boxes for transportation, and ultimately find their way into the belt of the user, and are from there withdrawn one by one for use, at which time one end of the clip is applied to the magazine of the firearm, into which its locating-finger is entered, as shown in Fig. 5. The hand is then applied to the uppermost cartridge and the row of cartridges crowded down into the magazine. The retaining-fingers at the lower end of the clip readily yield under such pressure to permit the expulsion of the cartridges. The clip then falls away to the ground, and under ordinary conditions will not be preserved.

By locating the retaining-fingers on opposite sides of the longitudinal center of the

clip they are placed under such conditions of leverage by the cartridges when the same are pressed outward that they readily yield to permit their expulsion. The clip is bowed on such a circle that not only the head ends of the cartridges will engage with each other, but also their forward ends. Each cartridge, therefore, has two points of contact with its neighbor, whereby the cartridges are prevented from being cramped and bound in the clip when they are pushed downward, their two points of contact securing them parallel downward movement. On the other hand, if the forward ends of the cartridges were not allowed to make a supporting-contact they might be pushed downward to such an extent as to cramp and bind their heads in the clip and prevent them from feeding.

In the modified form shown in Fig. 6 of the drawings the longitudinally-bowed clip has the ends of its body portion C formed with spring retaining-fingers C' C', the ends of which are bent inward, so as to stand, in a sense, against the open ends of the clip, which is also formed with inwardly-turned retaining-flanges C² C², extending practically throughout its length and bent over its inner face. The ends of the body portion are also formed with locating-fingers C³ C³, corresponding in function to the fingers A² A² of the clip previously described. The fingers C' C', instead of being merely flexible, are elastic and have to be sprung aside for the charging of the clip, but they recover, so as to hold the cartridges therein until they are sprung back out of the way for loading the cartridges into a box-magazine by downward pressure upon one of the end cartridges of the row in the clip.

It is obvious from the modifications suggested and from others which may be made that I do not limit myself to the exact construction shown and described, but hold my-

self at liberty to make such changes and alterations 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. A trough-like temporary cartridge-holding clip, longitudinally bowed, open at both ends and comprising a body portion and two flanges extending inwardly toward each other over the inner face thereof, the ends of the said body portion being extended beyond the ends of the said flanges for engagement with a box-magazine firearm so as to hold the clip in position while the cartridges are being manually forced out of it into the magazine thereof.

2. A trough-like temporary cartridge-holding clip, longitudinally bowed and open at both ends, comprising a body portion, two corresponding longitudinally-arranged flanges extending inwardly toward each other over the inner face of the said body portion, two projecting locating-fingers located at its respective ends, and extending beyond the ends of the said flanges, and one or more cartridge-retaining fingers located at each of its ends.

3. A trough-like temporary cartridge-holding clip, longitudinally bowed, furnished at its ends with projecting locating-fingers, and also furnished at each end with a pair of cartridge-retaining fingers of which the members of each pair are respectively located on opposite sides of the longitudinal center of the clip.

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

THOMAS C. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

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W. S. BALDWIN.