A. W. A. BARNARD.

SAFETY DEVICE FOR FOWLING PIECES, RIFLES, AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 9, 1919.

1,379,238.

Patented May 24, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

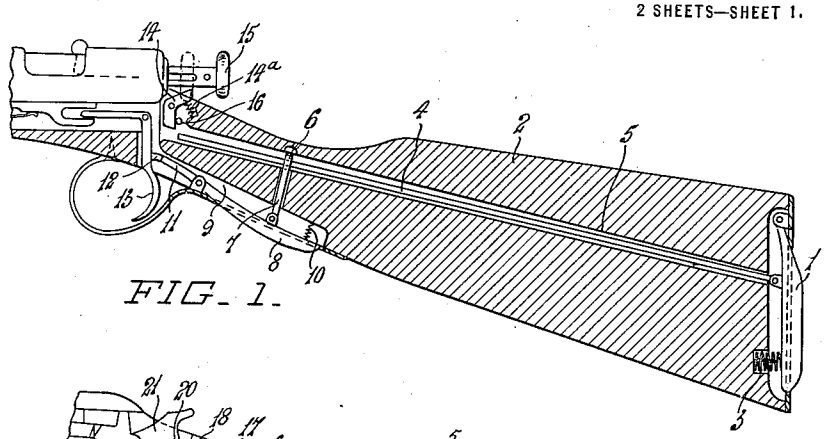


FIG. 1.

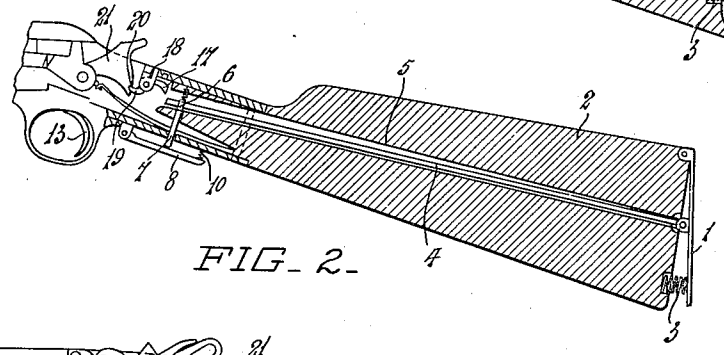


FIG. 2.

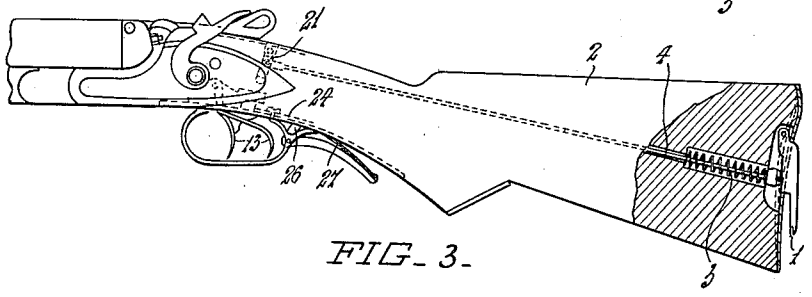


FIG. 3.

