

1,228,506.

Patented June 5, 1917.

Fig. 1.

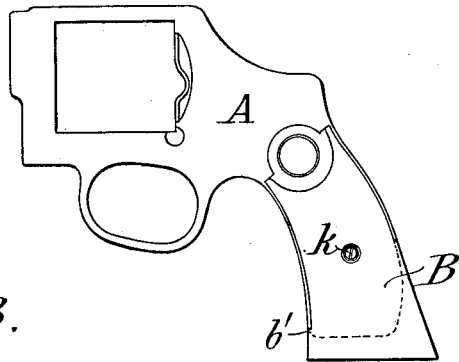


Fig. 2.

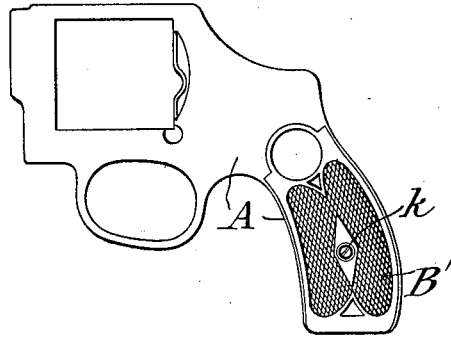


Fig. 3.

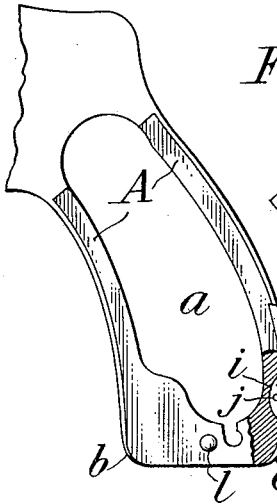


Fig. 4.

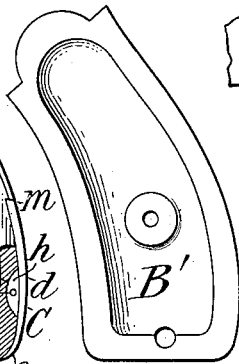


Fig. 5.

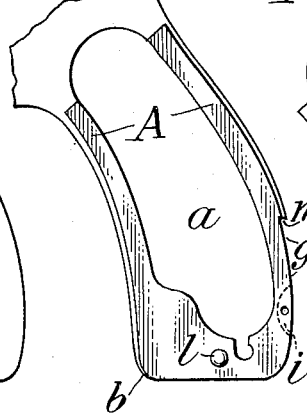


Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.

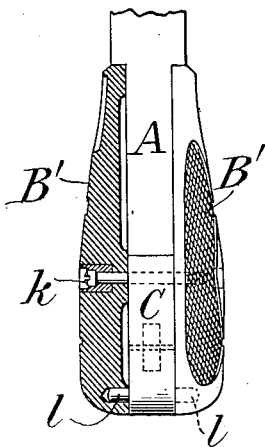


Fig. 8.

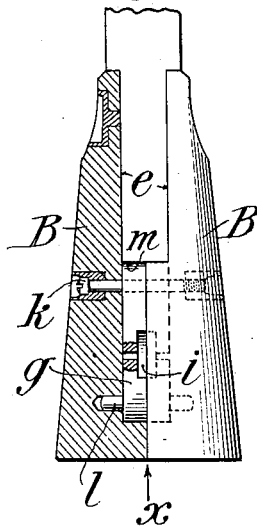


Fig. 9.

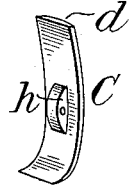
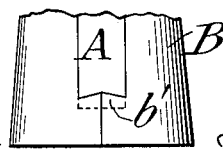


Fig. 10.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PISTOL-STOCK.

1,228,506.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 5, 1917.

Application filed December 29, 1916. Serial No. 139,544.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH H. WESSON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in Springfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pistol-Stocks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stocks or grips for pistols or hand firearms. Ordinarily in such firearms the middle frame is extended rearwardly and downwardly, occupying a plane which constitutes the middle of the entire stock or grip, and the latter is built out with cheek pieces, commonly called stocks, on opposite sides which embrace the frame between them and supply the requisite thickness and desirable curved contour. For lightness and also for mechanical reasons relating to the construction of the arm, the frame is cut out within the stock constituting an open frame, the front or rear portions, or tangs, of which have the contour of the grip and are exposed between the cheek pieces or stocks. In some pistols the stock or grip is short and rounded having what is known as a round butt; in others the grip is extended farther down, made wider, and is flat or square on the bottom, being known as a square butt. Manufacturers of revolvers or other hand firearms, commonly, in order to meet the taste of customers, build each particular style or pattern of arm with both the round butt and square butt stock. As heretofore constructed, this has involved the making for each type of arm of two main frames, the one having its grip portion shaped for a round butt, and the other for a square butt type of stock. This necessitates a duplication which it is desirable to avoid, it being necessary to provide special gages and machinery for finishing the two respective styles of frame.

