

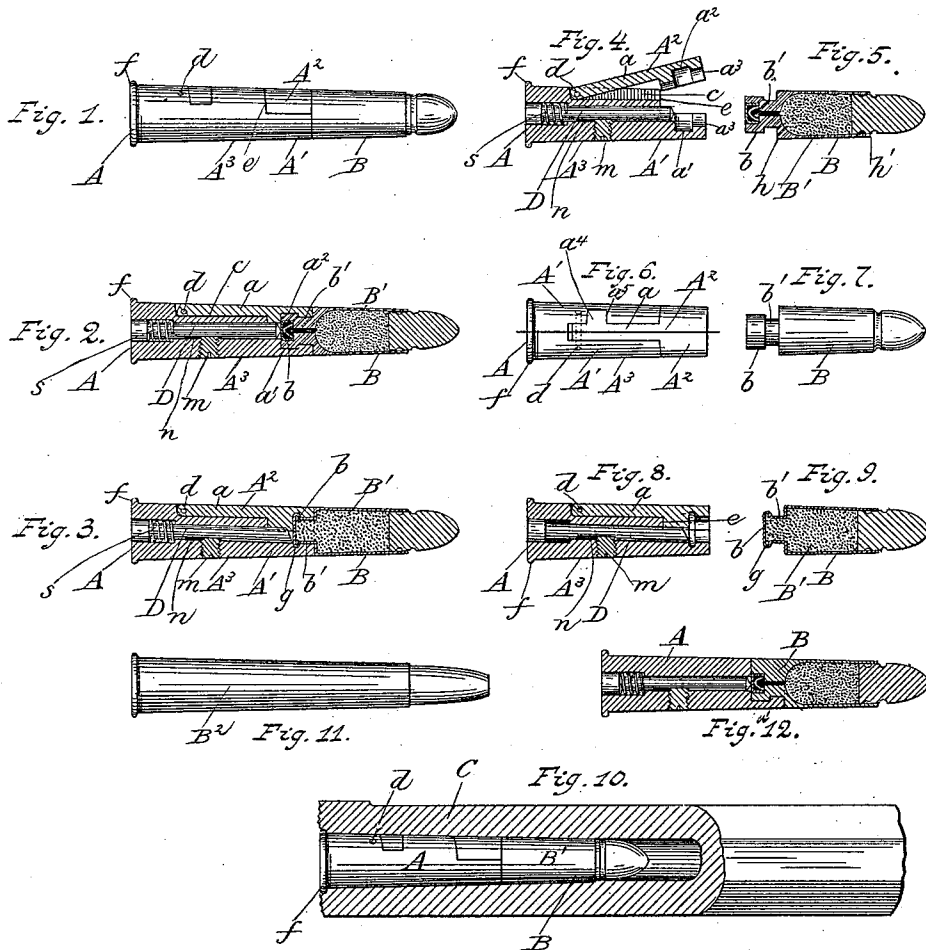
(No Model.)

E. PRINGLE.

DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING AND HOLDING CARTRIDGES IN FIREARMS.

No. 484,457.

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Witnesses:

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DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING AND HOLDING CARTRIDGES IN FIREARMS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 484,457, dated October 18, 1892.

Application filed September 18, 1889. Serial No. 324,324. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE PRINGLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gloversville, in the county of Fulton and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Device for Supporting and Holding Cartridges in Firearms, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a device for use in connection with rifles, shotguns, pistols, and other firearms for supporting, holding, and firing cartridges of reduced capacity or size for short-range shooting; and it consists of a device constructed to enter into the barrel of the firearm from its opened breech end and provided with means for supporting, holding, and firing cartridges, all substantially as hereinafter described, and set forth in the claims.

It is well known that persons desirous of practicing shooting with rifles, shotguns, and pistols at targets or objects, in view of becoming skilled or expert marksmen, are required (especially when living in cities) to resort to places so conditioned as to afford such sufficient range of distance of target as may be adapted to the firing of cartridges of usual capacity in their rifles or other arms with safety and also with precision. This requirement obliges persons desirous of becoming expert shooters or keeping in practice of good shooting to spend considerable time or money, or both, to have access to such a long or sufficient range, while at the same time the expense attending the firing of cartridges of usual sizes employed with firearms in practice at target-shooting is so very great as to induce a less-frequent practice or a firing of a less number of cartridges than would be had were the expenses considerably lessened.

