

No. 797,345.

PATENTED AUG. 15, 1905.

F. H. COKEROFT.

SHOTGUN.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 18, 1904.

Fig. 1.

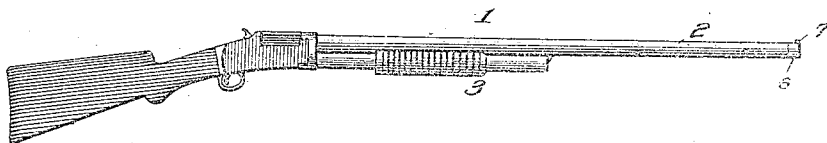


Fig. 2.

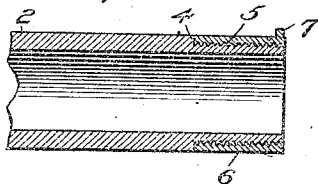


Fig. 3.

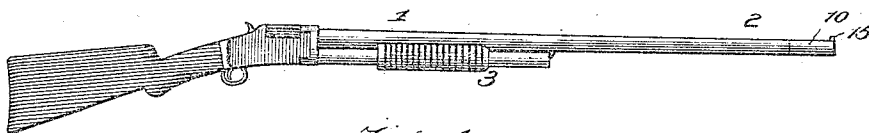


Fig. 4.

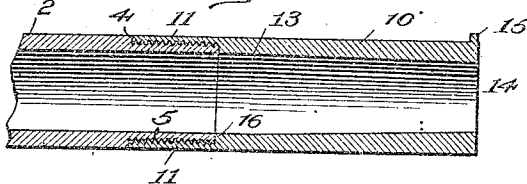
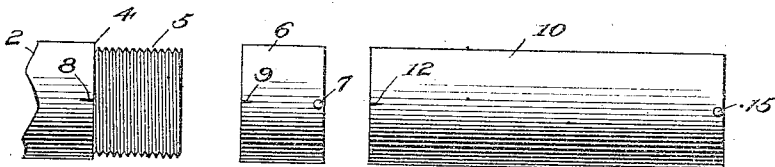


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK HAMPTON COKEROFT, OF WOODLAWN, ALABAMA.

SHOTGUN.

No. 797,345.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 15, 1905.

Application filed February 18, 1904. Serial No. 194,232.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK HAMPTON COKEROFT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Woodlawn, in the county of Jefferson and State of Alabama, have invented new and useful Improvements in Shotguns, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in shotguns, and has for its object to provide an attachment which may be economically manufactured and easily applied whereby the same gun may be successfully used for different kinds of shooting, either to spread or successfully scatter the shot, as is desirable for close quick shooting, or to bunch the shot for distance shooting. In hunting, the desirability of being able to change the gun to adapt it to these different kinds of shooting has long been felt, and in double-barreled guns the two barrels have been made differently, so that one would scatter the shot more than the other; but in connection with single-barreled shotguns of the repeating or magazine type, to which my invention more particularly relates, the same barrel must be utilized for both kinds of shooting, so it becomes necessary to provide some means of adjusting or altering this barrel to adapt the gun to different kinds of work.

With this object in view I provide a muzzle-piece having a slightly-contracted bore toward its discharge end and a screw-threaded inner end by which it may be connected to the end of the barrel of the gun when it is desired to have the shot carry a distance before scattering. When this piece is detached, the gun will scatter the shot well at close range, which is desirable, as in the case of bird-shooting in close brush.

My invention further comprises the construction and arrangements of parts herein-after described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a shotgun for ordinary use with a muzzle-cap screwed on the end of the barrel to protect the threads. Fig. 2 is an enlarged broken-away sectional view of the muzzle in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the gun provided with my muzzle-piece or extension. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view through Fig. 3. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are top plan views of the muzzle, cap, and extension-piece, showing the notches, which must tally to insure the fore-sight, carried by the removable parts, being in its proper position.

In the drawings the same reference-numerals refer to the same parts throughout.

The gun 1 may be of any desired type or construction, but is preferably a single-barreled magazine-gun having a barrel 2 and magazine 3. The end of the barrel is reduced to have a shoulder 4 and an externally-screw-threaded portion 5. I provide a muzzle-cap 6, which is internally threaded and of a width and diameter to engage portion 5 of the barrel and forms an end therefor which strengthens the reduced end of the barrel, protects the threads, and fits flush against shoulder 4. This cap is adapted to fill out the reduced portion of the barrel when screwed home, so that it is not noticeable and in no wise interferes with the use or attractive appearance of the gun. The sight 7 is carried by the cap, and to make sure that the cap will always be screwed home, so that this fore-sight will fall properly in line with the breech-sight, I notch the edge of shoulder 4 at 8 and the cap at 9. When these two notches are in alinement, the sight is properly disposed. If now it be desired to use the gun for shooting requiring the shot to be well bunched and to carry a distance without scattering, I provide a muzzle extension-piece 10, which is internally cut away to form a threaded end portion 11, which is notched at 12 and adapted to engage the threaded end portion 5 in the same manner as cap 6. When screwed home, as shown in Fig. 4, the bore of this extension-piece forms a continuation of the bore of barrel 1 to the point 13, where it commences to contract slightly and continues to decrease in cross-sectional area to its discharge end 14. This acts to bunch the shot and prevents their scattering, as is the case when this extension-piece is not used. By preserving the bore of a barrel to the point 13 in the extension before contracting the bore of the latter part I gain a material advantage in removing the point of strain from the joint between the parts. Experiments have proven that where the choking of the extension-piece commences at this joint with the muzzle the former part is frequently blown off from the barrel. This contraction of the bore of piece 10, which will be slight, is shown somewhat exaggerated in the drawings for the sake of illustration. This piece will carry a sight 15 near its end. The width of the cut-away portion of piece 10 is carefully calculated to cause the end of portion 5 to abut against the shoulder 16 of said piece

when the notches 8 and 12 tally. In this manner there will be no rough place or break in the bore, which will be uniform throughout except at the contracted end of the extension-piece.

It will be evident that the cap and piece 10 can be manufactured at a comparatively small cost and readily carried and exchanged as occasion may require, and at the same time the appearance of the gun is not affected nor its cost materially increased, though its availability and value will be greatly enhanced.

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

1. In a shotgun, the combination with the barrel thereof which has a reduced threaded end portion with which a muzzle extension-piece is adapted to engage, of a screw-cap which engages the threaded end of said barrel flush with the surface thereof, and a sight

carried by said cap, as and for the purposes described.

2. In a shotgun having a barrel reduced at its outer end and adapted to have a muzzle extension-piece jointed to said reduced portion, the combination with said barrel of means to strengthen the reduced portion thereof when said muzzle extension-piece is not in use, said means comprising a cap which fills out the portion cut away from the muzzle end of the barrel flush with the outer surface thereof, a sight carried by said cap, and means to connect said cap to said barrel.

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

FRANK HAMPTON COKEROFT.

Witnesses:

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