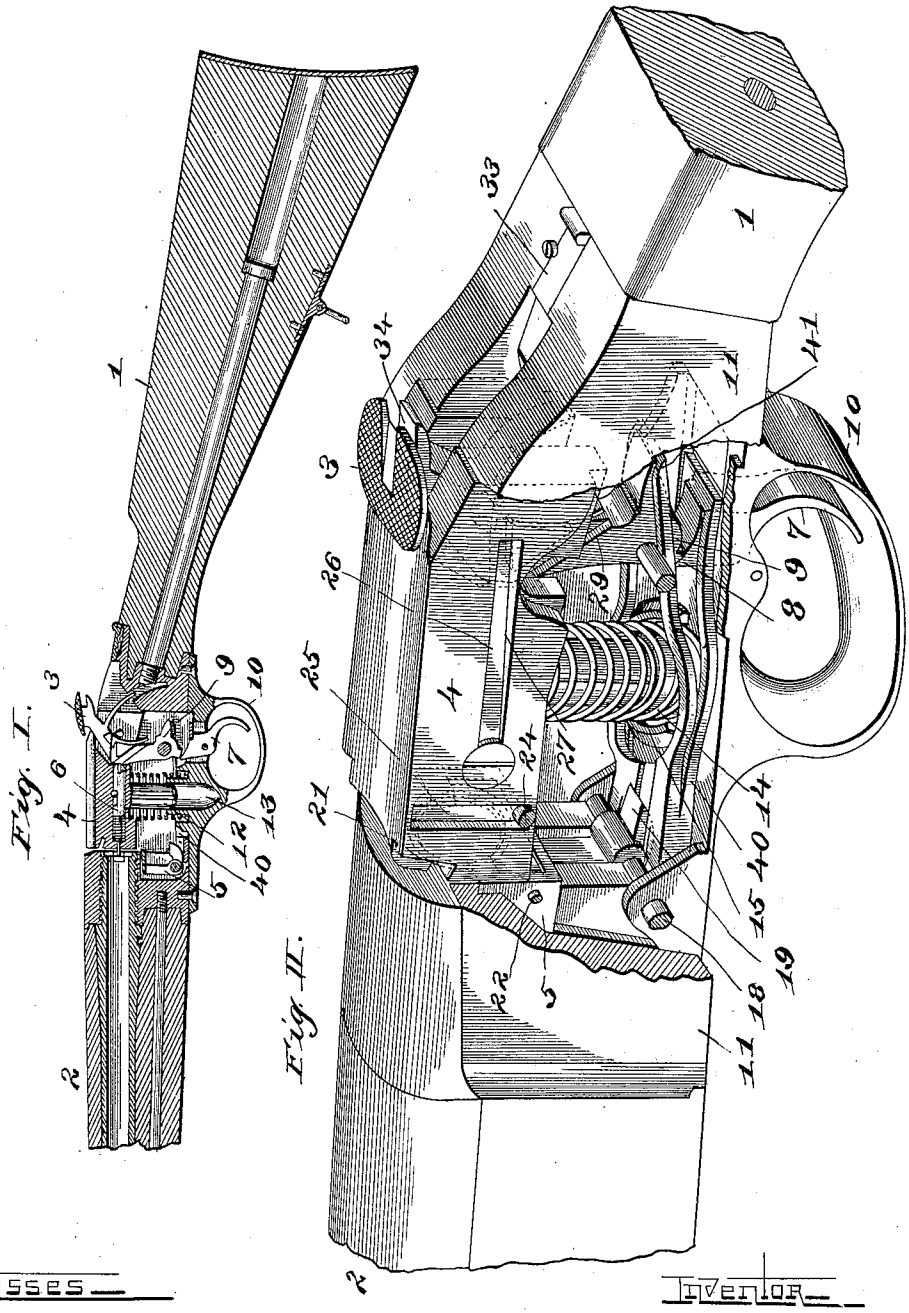
No. 657,052. Patented Aug. 28, 1900.

W. V. BLÉHA.

FIREARM.

(Application filed July 21, 1899.)

(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses—

J. A. Dauberschmidt,

E. S. Knight

Inventor—

Wm. V. Bléha

By Wright Bro

Attorneys

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 657,052. Patented Aug. 28, 1900.

