C. M. TAYLOR.

ARMORED WAR AUTOMOBILE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1917.

1,276,444.

Patented Aug. 20, 1918.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

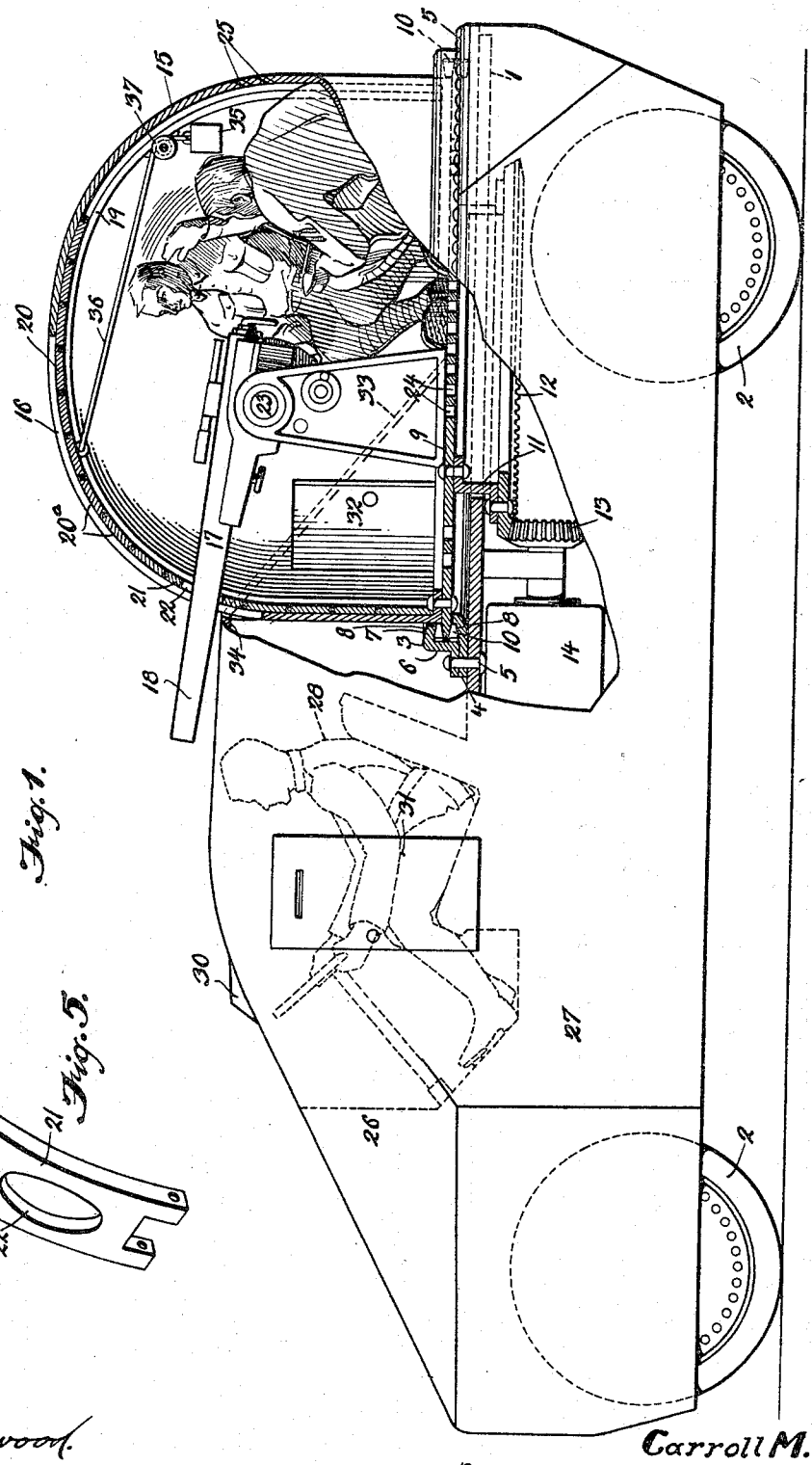


Fig. 1.

Fig. 5.

Witnesses

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Carroll M. Taylor.

By Joshua C. H. Potts.

