C. ALDERSON.

PISTOL HOLSTER.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 29, 1916.

1,295,831. Patented Mar. 4, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

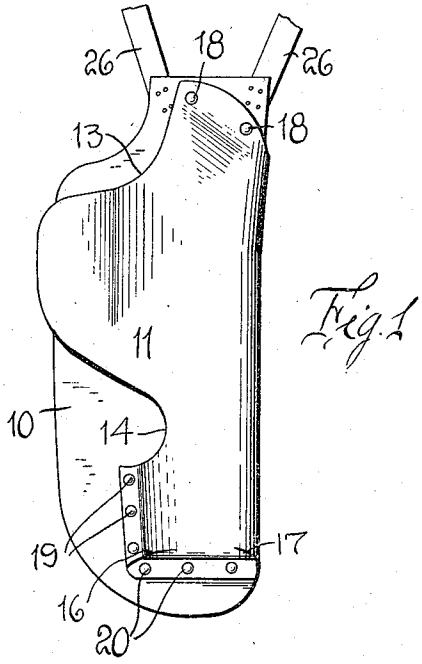


Fig. 1

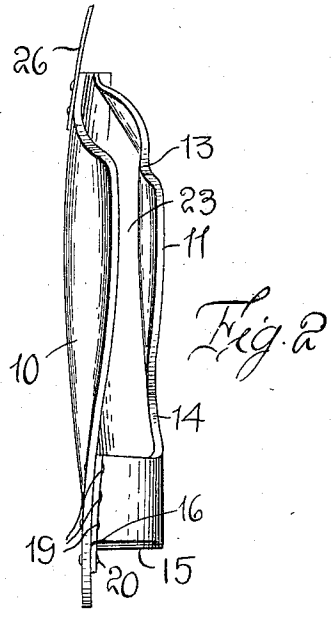


Fig. 2

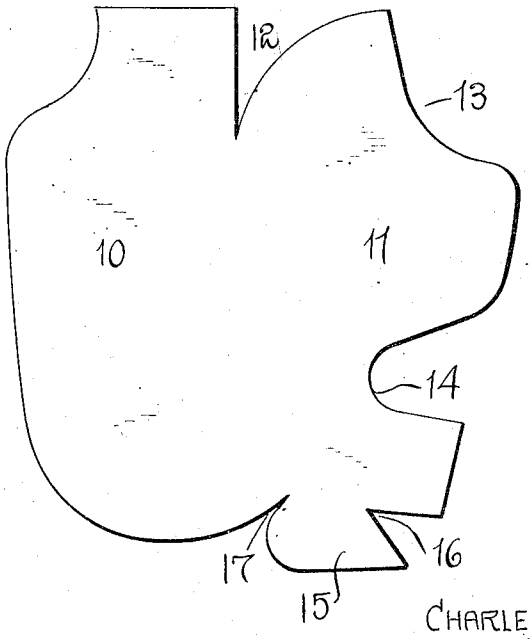


Fig. 3

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

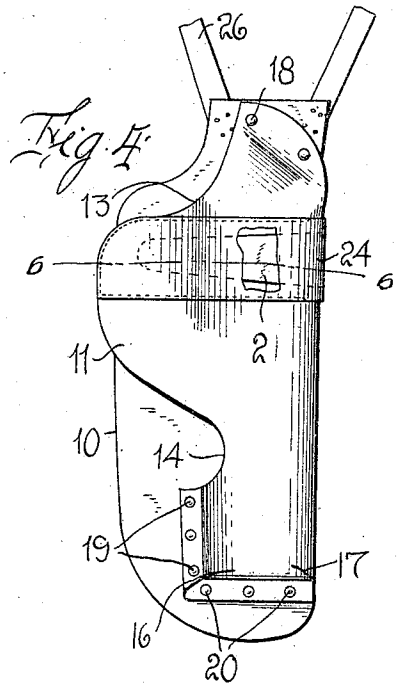


Fig. 5.

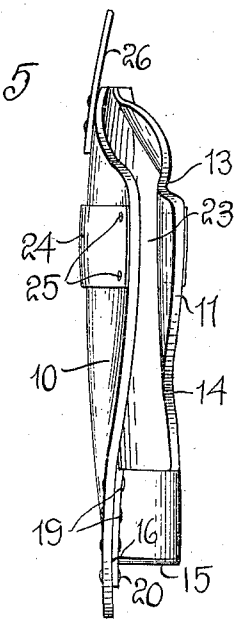


Fig. 6.

