March 8, 1932. D. B. WESSON 1,848,682

REVOLVER

Filed Oct. 28, 1931

Fig. 1

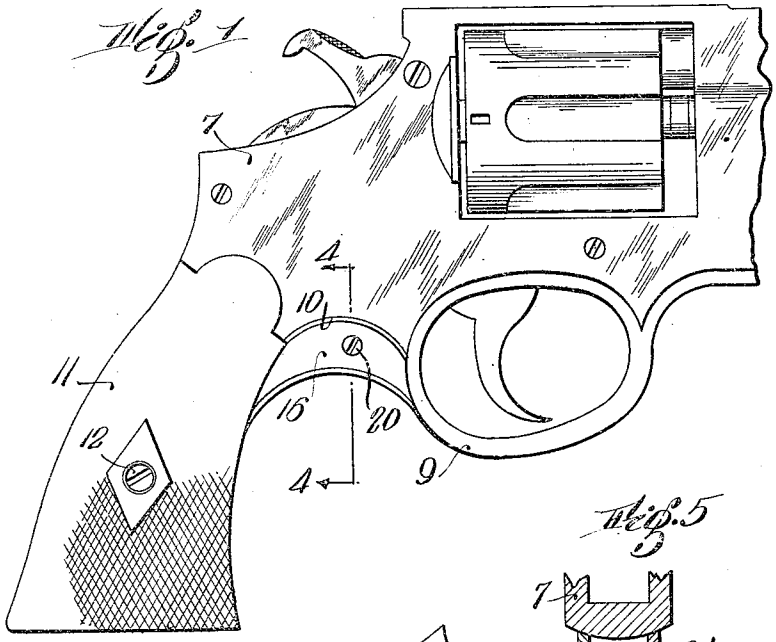


Fig. 6

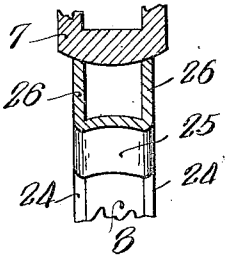


Fig. 5

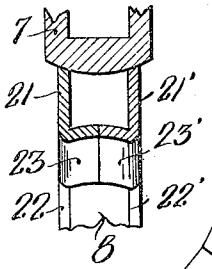


Fig. 2

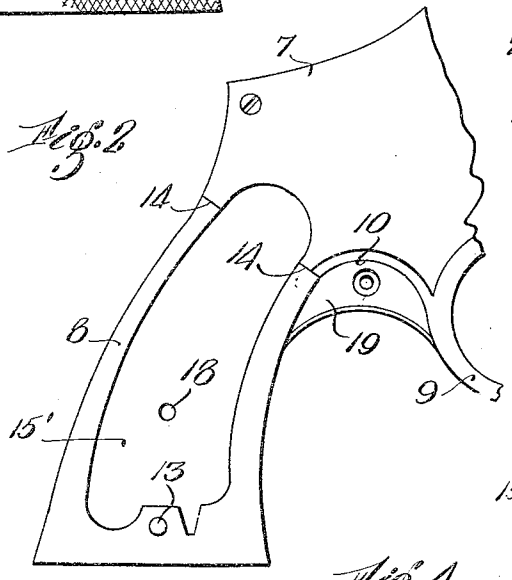
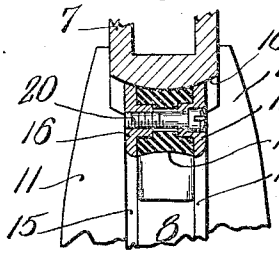


Fig. 3

Fig. 4



Inventor
Douglas B. Wesson
By Pabst, Cushman & Woodbury.
His Attorneys.

Patented Mar. 8, 1932

1,848,682

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

DOUGLAS B. WESSON, OF LONGMEADOW, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO SMITH AND WESSON, INC., OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS

REVOLVER

Application filed October 28, 1931. Serial No. 571,498.