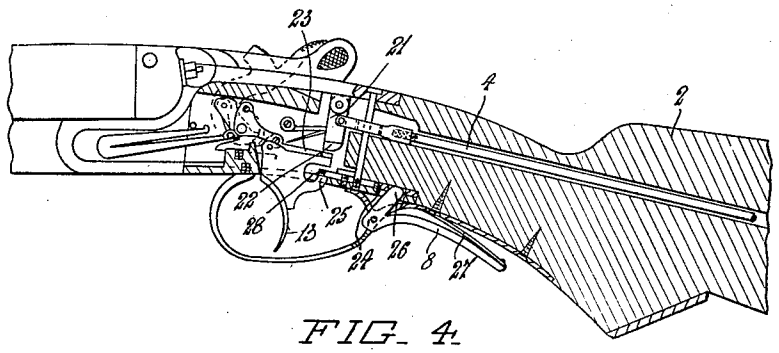


FIG. 4.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

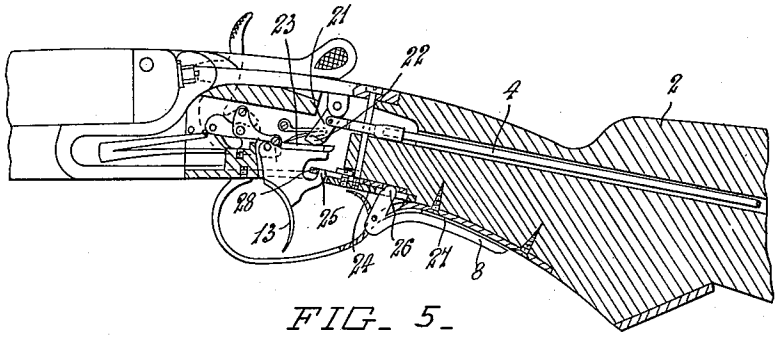


FIG. 5.

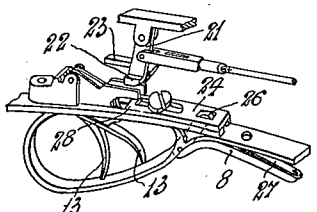


FIG. 6.

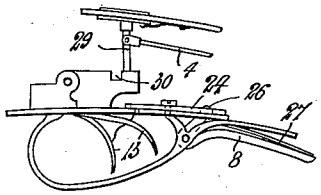


FIG. 7.

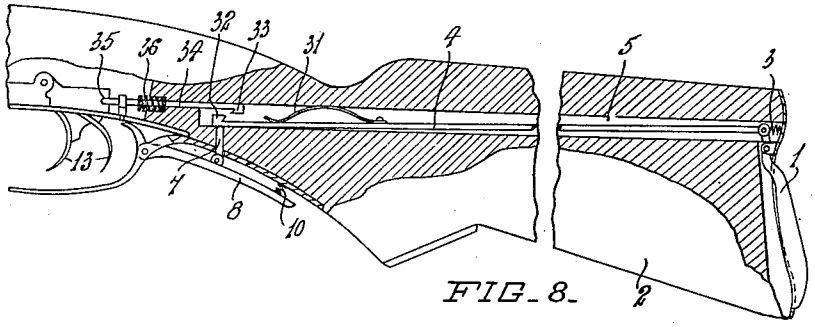


FIG. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED WALTER ALEXANDER BARNARD, OF WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO STEPHEN JOHN HARTLEY, OF MAIN ROAD, HIMATANGI, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

SAFETY DEVICE FOR FOWLING-PIECES, RIFLES, AND THE LIKE.

1,379,238. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 24, 1921.

Application filed May 9, 1919. Serial No. 295,918.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED WALTER ALEXANDER BARNARD, citizen of the Dominion of New Zealand, residing at Russell street, Foxton, in the Provincial District of Wellington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety Devices for Fowling-Pieces, Rifles, and the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to fowling pieces, rifles and similar firearms, and its object is to provide means whereby such firearms can not be discharged until brought to a safe and proper firing position.

According to the invention the hammer or equivalent part thereof in a firearm is normally locked, and is prevented from being released by merely pulling the trigger, owing to the engagement with the latter of a plate or lever pivoted underneath and to the neck of the stock or to mechanism actuated by said plate or lever.

Even should the trigger be unlocked the hammer or its equivalent is prevented from being operated to cause the firearm to discharge, until such time as pressure is applied to a further plate or lever pivoted in the end of the stock.

The firearm cannot be discharged until pressure is applied to the plates or levers in the stock end and neck, as until this takes place the firing mechanism remains locked.

The invention will be more particularly described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a part sectional elevation of a Winchester single pea rifle,

Fig. 2 is a part sectional elevation of a Winchester repeating rifle.

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are part sectional elevations of a double barrel hammer gun.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view illustrating the locking plate employed in Figs. 3, 4 and 5.

Fig. 7 is a side elevation showing a modification of the locking mechanism as applied to a hammerless gun.

Fig. 8 is a part sectional view showing a further modification.