W. V. BLÉHA.

FIREARM.

(Application filed July 21, 1899.)

(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. III.

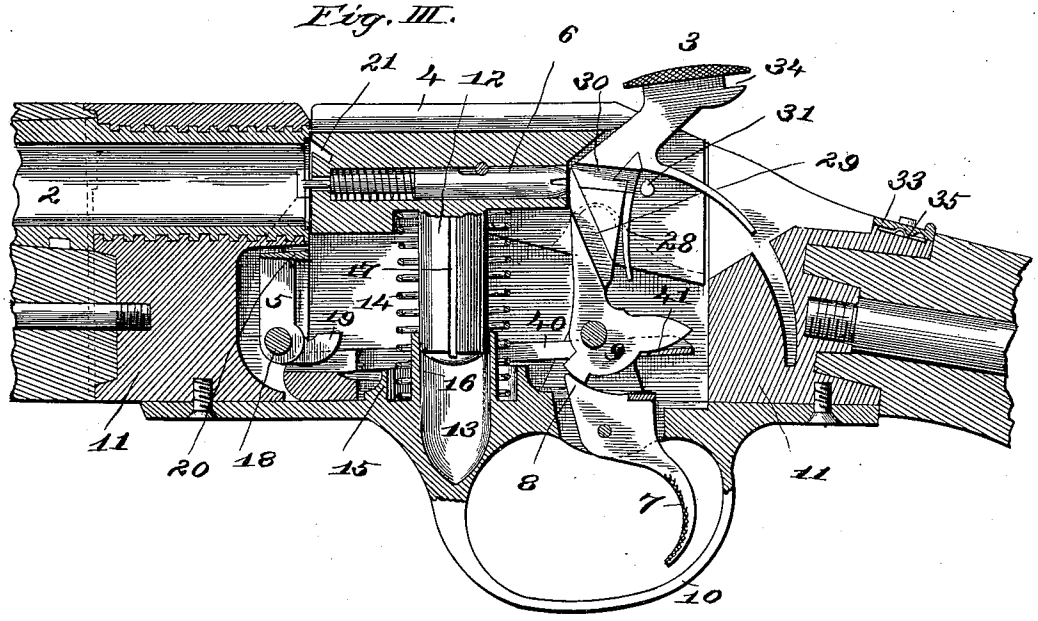
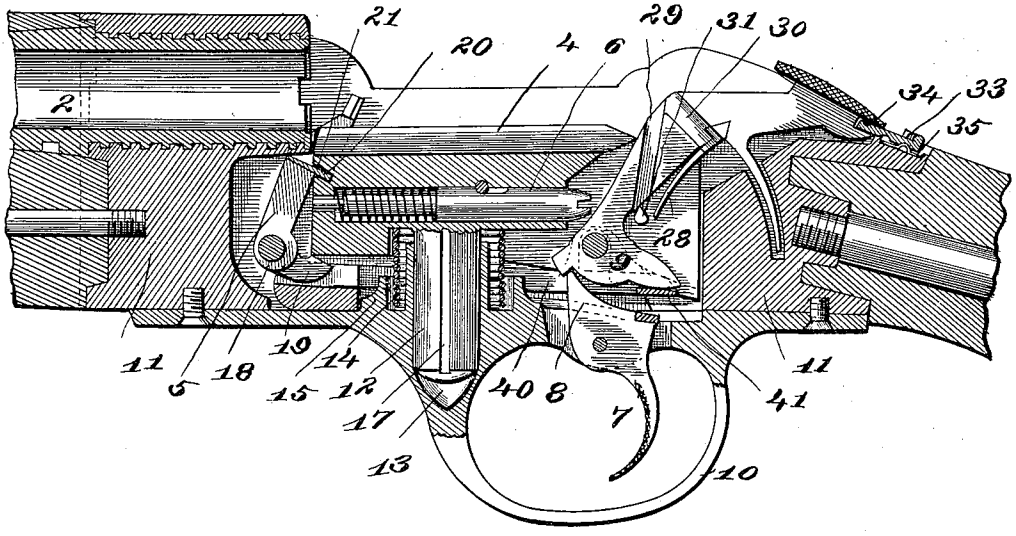


Fig. IV.