This invention relates to revolver frames, and pertains more particularly to improvements in the grip construction of revolvers. The principal purpose of the invention is to provide a revolver in which the grip portion is provided with filler plates or shims which are mounted between the wooden stock pieces and the metal frame of the revolver and which extend forwardly of the grip toward the trigger guard, thereby to thicken the grip and also to furnish a rest or support for the middle finger of the gripping hand.

The improved filler members may readily be incorporated in the grip of the ordinary revolver without changing the construction of the frame and at minimum expense for material and labor; and the improved grip ensures a firmer, steadier and more comfortable grasp, especially for a hand of large size. The shims may be made of metal or other suitable material and may comprise two separable plates or may be formed from a single blank as hereinafter described; and it will be understood that the structural details herein illustrated may be varied to suit particular purposes without departing from the essence of this invention as defined in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings showing recommended embodiments of the invention;

Fig. 1 is a side view of the grip portion of a revolver constructed in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary elevation of the revolver frame with the stock piece and filler plate removed from one side thereof;

Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the filler plate in position, but omitting the wooden stock piece;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary section taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1; and

Figs. 5 and 6 are detail sections, similar to Fig. 4, illustrating optional forms of the filler members.

In the particular embodiment chosen for the purpose of illustration in Figs. 1 to 4, the revolver frame 7 is of common construction and comprises the usual apertured tang portion 8 and trigger guard 9 defining the intervening finger space beneath the intermediate curved body portion 10 of the frame. Heretofore, the ordinary wooden stock pieces 11 have usually been secured directly to opposite sides of the tang or frame part 8 by means of a screw 12 which passes through the opening of the tang, the wooden parts having openings receiving pins 13 at the heel of the tang and the upper ends thereof abutting shoulders 14 of the frame, thereby to clamp or hold the stock pieces in proper position.

In accordance with the present invention, filler plates or shims 15, 15′ are preferably applied between the frame tang 8 and the respective stock parts 11. These plates may be made of metal, wood, or suitable sheet material, and preferably are shaped to conform to the outline of the tang and also to provide integral forward extensions 16, 16′ which project beneath the curved body part 10 of the frame and preferably terminate at the rearward edge of the trigger guard 9 (Figs. 1 and 3). The extensions thus fill in a portion of the finger space between the grip and trigger guard of the revolver, and the bottom edges of the extensions constitute a support or rest for the middle finger of the gripping hand.

It will be observed that the finger supports 16, 16′ (as well as the modified finger rests shown in Figs. 5 and 6 and hereinafter explained) extend rearwardly between the stock pieces 11 and are fastened to the grip intermediate said pieces, preferably in the manner above indicated. In this aspect of the invention, however, other suitable fastening means may be employed, and it will be understood that the rearward portions of the supports need not necessarily serve as shims for thickening the grip.

The filler plates 15, 15′ may have openings 17, 18 for the pin 13 and screw 12 respectively; and a block or spacing member 19 may be inserted between the parallel extensions 16 and 16′ (Figs. 2 and 4). When such a spacing member is used, it preferably is held in place by a screw 20, as shown best in Fig. 4; and it is apparent that the exposed bottom edge of the block cooperates with the edges of the shim extensions in fur-

nishing the finger rest above mentioned, and that the surface of the rest or support is substantially smooth and free from rough edges or projections.

It will be understood, however, that if desired a smooth-faced finger support may be provided without necessarily utilizing a separate block or spacing member. As illustrated in Fig. 5, for example, the modified extensions 21, 21′ of the shims 22, 22′ have inwardly directed bottom lips or flanges 23, 23′ which meet in edge to edge relation and may be welded or otherwise joined together. As a further variation, the shim or filler members 24, 24′ may be formed in one piece from a single metal blank, so that a continuous bottom web 25 bridges the space between the shim extensions 26, 26′, as shown in Fig. 6.

A revolver having a grip portion constructed as above described in simple and economical to manufacture and the previously stated advantages of the improved construction are attained without impairing the assemblage or operation of the revolver and without detracting from its appearance or general utility. By making the finger supporting portions as integral extensions of the filler plates or shim members embodied in the grip, a double purpose is performed by the respective plates and the unitary structure is more rigid and durable, and the revolver parts may be dismantled and reassembled with speed and facility.

