T. STANKEWICZ.

WIRE CUTTER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 16, 1918.

1,273,287.

Patented July 23, 1918.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

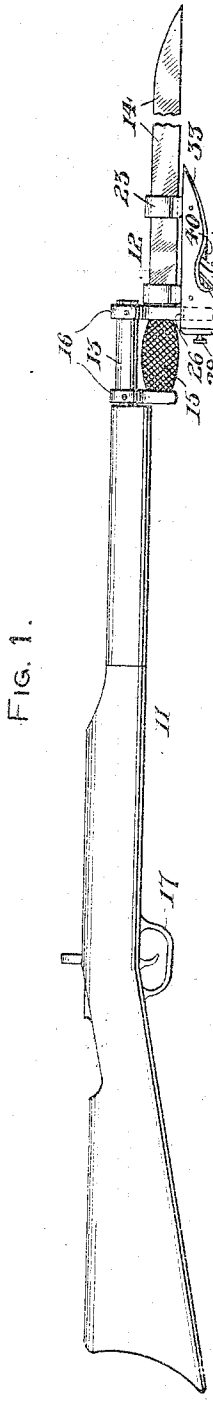

FIG. 1.

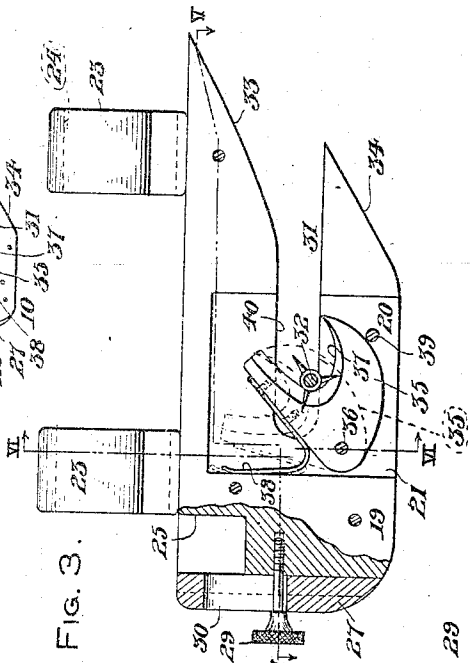

FIG. 3.

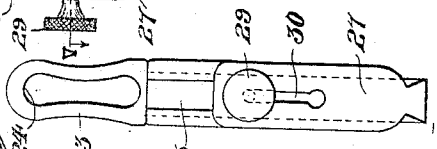

FIG. 4.

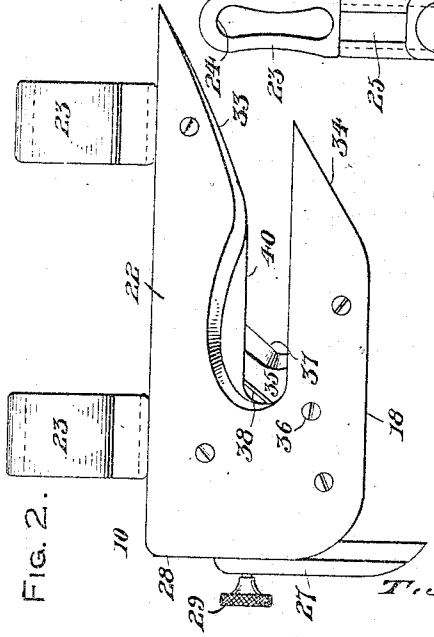

FIG. 2.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 6

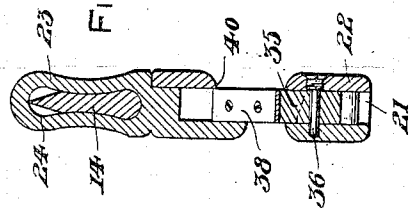


Fig. 8.

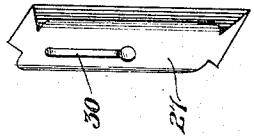


Fig. 5.

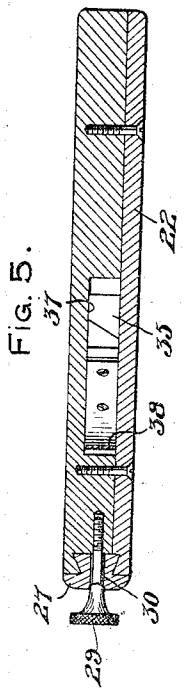


Fig. 7.