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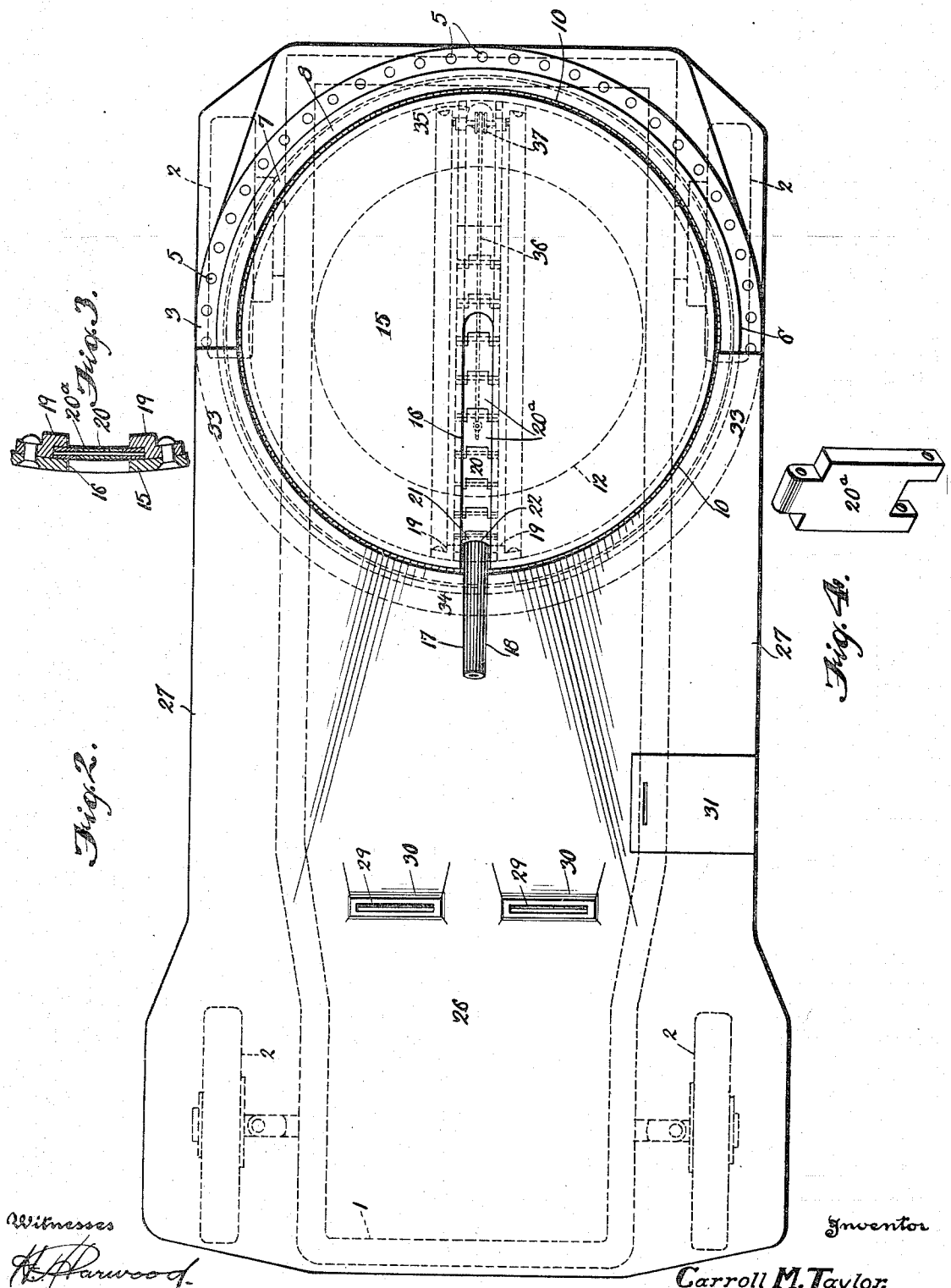


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARROLL M. TAYLOR, OF COATESVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

ARMORED WAR-AUTOMOBILE.

1,276,444. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 20, 1918.

Application filed May 31, 1917. Serial No. 171,845.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARROLL M. TAYLOR, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Coatesville, county of Chester, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Armored War-Automobiles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of an improved armored war automobile. One object of my invention is to provide an automobile of the above described character which can be quickly maneuvered and which will include a gun capable of being shot in any desired direction irrespective to the position of the automobile upon the road.

Another object is to so construct my improved automobile that it will protect the operators from the fire of the enemy.

A further object is to provide a protective turret which will inclose the gun and gunners and which can be quickly and easily rotated to permit the aiming of the gun in any direction.

These objects, and other advantageous ends which will be described hereinafter, I attain in the following manner, reference being had to the accompanying drawings in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation partly in section showing my improved armored war automobile.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a plate link which forms a part of a protective chain included in my invention.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of another plate link included in the protective chain and through which the gun projects.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents the main supporting frame mounted on wheels 2, and it will be understood that any type of motive power (not illustrated) can be employed to propel the automobile.

The main frame 1, at the rear end, supports two rings 3 and 4, the ring 3 being mounted on the ring 4 and rings 3 and 4 are connected together and to the frame 1 by bolts 5. The ring 3 has an upturned flange 6 and a flange 7 extends inwardly from the flange 6 as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

The ring 4 at its inner edge is slightly inclined as shown at 8. A turn table consisting of a plate 9 has its peripheral edge interposed between the flange 7 of the ring 3 and the portion 8 of the ring 4, and anti-friction rollers 10 are mounted between the flange 7 and the upper surface of the turn table 9 and also between the lower surface of the turn table 9 and the upper surface of the portion 8 of the ring 4.

The rollers 10 are preferably made frusto-conical in shape and the turn table 9 is tapered adjacent its edge to correspond to the countour of the frusto-conical rollers. The turn table 9 has a collar 11 secured to its lower surface, and this collar supports a beveled gear 12 which is in mesh with a beveled pinion 13, the latter being driven by a suitable motor 14. The turn table 9 has a turret 15 secured thereto so that as the turn table 9 is rotated, the turret 15 will also be rotated.