I claim:

1. A revolver comprising a frame having a grip portion, a trigger guard spaced from the grip, and stock pieces mounted on opposite sides of the grip, a finger support located beneath the body of the frame intermediate the grip and trigger guard and extending rearwardly between said stock pieces, and means for fastening the support to the grip intermediate said pieces.

2. A revolver comprising a frame having a grip portion, a trigger guard spaced from the grip, and stock pieces mounted on opposite sides of the grip, a finger support located beneath the body of the frame intermediate the grip and trigger guard, said support comprising substantially parallel plate members extending rearwardly between the grip portion of the frame and said stock pieces, and means for clamping the stock pieces together thereby to secure the plate members of the finger support.

3. In a revolver frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, a trigger guard spaced from the tang, and stock pieces mounted at opposite sides of the tang, a filler plate secured between the tang and one of the stock pieces, said plate having an integral extension projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame, thereby to provide a finger rest intermediate the grip portion and trigger guard of the frame.

4. In a revolver frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, a trigger guard spaced from the tang, and stock pieces mounted at opposite sides of the tang, shim members secured between the sides of the tang and the respective stock pieces, said members having integral extensions projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame, the shims being shaped to conform generally to the outline of the tang, thereby to increase the thickness of the grip portion of the revolver, and the bottom portions of said forward extensions constituting a support intermediate the grip portion and the trigger guard for the middle finger of the hand.

5. In a revolver frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, a trigger guard spaced from the tang, and stock pieces mounted at opposite sides of the tang, shim members secured between the sides of the tang and the respective stock pieces, said members having integral extensions projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame, and a spacing member secured between said extensions, the bottom face of said spacing member and the bottom edges of the extensions constituting a finger rest intermediate the grip portion and trigger guard of the frame.

6. In a revolver frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, a trigger guard spaced from the tang, and stock pieces mounted at opposite sides of the tang, shim members secured between the sides of the tang and the respective stock pieces, said members having integral extensions projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame, a removable spacing block fitting between said forward extensions, and fastening means for securing said block to said extensions, thereby to provide a finger rest intermediate the grip portion and trigger guard of the frame.

7. In a revolver frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, a trigger guard spaced from the tang, and stock pieces mounted at opposite sides of the tang, shim members secured between the sides of the tang and the respective stock pieces, said members having integral extensions projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame, the bottom portion of one of the extensions having an inwardly directed flange constituting a finger rest intermediate the grip portion and trigger guard of the frame.

8. In a revolver frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, a trigger guard spaced from the tang, and stock pieces mounted at opposite sides of the tang, shim members secured between the sides of the tang and the respective stock pieces, said members having integral extensions projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame, the bottom portions of the respective extensions having inwardly directed flanges meeting edge to edge therebetween, and constituting a finger

rest intermediate the grip portion and trigger guard of the frame.

9. In a revolver frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, a trigger guard spaced from the tang, and stock pieces mounted at opposite sides of the tang, shim members secured between the sides of the tang and the respective stock pieces, said members having integral extensions projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame, and an integral web connecting the bottom portions of the respective extensions and constituting a finger rest intermediate the grip portion and trigger guard of the frame.

10. A revolver comprising a frame having a tang at the grip portion thereof, and a trigger guard spaced from said tang, filler plates applied to the opposite sides of the tang and having integral extensions projecting forwardly beneath the body of the frame approximately to the rear portion of the trigger guard, a pair of stock pieces mounted upon the respective plates at opposite sides of said grip portion, and means for securing together the stock pieces, filler plates and frame tang, said plates serving to thicken the grip portion of the revolver and the forward extensions thereof constituting a finger rest intermediate said portion and the trigger guard.

Signed by me at Springfield, Mass., this 24th day of October, 1931.

DOUGLAS B. WESSON.