No. 688,216. Patented Dec. 3, 1901.

W. J. WHITING.

AUTOMATIC REVOLVER FIREARM.

(Application filed May 4, 1901.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

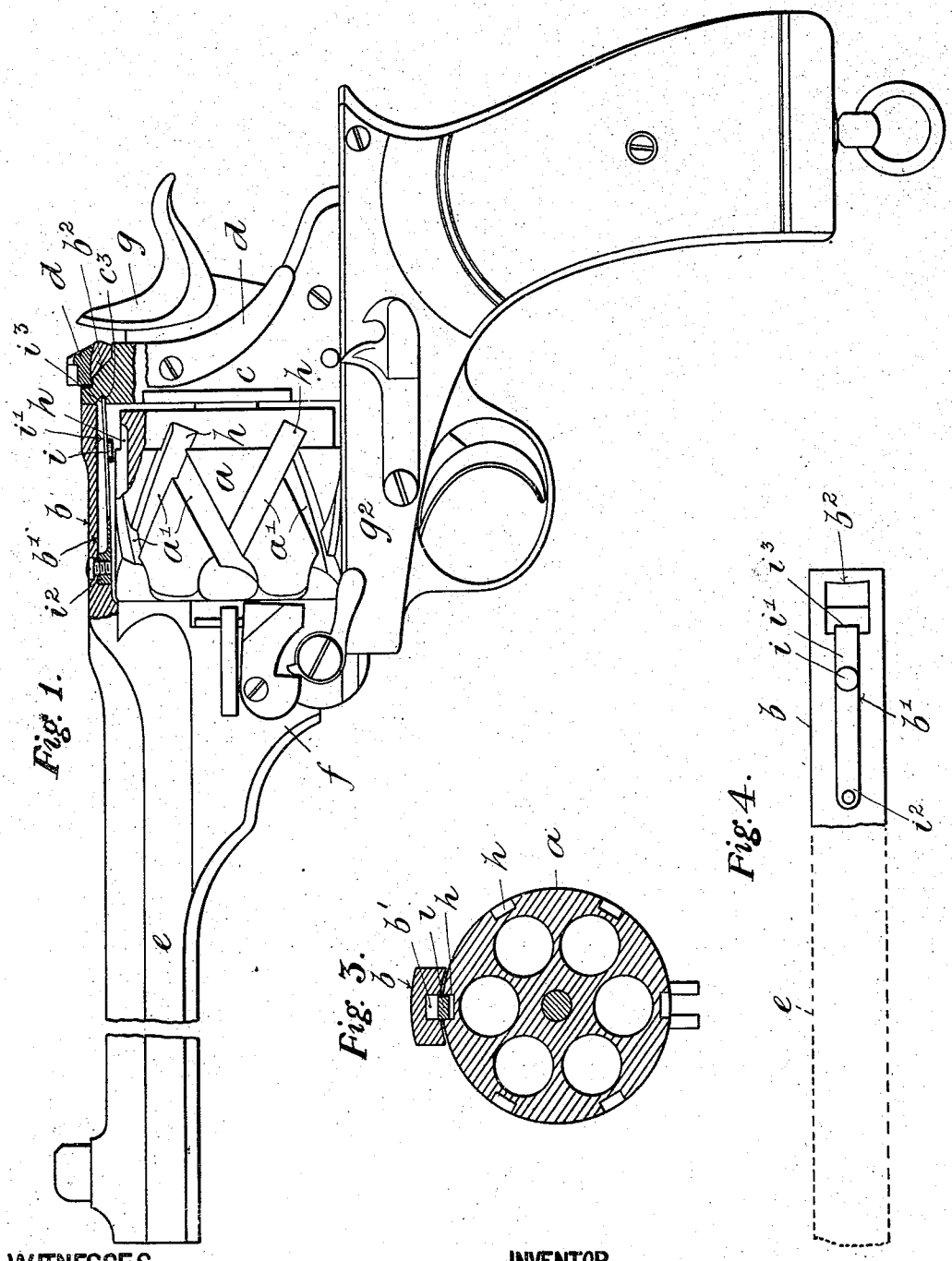


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

INVENTOR

William J. Whiting.

By James L. Norris.

Atty.