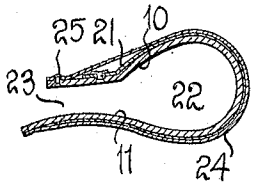
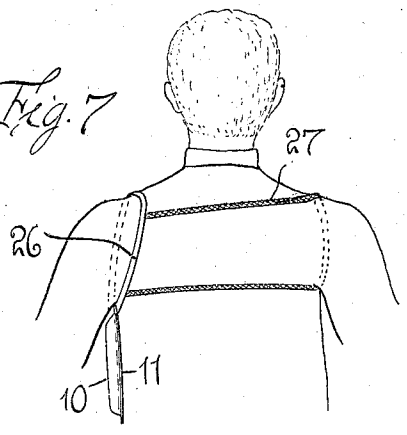


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES ALDERSON, OF OURAY, COLORADO.

PISTOL-HOLSTER.

1,295,831. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 4, 1919.

Application filed November 29, 1916. Serial No. 134,157.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES ALDERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ouray, in the county of Ouray and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pistol-Holsters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to pistol holsters and particularly to those pistol holsters which are designed to be worn under the arm pit.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a pistol holster so constructed that it will retain a pistol within the holster by the resilience given to the material from which the holster is made.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a pistol holster so constructed that the pistol may be pulled horizontally from beneath the arm and another object is to construct the pistol holster of one piece of material such as raw hide, hard fiber, leather, or thin sheet steel.

A further object is to provide improved means for supporting the holster in position beneath the arm pit.

Other objects will appear in the course of the following description.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of one form of my pistol holster;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank from which the holster is made;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a slightly modified form of my invention;

Fig. 5 is a front elevation thereof;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 7 is a view illustrating the manner in which the holster is supported upon the body.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2 and 3 it will be seen that this holster consists of a blank, as illustrated in Fig. 3, formed of one piece of material. This material may be sheet steel or other suitable resilient metal, raw hide or other relatively thick leather, hard fiber or vulcanized rubber, in other words, any material which may be bent and formed into shape and which will have when so formed a certain degree of resilience sufficient to retain the pistol within the holster. The blank, as illustrated, has a portion 10 which forms the inside or rear wall of the holster and a portion 11 which forms the outside or front wall of the holster, the upper end of the portions 11 and 10 being separated from each other by means of an approximately V-shaped slit 12, one edge of which extends down vertically from the top edge of the inside wall 10 and the other edge of which extends outward and upward in a curve. The outer edge of the portion 11 is cut away at its upper part as at 13 to permit the butt of the pistol to project and is cut away adjacent its lower end as at 14. The extreme lower end of the portion 11 is so cut as to provide a tab 15 separated from the portion 11 by a V-shaped slit 16 and from the portion 10 by an approximately V-shaped slit 17.

The blank illustrated in Fig. 3 is bent over upon itself so that the portion 11 lies approximately parallel to the portion 10. The upper edge of the portion 11 is riveted to the portion 10 by means of the rivets 18 while the lower end of the portion 11 is held at its front margin to the portion 10 by means of the rivets 19. The tab 15 is turned inward at right angles to the wall 10 and is riveted along its margin to the portion 10 by means of the rivets 20. The leather or other material from which the portion 11 is formed is shaped in a general way, as illustrated best in Fig. 2, so that the forward edges of the portions 10 and 11 are relatively close together. By attaching the upper ends of the portion 11 to the portion 10 by means of the rivets 18, I hold the two walls of the holster in approximately parallel position so that a pistol inserted within the holster with its muzzle within the pocket formed at the lower end of the holster will be retained firmly in place and prevented from slipping out. The material of the character before described which is bent as described and connected at its upper ends by the rivets 18, 19 and 20 will be resilient enough to grip and hold in place the revolver or pistol. The edges from a point above the uppermost rivet 19 nearly to the rivet 18 will spring apart as the revolver is drawn, thus permitting the revolver to be drawn out from the holster nearly horizontally and inserted in the holster nearly horizontally. In inserting the revolver, the revolver is forced inward at a slight inclination to the vertical and the muzzle disposed within the pocket formed within the lower end of the

holster while the upper end of the barrel, the cylinder and the butt are gripped by the two side walls of the holster.