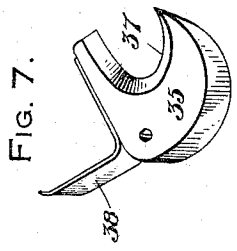
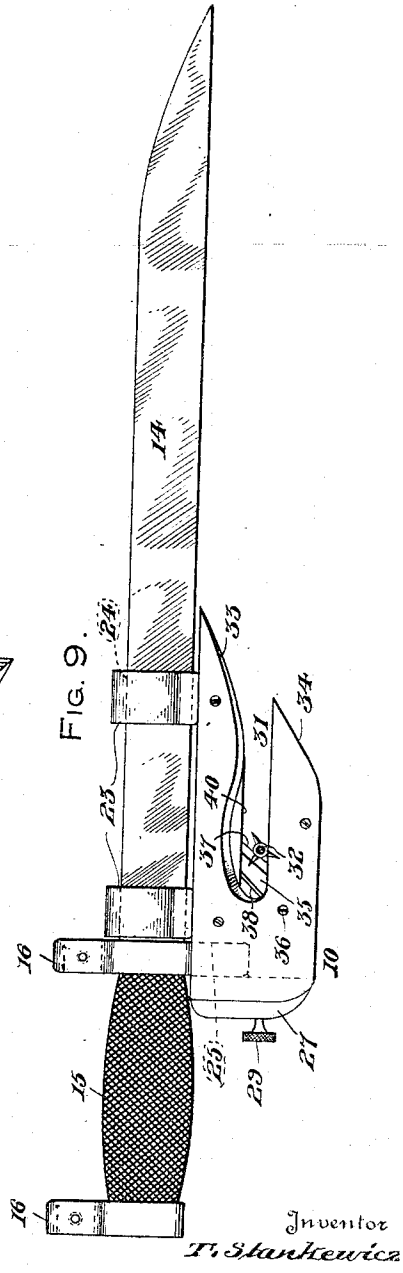


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TADUESZ STANKEWICZ, OF CARTERET, NEW JERSEY.

WIRE-CUTTER.

1,273,287. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented July 23, 1918.**

Application filed March 16, 1918. Serial No. 222,926.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TADUESZ STANKEWICZ, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Carteret, in the county of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Cutters, of which the following is a specification.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of a wire cutter that is readily attached to a carrying member such as a rifle, whereby wires may be readily severed by a soldier, the device possessing great strength and calculated not to interfere with the usual operation of the fire arm.

A further object of the invention is to provide a wire cutter having serviceable locking means whereby the same may be readily secured in its operative position adjacent the forward end of a gun and easily released and removed therefrom at will, the device being easy and inexpensive to manufacture.

In the drawings forming a part of this application and in which like designating characters refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a rifle provided with the present device mounted upon the bayonet thereof.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of my invention detached.

Fig. 3 is a view thereof with the side plate removed and parts broken away.

Fig. 4 is a rear elevational view of the device arranged as shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view of the device taken upon line V—V of Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view thereof taken upon line VI—VI of Fig. 3.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the cutter and spring detached.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the locking plate employed, and

Fig. 9 is an elevational view of one form of bayonet with the device locked in its operative position thereon.

My wire cutter 10 is designed for attachment to any form of gun such as a rifle 11 and may be advantageously mounted thereon by locking the same to the bayonet 12. The bayonet 12 comprises a blade 14 having a handle 15 secured to the barrel 13 by suitable clamps 16, it being understood that the bayonet blade is disposed at the lower side of the gun at the muzzle thereof.

The wire cutter 10 comprises a block form of casing 18 including the block 19 having a chamber 20 therein opening as at 21 at the lower side of the casing, a cover plate 22 being positioned over the side of the chamber 20. The upper edge of the block 19 carries suitable loops 23 having openings 24 therein adapted to fit over the blade 14 as shown in Figs. 1, 6 and 9. A notch 25 is arranged in the rear end of the casing 18 at the upper edge thereof adapted for the reception of any desired form of depending arm or restraining member 26 carried by the bayonet 12.