Witnesses—

G. A. Pankenschmidt.

E. D. Knight

Inventor—

Wm. V. Bléha

By Knight Bros

Attorneys

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 657,052. Patented Aug. 28, 1900.

W. V. BLÉHA.

FIREARM.

(Application filed July 21, 1899.)

(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

Fig. V.

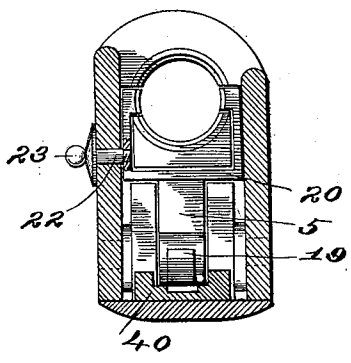


Fig. VI.

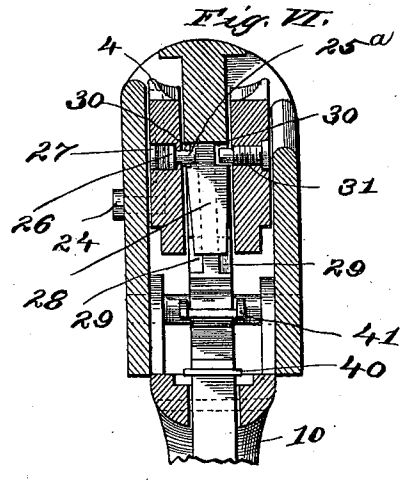


Fig. VII.

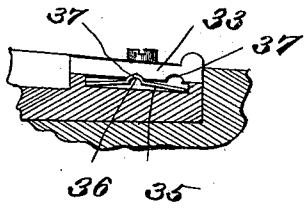
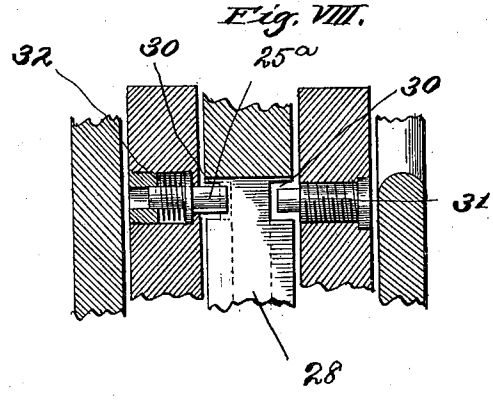


Fig. VIII.



Witnesses—

G. A. Tauberschmidt,

E. S. Knight

Inventor—

Wm. V. Bléha

By Knight Bros

Attorneys

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM V. BLÉHA, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO OTTO F. STIFEL AND GUSTAV A. PLEUS, OF SAME PLACE.

FIREARM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 657,052, dated August 28, 1900.

Application filed July 21, 1899. Serial No. 724,604. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM V. BLÉHA, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Firearms, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My present invention relates to certain improvements in firearms of the kind shown and described in Letters Patent No. 633,949, dated September 26, 1899, wherein the breech-block is lowered by the cocking of the hammer and held in its lowered position by the ejector until a shell is inserted, when the breech-block will be automatically raised to firing position.

My present invention consists in features of novelty hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Figure I is a detail longitudinal section illustrative of my invention. Fig. II is an enlarged detail perspective view with parts broken away. Fig. III is a detail view in section with the parts in their closed position. Fig. IV is a like view with the parts in their open position. Figs. V and VI are transverse sections. Fig. VII is a detail longitudinal section showing the safety-lock for the hammer. Fig. VIII is a detail transverse section showing a modification.

1 represents the stock of the gun; 2, the barrel; 3, the hammer; 4, the breech-block; 5, the ejector; 6, the firing-pin, located in the breech-block; 7, the trigger, provided with the sear 8 to engage the tumbler 9 of the hammer; 10, the trigger-guard, and 11 the gun-frame.