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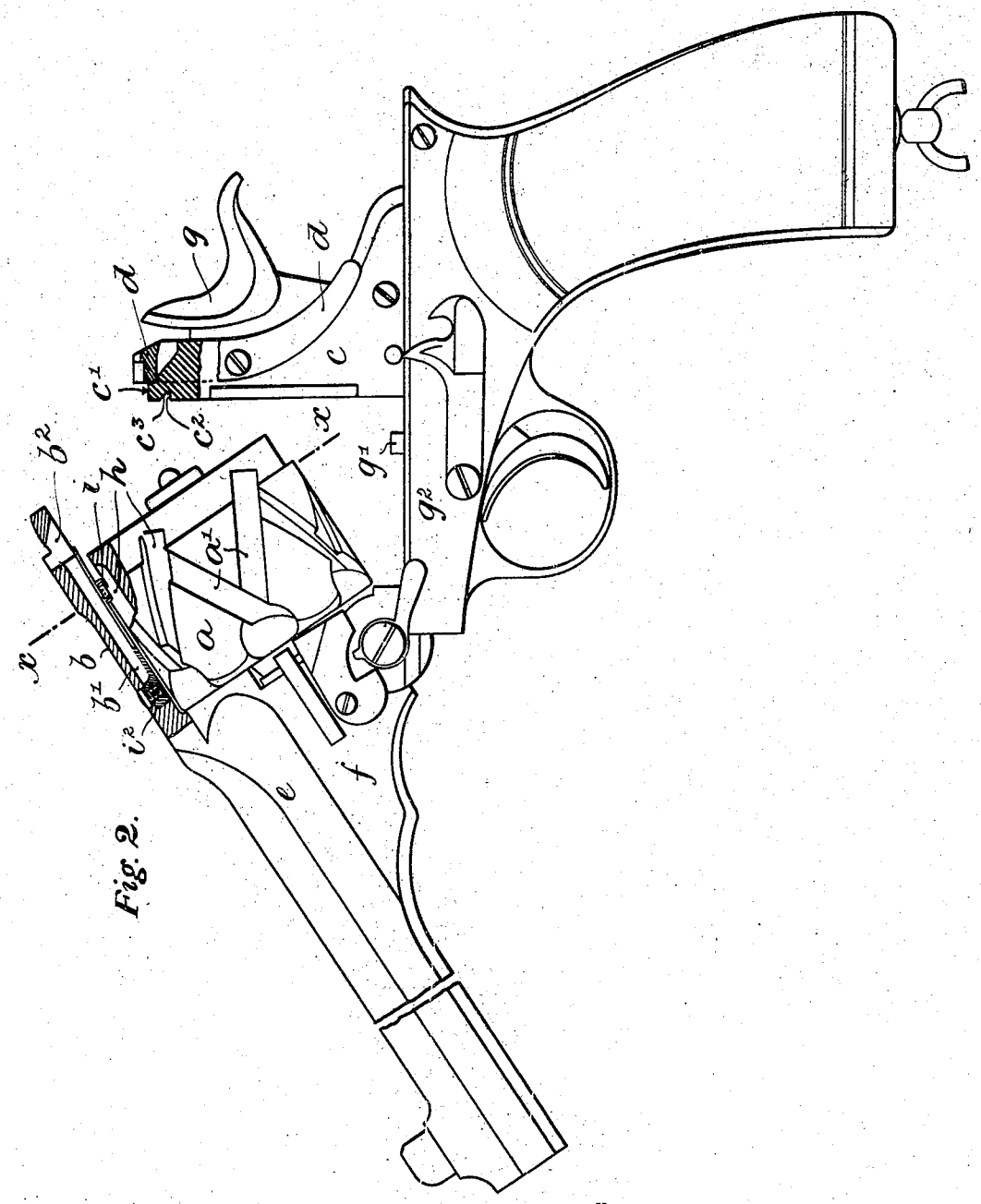


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM JOHN WHITING, OF HANDSWORTH, ENGLAND.

AUTOMATIC REVOLVER-FIREARM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 688,216, dated December 3, 1901.

Application filed May 4, 1901. Serial No. 58,758. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM JOHN WHITING, works manager, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Douglas road, Handsworth, near the city of Birmingham, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Revolver Small-Arms, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to small-arms of the breakdown-revolver type in which a rotating chamber-cylinder is employed, and has for its object to provide such firearms with means for automatically holding the cylinder stationary when the arm is opened for the purpose of insuring the correct alinement of the next chamber of the said cylinder relative to the barrel and the hammer when the weapon is again closed ready for firing; also, for automatically releasing the said cylinder from its locked position and leaving it free to be rotated when closed.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings represents, partly in elevation and partly in longitudinal vertical section, a revolver of the Webley-Fosbery automatic type provided with means constructed and arranged in accordance with this invention for retaining the cylinder with one of its chambers in alinement with the barrel when the revolver is opened. This view shows the device in the position it assumes when the weapon is closed and the cylinder freed. Fig. 2 is a similar view to Fig. 1, but shows the revolver opened and the cylinder locked or held stationary with a chamber in alinement with the barrel. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section of Fig. 2 upon the dotted line x. Fig. 4 is a view showing the under side of the barrel-strap of the revolver, into which the cylinder-locking device is fitted.