Referring to Fig. 1, a plate or lever 1 is pivoted in the end of the stock 2 and is kept normally pressed outward by a spring 3. Attached to the plate or lever 1 is a rod 4 located in a passage 5 in the stock and passing also through the eye 6 of a push bar 7 pivotally connected to a plate or lever 8 pivoted in a slot 9 in the underneath portion of the neck of the stock.

The plate 8 is kept normally pressed downward or outward by a spring 10 so as to project from the slot 9, and so as to cause the arm 11 to engage the projection 12 on the trigger 13, and so lock the latter.

Pivoted in the upper side of the neck of the stock is a small bell crank or rocking lever 14, the upper arm of which normally prevents the bolt head 15 from traveling home until such time as the firearm is held and discharged in a proper manner.

To discharge the firearm the latter is raised to the shoulder and in doing so pressure is automatically applied to the plate or lever 1, simultaneously with the application of pressure to the plate 8 on gripping the neck of the stock, the effect of which is that the inner end of the rod 4 is raised and coming in contact with the lower arm of the lever 14, causes the upper arm of the latter to be depressed sufficiently to allow the bolt head 15 to fly home on the trigger 13 being pulled.

A stop pin 16 and spring 14^a insure the bell crank or rocking lever 14 assuming the safety position as shown when the firearm is not in the firing position.

In the construction shown in Fig. 2, pressure is applied simultaneously to the plates 1 and 8 as before, in order to cause the inner end of the rod 4 to engage the portion 17 of the spring operated pawl 18 and cause the portion 19 of the latter to be withdrawn from the recess 20 in the thumb piece 21 leaving the firearm in a state to be discharged at will by pulling the trigger 13.

In the case of a double barrel hammer gun as illustrated in Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 6, the rod 4 attached to the plate 1, is pivoted at its inner end to a swinging member 21 provided on either side with a foot or projection 22, which normally engages the trigger sears 23 and prevents the triggers 13 from being pulled. Also the triggers 13 are further locked by the slotted sliding plate 24 which engages their portions 25 (Fig. 4). The sliding plate 24 is operated by an arm from the plate or lever 8 which is kept normally pressed outward by the flat spring 27.

When pressure is applied to the plate 8

the forward end 28 of the plate 24 is moved beyond the portions 25 of the triggers 13, and provided pressure is at the same time applied to the plate 1, the swinging member 21 will be moved forward far enough to permit the trigger to be pulled, and the firing mechanism operated. The safety device is, after firing, in the position illustrated in Fig. 5.

Instead of having the swinging member 21 (as in Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 6), a slidable member 29 (Fig. 7) can be employed, the rod 4 actuating such member 29 as before, the latter, however, being moved over a depression 30 to allow the trigger to be pulled, the sliding slotted plate 24, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 6, is, however, also employed.

In the modification shown in Fig. 8, the rod 4 is kept normally pressed downward by the flat spring 31 so as to keep the catch 32 out of engagement with the catch 33 on the bar 34 one end of which is kept pressed in the recess 35 in the trigger 13 by the spring 36.

On pressure being applied simultaneously to the plates 1 and 8 the catch 32 engages the catch 33 on the bar 34 and the latter is withdrawn from the recess, leaving the trigger free to be operated so as to cause the firearm to be discharged.

An important feature of the invention is that should the firearm be stood on its stock, and the pivoted plate or lever 1 pressed inward, in no case is the firearm rendered fit or ready for firing, and as regards the constructions shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 8, no releasing or unlocking movement whatever is effected.

What I do claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. In a firearm, a safety device comprising a spring controlled lever pivoted to the end of the stock, a rod working through said stock pivoted to said lever, a spring controlled lever pivoted to the stock neck, an arm on said latter lever engaging a projection on the firearm trigger, a connecting arm between said rod and said last mentioned lever, and means for locking the firing mechanism actuated by said rod and adapted to unlock said firing mechanism on pressure being applied to said levers.

2. In a firearm, a safety device comprising a lever pivoted to the end of the stock, a member mounted in said stock and operatively connected to said lever, a second lever connected to the stock neck, an arm on said second lever operatively connected with a projection on the firearm trigger, connecting means between said member and said second lever and means for locking the firing mechanism actuated by said member and adapted to unlock said firing mechanism on pressure being applied to said levers.

ALFRED WALTER ALEXANDER BARNARD.