In Figs. 4, 5 and 6 I show a slightly modified form of my invention in which exactly the same parts are used as in Fig. 1 with the same result but in which the resistance of the walls 10 and 11 to relative movement apart from each other is further assisted by a spring 21 attached at one end to the edge of the wall 10, extending around exteriorly of the holster, and bearing against the outside wall, forcing this outside wall inward, this spring being so formed, as illustrated in Fig. 6, as to shape the holster to provide a relatively wide circular portion 22 having a relatively narrow space 23 between the margins of the walls 10 and 11. The spring is covered by a band of leather 24 which is stitched to the outer wall 11 at its margins but which is loose along the inner wall and fastened at its extremities to this inner wall by means of the rivets 25, as illustrated clearly in Fig. 6. The spring is disposed at that portion of the holster which embraces the barrel adjacent the butt or handle and in a revolver embraces that portion of the gun which carries the cylinder. In both forms of my invention the pistol is retained in place without danger of slipping out but may be readily withdrawn from the holster by a movement in a horizontal plane.

For the purpose of supporting the holster beneath the arm pit, as illustrated in Fig. 7, I attach to the wall 10 at its upper end the strap 26 which is adapted to surround the shoulder and define an arm hole, the ends of the strap extending downward in convergent relation and being riveted or otherwise attached to the corners of the upper end of the portion 10. This strap is adapted to pass around the shoulder of the left arm, as illustrated in Fig. 7, and to this strap is attached an elastic band 27 which extends across the back of the wearer and then around over the shoulder across the front of the arm and underneath the arm pit and back to the strap 26. This is the preferable way of supporting the holster but I do not wish to be limited to this manner of supporting it. It will be seen that the elastic band 27 prevents the holster from swinging around or, in other words, prevents any shifting of the strap 26 but at the same time the holster is held in such a position that the revolver will not obstruct the free movement of the left arm.

The details of the holster which has been described are all designed to secure a maximum effectiveness for the holster. The closing of the upper end of the holster by the rivets 18 prevents the pistol from slipping out of the top of the holster when the wearer stoops, rides, runs, fights or wrestles. It will be realized that this is particularly necessary in a holster intended to be worn by officers of the law who may be called upon to do any or all of these things in a fight. Again the lower end of the elastic band 27 is fastened to the strap 26 in such manner that the holster need not be buttoned to the band of the trousers, thus permitting the holster to be readily removed or applied. By cutting out the material at the top of the holster, that is cutting away the material at 13, allowance is made for the projection of the butt or handle of the pistol and there is nothing to interfere with the hand grasping the handle quickly. It will be seen that by cutting out the blank to form the notch 12 in Fig. 3 when the blank is folded over and riveted to the part 10 a hood is formed to fit over the hammer of the gun and which prevents, as before stated, the gun from slipping out at the top and prevents the hammer from rubbing a hole in the lining of the coat and thus causing the hammer to catch in the clothing. This also prevents dust, lint or perspiration from getting into the working parts of the gun. The shape of this hood formed by attaching the upper end of the portion 11 to the upper end of the portion 10 leaves nothing to prevent the hammer of the gun from coming out of the holster smoothly. The blank is cut out at 14 to allow the muzzle of the gun to come out of the holster easily, and to be returned easily, and further so as to prevent anything rubbing against the sight of the gun as it is pulled out. This would be bad for the sight and furthermore as the sights on guns and some pistols have sharp corners, these would be liable to cut into and be hindered by the material of the holster if it was not cut out at this point.

If the holster is made of relatively limp leather, merely folding the leather over and riveting it will not make the holster stiff enough to hold the gun safely without a spring. When, however, the holster is made of relatively hard material which is relatively stiff, the spring is not necessary. If, however, the holster, as before stated, is made of relatively limp leather without the hardness and stiffness incident to the construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2, then a spring 21, as illustrated in Figs. 4 and 6, must be used and it is obvious that this spring should be covered to protect it from rusting and further to finish and render the holster more ornamental.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

A holster formed of a single piece of material bent longitudinally upon itself to form an inner wall and an outer wall, the inner wall having approximately parallel edges for the greater portion of its length, the outer wall having its upper end approximately conterminous with the upper edge of

the inner wall, said outer wall terminating short of the lower end of the inner wall, the middle of the outer wall having a width approximately the same as the inner wall, the edge of the outer wall above said middle portion being upwardly and inwardly curved, the upper rear corner of the outer wall being attached to the inner wall, the edge of the outer wall below the middle portion being extended rearward and downward, then forwardly, and then extended directly downward, this portion of the edge of the outer wall being attached to the inner wall and the outer wall being formed with a flap attached to the inner wall at right angles to the length of the holster to form the bottom of a muzzle pocket, the median portion of the outer wall being deflected toward the inner wall and then outward, and a strip of resilient metal attached to the outer face of the inner wall extending around the back of the holster and then extending forward over the outer wall along the median portion thereof and being operatively connected thereto.

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

CHARLES ALDERSON.

Witnesses:
WM. ROTHMELL,
ARTHUR W. DOANE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."