The objects of my invention are principally to provide rifles, shotguns, pistols, and other firearms with an interior cartridge supporter and holder which can be applied or withdrawn at will and have applied to it a cartridge of smaller or reduced capacity than is generally used with the firearm and containing a less quantity of powder than in the usual cartridge and also have means for firing the cartridge, and, lastly, to provide particular combinations of devices or parts by which this invention may be carried into effect. I attain these objects by the means

illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my interior cartridge-holder with a cartridge applied thereto for use in a firearm. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of the same and illustrates one form of firing-pin and a cartridge for use with the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation illustrating the same with another form of firing-pin and a corresponding cartridge. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the cartridge-holder with one portion raised for application of the cartridge. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of a cartridge detached from the holder and which can be used with the same. Fig. 6 is a side view of the cartridge-holder and with each half of side illustrating a mode of construction of the jointed parts of the same. Fig. 7 is a side view of a cartridge and its connected holding part. Fig. 8 is a sectional view of the interior cartridge-holder having some of its parts modified. Fig. 9 is a sectional view of a corresponding cartridge. Fig. 10 is a view of the breech end of a firearm, part broken away and exposing the cartridge-holder and its applied cartridge in place therein. Fig. 11 is a side elevation of a cartridge of usual construction and size corresponding with the size and form of the exterior of the cartridge-holder and its short-range cartridge, illustrated in Figs. 1 and 10; and Fig. 12 is a sectional view illustrating the cartridge-holder provided with a single holding device or jaw, with a corresponding cartridge applied thereto.

The same letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The interior cartridge-holder has its body A made of metal, and preferably of steel, and with a size and form preferably corresponding with that of the portion of the bore of the barrel of the firearm it is to occupy when used with a short-range cartridge, as cartridge B. This body A has integral with its base end an annular flange for engagement with an extractor and with its forward end a cartridge-holding device A' and is chambered to hold a reciprocating firing-pin. This cartridge-holding device A' (made integral with the body A) is extended from the front end of said body to a distance sufficient to include in it provision for secure engagement with both the angular

foot or projection *b* and recess *b'*, made with the rear end of the shell of the cartridge B. This provision for holding with the said portions of the said cartridge consists in one part of the recess or notch or groove *a'* substantially adjoining the forward end of the body A of the holder and with a size and form corresponding with the projection *b*, made with the stem at the base of the cartridge, and in another part the projection *a³* extended inwardly from the bottom of said recess *a'* to a short distance toward the line of axis of the body A, so as to fill the recess *b'* between the base of the shell of the cartridge and the angular foot or projection *b*. This cartridge-holding device A', made integral with the body A and having with it the recess, groove, or notch *a'* and inwardly-projected portion *a³*, forms, substantially, a jaw, which will have a strong holding with the cartridge when both are in place within the bore of the barrel.

Although a single holding device A', integral with the body A, can be used, as illustrated in Fig. 12, yet with it a second jaw can be employed, as illustrated in Fig. 4.

The holding-jaw A' has hinged to it at any suitable point the holding-jaw A²; but the point of such hinging is not essential, for the jaw A² may be hinged or otherwise jointed to the jaw A' at the rear end of the body A or at any point forward of the same which will permit jaw A² to be raised away from jaw A' to a sufficient distance to allow the foot-end portion *b* of cartridge B to pass into the recesses *a' a²* made in the respective jaws, as shown. In Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 8 the jaw A² is shown to be made integral with the arm *a*, which works in a longitudinal slot or groove *c*, Figs. 2 and 4, made in the body A³, with which jaw A' is integral, and this arm *a* is shown to be jointed with body A³ by pin *d*.

The drawings, Figs. 1, 4, and 8, show the body A³ to have its forward end provided at its connected jaw A' with the shoulder *e*, which operates as a reinforcing element to jaw A² and gives support to said jaw when the cartridge is fired. The rear end of body A³ is provided with the rim-flange *f*, similar to that employed with cartridges, and as a convenient means for removal of this cartridge-holder from the breech of the barrel C of the firearm.

In the upper-side half of Fig. 6 the arm *a* is shown to have made with it a wing *a⁴* for engagement with a corresponding recess *a⁵* made in the body A³, while the lower-half side of said figure shows this wing and recess omitted.

Any suitable firing-pin can be employed within the cartridge-holder for firing the cartridge B by percussion on its cap or on the portion thereof containing the cap or its equivalent. Figs. 2 and 4 show this firing-pin D to be central in the body of the holder for firing or exploding the cap in the foot end *b* of the cartridge, while in Figs. 3 and 8 is shown an obliquely-moving firing-pin D for striking on

the rim *g* of the flange-form foot *b* of the cartridge B.