The same letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

In the revolver represented the cylinder a, with the extractor, is rotatably mounted upon a pivot-sleeve, as usual, and the barrel-strap b is locked to the standing breech c by a pivoted bridle-fastener d, while the barrel e, with the body f, standing breech c, and cylinder a, and also the hammer mechanism are arranged (in the manner common to revolvers of this type) to slide bodily rearward under the influence of the recoil for recocking the hammer g after each discharge and partly rotating the cylinder a, which has a zigzag race a' around its periphery, engaged by a fixed stud g' on the bed g^2 of the arm. At the rear angle of each zigzag of the race a pocket or recess h is formed, adapted to be engaged (when the revolver is opened, as in Fig. 2,) by a stud i or equivalent projection on the free end i' of a spring cylinder-locking limb or spring-operated member i^2, working within a longitudinal slot or groove b', running along the under side of the barrel-strap b. The tip i^3 of the said free end extends into the eye or opening b^2 at the end of the barrel-strap and is arranged to overhang the shoulder c^2 of a notch c^3, formed in the face of the standing breech c, near to the summit c' thereof, so that when the revolver is being closed the said tip of the locking-limb, which is in a plane slightly below that of the said shoulder c^2, is made to impinge against the said breech-shoulder and be raised or deflected upward, so as to thereby automatically take the stud on its under side from out of the pocket of the zigzag race on the closing movement being completed and leave the cylinder free, as in Fig. 1, to be rotated on recoil by the stud on the fixed bed engaging the pocket of the undermost zigzag of the race, which stud is taken into positive engagement with the said race in advance of the cylinder being released from the locking-limb.

On opening the revolver the bridle-lever is first unfastened to free the barrel, which is now turned down, and immediately the eye of the barrel-strap is lifted off the summit of the standing breech, and before the undermost pocket of the cylinder-race is lifted off the fixed stud on the bed the free end of the spring-limb is liberated and drops or springs back, thereby taking its stud into engagement with the uppermost pocket of the race and automatically and positively locking the cylinder with its top chamber and the barrel in true alinement, and preventing any inadvertent displacement or rotation of the cylinder during the completion of the opening movement or while the arm remains open.

The application of the invention to other

revolver small-arms differs in no essential respect from its application to revolvers of the Webley-Fosbery automatic type, as hereinbefore described.

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

1. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, and means for holding the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is swung on its pivot to open position.

2. In a revolver or similar firearm, the combination with the stock, of a barrel movably connected thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, and means for locking the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is moved on its mounting to open position.

3. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, and a spring-catch arranged to engage and lock the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is swung to open position.

4. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, and a spring-catch carried by the barrel and caused to engage and lock the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is swung to open position.

5. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto having a rearwardly-extending barrel-strap, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, and a spring-catch carried by the barrel-strap and caused to engage and lock the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is in an open position.

6. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel means for holding the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is swung on its pivot to open position, and means for releasing said holding means when the barrel is in closed position.

7. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel movably connected thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, means for locking the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is moved on its mounting to open position, and means for automatically releasing the locking means when the barrel is in its closed position.

8. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, a spring-catch caused to engage and lock the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is swung to open position, and means carried by the stock for engaging and releasing the catch when the barrel is in its closed position.

9. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, a spring-catch carried by the barrel and caused to engage and lock the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is in open position, and means for engaging and releasing the catch from engagement with the cylinder when the barrel is brought to a closed position.

10. In a revolver or similar firearm of the breakdown type, the combination with the stock, of a barrel pivoted thereto, a cylinder rotatably mounted on the barrel, a spring-catch caused to engage and lock the cylinder against rotation when the barrel is in an open position, and a shoulder carried by a part of the stock for engaging and releasing the spring-catch from its engagement with the cylinder when the barrel is brought to a closed position.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM JOHN WHITING.

Witnesses:
ARTHUR T. SADLER,
ALBERT BRIERS.