The turret 15 has a slot 16 cut therethrough which starts adjacent the top of the turret and extends down into one side as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2. A gun 17 is secured within the turret and the barrel 18 of the gun is of such size as to project through the slot 16. Under-cut guide members 19 are secured to the inner surface of the turret 15 at both sides of the slot 16. These guiding members 19 are extended entirely across the top of the turret and down the side of the turret which is diametrically opposite to the portion of the side in which the bottom portion of the slot 16 is formed.

A chain 20 of armor plates 20^a have their opposite edges slidable within the respective guide members 19. The plates constituting the chain 20 may be similarly formed with the exception of the plate 21 through which the barrel 18 of the gun 17 projects. This plate 21 as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 5, includes an elongated hole 22 to permit movement of the gun due to its recoil following the discharge. By having the barrel 18 extending through the hole 22 of the plate 21, when the gun is elevated on its pivot 23 to a different position within the slot 16, the gun during its movement will move the chain within its guiding movement so that all portions of the slot with the exception of the hole 22 will be closed at all times.

The extra length of the slot 22 also permits the sighting of the gun and it will be noted that the gun may be of any type now

in common use which can be elevated in various positions. The turret can be rotated by the starting of the motor 14 by the occupant of the turret and it will be noted that the motor 14 can be made of the reversible type and can be controlled by any suitable means.

The turn table 9 is perforated as shown at 24 to permit air to be supplied to the interior of the turret, and if desired, perforations 25 can be formed in the turret, said perforations extending at such angle that it will be impossible for a bullet or shell to enter the turret therethrough.

The forward portion of the automobile is covered by a metallic hood 26 which has a skirt 27 extending downwardly adjacent the ground over which the vehicle moves. The extreme forward portion of the hood 26 forms a protection for the driver 28, and the top of the hood is provided with openings 29 through which the driver can see. These openings 29 are formed in sheds 30 and these sheds are arranged at such angles as to cause the deflection of bullets or shells which are aimed at the automobile.

Doors 31 and 32 are respectively formed in the hood 26 and turret 15. Furthermore, the hood 26 has wing portions 33 which extend downwardly from its uppermost portion 34 into substantial intersection with the turret 15, thus causing any shells which strike the wing portion to be deflected downwardly so as not to directly engage the turret 15.

As a means for keeping the lower portion of the plate 22 in engagement with the barrel 18 of the gun, I provide a weight 35 and connect this weight with a flexible cable 36 which is connected to the end plate of the chain 20 as clearly illustrated in Fig. 1. The cable 36 passes over an anti-friction roller 37 so that the hole in the plate 22 is always in position to permit sighting of the gun.

While I have described my invention as taking a particular form, it will be understood that the various parts of my invention may be changed without departing from the spirit thereof, and hence I do not limit myself to the precise construction set forth, but consider that I am at liberty to make such changes and alterations as fairly come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An automobile of the character described including a rotatable turret having a slot therein, a gun within the turret having a barrel extending through the slot and movable into various angles of elevation, and a movable protective device for closing the portion of the slot through which the barrel of the gun has been moved, said device being flexible so that during its movement it can conform to the contour of the turret, substantially as described.

2. An automobile of the character described including a rotatable turret having a slot therein, a gun within the turret having a barrel extending through the slot and movable into various angles of elevation, guiding members secured to said turret, and a flexible protective device movable in said guiding members to close the portion of the slot through which the gun has been moved due to its angular change, substantially as described.

3. In a device of the character described, a turret having a slot therein, a gun within the turret having its barrel extending through the slot, guiding members, and a chain of protective plates movable within said members and designed to span said slot, substantially as described.

4. In a device of the character described, a turret having a slot therein, a gun within the turret having its barrel extending through the slot, guiding members, a chain of protective plates movable within said members and designed to span said slot, certain of said plates having a hole therein through which the barrel of the gun extends, substantially as described.

5. In a device of the character described, a turret having a slot therein, a gun within the turret having its barrel extending through the slot, guiding members, a chain of protective plates movable within said members and designed to span said slot, said barrel of the gun being operative to move plates within their guiding members when the angle of the gun is changed and so as to bring certain of said plates in position spanning the portion of the slot which said barrel previously occupied, substantially as described.

6. In a device of the character described, a main supporting structure, rings mounted thereon and having portions spaced apart, a turn table having its peripheral edge portion interposed between said portions of the rings, and anti-friction rollers interposed between the opposite surfaces of the turn table and the adjacent surfaces of the rings, substantially as described.

7. In a device of the character described, a main supporting structure, a hood thereon, a turret on the supporting structure, said hood having deflecting wing portions embracing said turret, substantially as described.

8. In a device of the character described, a turret having a slot therein, a gun within the turret having its barrel extending through the slot, guiding members, a chain of protective plates movable within said guiding members and designed to span the

slot, one of said plates having a hole therein through which the barrel of the gun extends, and a weight for keeping said plate in engagement with the gun to permit sighting through the hole, substantially as described.

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

CARROLL M. TAYLOR.

Witnesses:
IDA M. TAYLOR,
CHAS. E. POTTS.