The breech-block has a downwardly-extending pin 12, that fits in a socket 13 in the trigger-guard 10. The pin is surrounded by a coiled spring 14, that presses upwardly against the breech-block to hold the latter in its elevated position, except when force is used to lower it. The lower end of the spring fits between collars 15 and 16 on the trigger-guard, as shown in Fig. III. To have the parts work accurately, it is necessary to have the pin 12 fit snugly in the socket 13, and to prevent the imprisonment of air or the forming of a vacuum in the socket I provide the pin with a longitudinal groove 17, which insures freedom of movement of the breech-block. The breech-block fits in the frame 11 and is capable of being moved vertically from the position shown in Fig. III to the position shown in Fig. IV to permit the insertion of a shell.

The ejector 5 is pivoted to the frame 11 at 18, and its lower end is provided with a toe 19, extending beneath the breech-block, against which the breech-block impinges in its downward movement, thereby causing the ejector to be thrown backward to extract the empty shell, and when thrown backward a rib 20 on the ejector enters a groove 21 in the end of the breech-block, so that the breech-block is held in its lowered position by the ejector until another shell is inserted, which moves the ejector forward to its closed position out of engagement with the breech-block, and the latter is then automatically raised by the spring 14 from the position shown in Fig. IV to the firing position. (Shown in Fig. III.) By providing the ejector with a toe or projection against which the breech-block impinges the ejector is moved by a positive action.

Should it be desired to close the gun without inserting a shell, the ejector may be moved out of engagement with the breech-block by means of a pin 22, (see Fig. V,) made fast to the ejector and which fits in a slot in the frame 11, the outer end of the pin having a head 23, by which it is moved. The upward movement of the breech-block is limited by a pin 24, fitted in the frame 11, and the inner end of which is received by a groove 25 in the side of the breech-block. (See Fig. II.)

To cause the breech-block to be lowered by the hammer as the latter is cocked, it is provided with a pin 25^a, secured to a spring 26, fitting in a groove 27 in one side of the breech-block, (see Figs. II and VI,) the inner end of the pin fitting behind the hammer when the latter is down, so that as the hammer is being cocked it presses against the pin and forces the breech-block downwardly to the position shown in Fig. IV. The back of the hammer is provided with a spring-plate 28, against which the pin 25^a bears, and just be-

fore the hammer is fully cocked the pin reaches the end of the spring and enters a groove 29 in the side of the hammer, thereby becoming released from the hammer, so that when the shell is inserted and the breech-block released the upward movement of the breech-block will not be interfered with by the pin, the pin rising, of course, with the breech-block, its inner end moving through the groove 29 in the side of the hammer. As the hammer descends the pin 25^a rides in a shallow groove 30 until the hammer passes it, and then it springs out behind the hammer, as shown in Fig. VI. On the other side of the hammer the breech-block may be provided with a fixed pin 31, that works in grooves in the hammer corresponding to the grooves 29 and 30. This pin will be engaged by the back of the hammer just after the breech-block has commenced to descend, thus taking part of the strain from the pin 25^a.

Instead of using a flat spring for the pin 25^a a coiled spring 32 may be employed, as shown in Fig. VIII.

The hammer may be held in its cocked position by a slide 33, set in the frame 11, and which when pressed forward enters a slot 34 in the hammer. The slide is held in its respective positions by a spring-plate 35, (see Fig. VII,) having a swell 36, adapted to be received by grooves 37 in the under side of the slide.

40 represents the mainspring of the gun, which rests upon the bottom of the frame 11 and which engages the rear of the hammer, as shown at 41, Fig. III.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a firearm, the combination of a breech-block having a guide-pin formed with a longitudinal groove, a hammer, a connection between the hammer and the breech-block, means for automatically raising the breech-block, and a trigger-guard having a closed socket in which the guide-pin is fitted; the groove in the pin forming a vent for the compressed air within the socket; substantially as described.

2. In a firearm, the combination of a breech-block, a hammer, and a connection between the hammer and the breech-block whereby the latter is moved by the cocking of the hammer; said connection consisting of a spring-actuated pin connected to one side of the breech-block and a fixed pin connected to the other side of the breech-block, one of said pins being adapted to be engaged by the back of the hammer, and said hammer being grooved to permit the passage of the pins when the breech-block is raised and when the hammer is lowered, substantially as set forth.

WILLIAM V. BLEHA.

In presence of—
GEO. H. KNIGHT,
N. V. ALEXANDER.