The firing-pin D is retained in place in the body A³ of the holder by any suitable means, or by the screw-threaded holding-pin *m* in the body A³, holding with the shouldered seat *n*, made in a side of the firing-pin, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. This firing-pin can have an elastic support within its way, as by spring *s*, or the spring can be omitted.

The cartridge B can be made with a shell B' of any suitable form of construction, and is provided with powder, a fulminating material, and a bullet or other equivalent missile. This cartridge has its shell B' made with a length from its rear end, as from *h* and its front end *h'*, which will be sufficient, with the length of the cartridge-holder A, to produce in their aggregate length an extension from the flange *f* of holder A to the front end *h'* of the shell B' about equal to that of the shell of capacity of charge usually employed with the firearm, as shell B² in Fig. 11, with which latter the cartridge-holder A and shell B', Figs. 1, 2, and 3, unitedly correspond in proportions, size, and form.

The shell B' of the cartridge B has made with it the holding-foot *b*, connected with said shell by the neck *b'*, as shown. This foot *b* corresponds with the recesses *a' a²* made in the jaws A' and A² of the holder A, and the neck *b'* is made to correspond with the seats *a³*, made in said jaws forward of their respective foot-holding recesses *a' a²*, as shown, so that the base end *h* of the shell B' will have full bearing against the forward ends of the jaws A' A² when they are closed on the foot and neck of the shell, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

The cartridges above referred to form no part of this invention, but are subject-matter for a separate patent.

By means of this cartridge-holder a cartridge having a shell of reduced length and holding a small charge of powder and a bullet of usual size and weight can be employed in the firearm the same as a cartridge having the usual length of shell and full charge of powder, while the bullet will be held in the short-range cartridge at the distance from the breech end of the firearm it is designed to be held for good shooting. If preferred, one of the jaws can be omitted and the shell of the cartridge can be made with a form of base end which will fill the interval in the cartridge-holder caused by such omission of a jaw, as shown in Fig. 12; or, if preferred, both jaws can be omitted and by suitable corresponding screw-threads made with the forward end of the cartridge-holder and the base end of the shell of the cartridge the latter can be securely held with the former; or any other form of device for securely connecting the shell of the cartridge with the cartridge-holder can be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

This cartridge-holder is applied in place

within the bore of the firearm from its breech end by inserting it after the cartridge has been secured thereto, preferably as above described. When in place in the firearm, the rim-flange *f*, provided with the rear end of the body of this holder, will be in situation to be engaged with by the extractor of the firearm for its withdrawal from the same, and its firing-pin *D* will be in situation to receive on its rear end the blow of the firing-pin proper of the firearm to drive said pin *D* forward to explode the cartridge.

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

1. A cartridge-holder for firearms, formed by the combination of a metallic body provided at its base end with a rim-flange and at its opposite end with a cartridge-holding device which is integral with said body and has in it the recess *a'* for engagement with the flange form or foot or projection *b* of a cartridge of a firing device working in the body of the said holder, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A cartridge-holder for firearms, formed by the combination of the metallic body having with its base end a rim-flange and with its opposite end a cartridge-holding device which is integral with the said body and has with it an angular form of holding projection *a*³, and an angular recess *a'* between said holding projection and the body of said cartridge-holder, and a firing device or pin having an oblique form of movement in the said body, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. In a cartridge-holder for firearms, the combination, with the metallic body of size corresponding with the bore of the barrel of

the firearm, and having with its rear end provision for engagement with an extractor and integral with its forward portion a cartridge-holding jaw, of a jointed coacting jaw and a firing-pin, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

4. In a cartridge-holder for firearms, the combination, with a body-piece of size and form corresponding with the bore of the barrel of the firearm, of cartridge-holding jaws which can be opened and closed at will and by their ends support the base of a cartridge and a firing device, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

5. In a cartridge-holder for firearms, the combination, with a body-piece of size corresponding with the bore of the barrel of the firearm and provided at its base end with a flange-rim for engagement with an extractor and having integral with its forward end portion a cartridge-holding jaw, of a coacting cartridge-holding jaw jointed with said body and a firing-pin working within said body, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

6. In an interior cartridge-holder for firearms, the combination, with a body-piece of size and form corresponding with that of the bore of the barrel of the firearm and having on its rear end a flange-rim and on its front end a jaw containing a recess for holding a flange made with the shell of a cartridge, of a coacting movable jaw provided with a corresponding recess, and a firing-pin which can be moved by the action of the mechanism of the firearm toward said recesses in said jaws, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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