A slide 27 is slidably mounted in dovetailed arrangement upon the rear end 28 of the casing 18 and it will be seen that the bayonet 14 may be readily moved longitudinally through the loops 23 for receiving the arm 26 within the notch 25 when the slide 27 is lowered, and the slide 27 may thereafter be elevated for preventing the arm from being removed, whereby the device will be locked upon the bayonet 12. A thumb screw 29 carried by the block 19 extends through a slot 30 in the slide 27 and may be readily tightened for retaining the said slide in its adjusted position. By lowering the slide 27, the casing 18 may be readily removed from the bayonet 12 by forwardly moving the casing 18, sliding the loops 23 off of the blade 14.

A forwardly opening slot 31 is provided in the casing 18 and constitutes a mouth adapted for receiving a wire as 32, to be cut, the adjacent edge portion 33 of the casing being curved to a point adjacent the blade 14 to assist in guiding the wire into the mouth 31 while the edge portion 34 at the opposite side of the mouth is similarly tapered.

A substantially heart-shaped cutter 35 is pivoted as at 36 within the chamber 20 having a substantially semi-circular cutting edge 37 normally lying with the cutter in open position, inwardly of the mouth 31, and adapted for receiving the wire 32 as illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings. A spring 38 is disposed between one edge of the cutter 35 and the adjacent side of the chamber 20 for normally maintaining the cutter in the position just described and in contact with a limiting pin 39 adjacent the bottom of the chamber 20.

When the device 10 is operatively mounted upon the bayonet 12 as illustrated in Fig.

1 of the drawings, the rifle 11 may be grasped and the wire to be cut received in the mouth 31. A sudden forward thrust of the gun will then rock the cutter 35 to its severing position, as illustrated by dotted lines in Fig. 3 of the drawings, bringing the wire 32 against the sharpened upper edge 40 formed upon the block 19 at the upper side of the mouth 31. After the wire is severed, the spring 38 automatically returns the cutter 35 to its normal lowered position engaging the stop pin 39 ready to receive another wire. A strong and serviceable wire cutter is provided readily locked upon the bayonet of a rifle for immediate use when desired in cutting barbed wire barriers in such instances as during the advance of troops in the time of war.

What I claim as new is:—

1. A wire cutter for bayonets comprising a casing, loops upon said casing adapted for the slidable reception of the blade of the bayonet, a pivoted cutter within the casing having a substantially semi-circular cutting edge adapted for receiving a wire to be cut, normal positioning means for the cutter and movement-preventing means for the casing.

2. A wire cutter for bayonets comprising a casing, loops upon said casing adapted for the slidable reception of the blade of the bayonet, a pivoted cutter within the casing having a substantially semi-circular cutting edge adapted for receiving a wire to be cut, normal positioning means for the cutter, a restraining means carried by the bayonet, the said casing having a notch adapted for the reception of said restraining means when the device is in its operative position upon the blade, a locking slide upon the end of the casing adapted for overlying the said notch when the restraining means is positioned therein and a retaining screw for said slide.

3. An article of manufacture comprising a casing having a chamber therein and a mouth communicating with said chamber, a cutter pivoted within the chamber having a substantially semi-circular cutting edge normally arranged transversely of said mouth adapted for the reception of a wire to be cut, the said casing having a sharpened edge adapted for coöperating with the cutting edge of the cutter and a normal positioning spring for the cutter arranged within said chamber.

4. An article of manufacture comprising a casing having a chamber therein and a mouth communicating with said chamber, a cutter pivoted within the chamber having a substantially semi-circular cutting edge normally arranged transversely of said mouth adapted for the reception of a wire to be cut, the said casing having a sharpened edge adapted for coöperating with the cutting edge of the cutter, a normal positioning spring for the cutter arranged within said chamber, supporting loops carried by the casing, the said casing having a receiving notch in one edge thereof rearwardly of said loops, a locking slide upon the end of the casing adapted for overlying the said notch and a retaining screw for the slide carried by the casing.

5. In combination with a fire arm having a barrel, a bayonet including a handle and a blade, attaching clamps carried by said handle and secured to said barrel, a depending arm carried by the bayonet, a casing having a notch in one end thereof adapted for the reception of said arm, a locking slide for the arm carried by the casing adapted for movement to close the open end of the said notch, the said casing having a receiving mouth in its forward end, a pivoted normally positioned cutter carried by the casing having a cutting portion arranged inwardly of said mouth and loops upon the casing surrounding the blade of the bayonet when the device is operatively mounted thereon.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

TADUESZ STANKEWICZ.