The object of the present invention is to enable such firearms to be constructed with a uniform pattern of frame, which is adaptable to either a round butt grip or a square butt grip, so that the only difference which the manufacturer has to provide for is that pertaining to the grip alone; that is to say so that for a round butt grip it is only necessary to apply the cheeks or stocks of the appropriate shape, and for a square butt grip it is only necessary to apply to the same frame the appropriately shaped deeper stocks or

cheeks having the square butt. This avoids the duplication of jigs and machinery and even enables the arms to be sold to dealers with an assortment of stocks, so that the dealer may readily meet the customers' wishes by substituting either form of stock by the other when desired.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein,—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the frame of a revolver showing its grip portion provided with square butt stocks;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the revolver provided with round butt stocks;

Fig. 3 shows the rear or grip portion of the frame;

Fig. 4 shows one of the stocks therefor, for the form shown in Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 shows the grip portion of the frame;

Fig. 6 shows one of the stocks for the form shown in Fig. 1, having the square grip;

Fig. 7 is a rear elevation of the construction shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4, one of the grips being in section;

Fig. 8 is a similar rear elevation showing the construction of Figs. 1, 5 and 6;

Fig. 9 shows in perspective a filling piece which, in Fig. 3, is applied to, and in Fig. 5, removed from the rear tang of the frame;

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary front elevation showing the lower part of the stock in Fig. 1.

In all the figures A is the frame and B, B' the stock or cheek pieces.

As shown in Fig. 3 the frame A is formed with the usual opening *a* and its exterior contour is that of the grip shown in Fig. 2, being that for a round butt grip; that is to say, its corners *b* and *c* are rounded and its rear face *d* follows the contour of the cheeks or stocks B'. In every case the frame within the grip extends through the middle thereof, as shown in Figs. 7 and 8, being commonly of less thickness than the main portion of the frame above the grip, and being built out to give the rounded contour to the grip by applying to its opposite faces the cheek pieces or stocks B' B' or B B. If a round butt grip is desired the cheeks B' B' are used, these having the same contour as the frame and meeting the latter with smooth flush surfaces. Thus the frame is exposed on the entire front, rear and bottom of the grip.

If, on the other hand, a square butt grip is desired, cheek pieces of the form shown at B B are used, each extending beneath the frame, and at the lower rear part of the grip extending also to the rear of the frame in the manner clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 6. Where these stocks extend beneath and beyond the frame they meet each other, forming a joint on the medial line *a*, Fig. 8. Elsewhere they are recessed or cut away at *e* sufficiently to admit the frame between them. In order to enable the tapering rear wall *f* of the stocks to properly join the rear face of the frame, the latter is reduced or cut away at the lower rear portion of its rear tang, in the manner shown at *g*, Fig. 5. In Fig. 3 this recessed portion is filled out by the insertion of a filling piece C, shown separately in Fig. 9. This filling piece when in place is fastened securely to the rear tang of the frame in any suitable manner, preferably by forming it with a lug *h* entering a recess *i* cut in the rear tang, a hole being drilled through the latter and through the lug, through which coinciding holes a pin *j* is driven, whereby the filling piece is held securely in place when the arm is used with a round butt grip.

The stocks are held together, and the frame clamped or embraced between them in the usual manner by means of one or more screws *k* and pins *l* or in any other suitable way.

Thus according to this invention it will be seen that the frame of the arm is precisely the same whether the arm is to be made up with a round butt grip or with a square butt grip. For a round butt grip the filling piece C is used and the round butt cheeks B' are applied. For a square butt grip the filling piece C is removed and the deeper cheeks B which inclose the bottom and part of the rear of the frame are used.

By means of the described construction each pattern of arm is made up at the factory irrespective of the shape of grip to be provided, and in finally assembling the arms they are provided with round butt stocks or square butt stocks in such proportion as may be desired. If at any time the works are found to be overstocked with one style of grip and understocked with the other, it is easy before filling orders to change the grip from one shape to the other.

The invention also enables a manufacturer to provide dealers, especially those at distant points, with means for more effectually suiting the demands of their trade by supplying such dealers with extra stocks or cheek pieces, so that the dealer may in a few moments substitute one for the other according to the customers' preference.

In order to most effectually protect the somewhat thin edge on the top of the wall *f* when the stock is made of wood or other

fragile material, the cut-away portion *g* is slightly undercut at *m*, Fig. 5, and the top of the wall *f* is fitted thereto, thereby forming a semi-dovetail joint. This also has the effect of making a closer joint with the upper end of the filling piece C, whereby the latter is protected, this joint being shown at *m* in Fig. 3.

Where the bottom front portion of the square butt stock conforms to the rounded corner *b* of the frame, the latter is preferably concaved slightly and the thin edge of wood or other material at *b'*, Fig. 6, is caused to slightly enter the concave so that this fragile edge is protected against injury, the appearance when viewed from the front being as shown in Fig. 10.

The invention will naturally be modified according to the particular shape or style of grip and the particular type of pistol or other hand firearm to which it is applied. The filling piece C need not be provided when the pistol is to be made up only for a square butt grip.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A pistol, the grip of which comprises a middle frame and lateral stocks embracing the frame between them, the frame shaped and adapted to receive the smallest stocks to be applied as cheek pieces to its opposite sides so as to expose the frame between them, and larger stocks adapted to fit the frame, and extended beyond it and meeting each other whereby to form a longer and larger grip.

2. A pistol, the grip of which comprises a middle frame and lateral stocks embracing the frame between them, the frame shaped and adapted to receive the smallest stocks to be applied as cheek pieces to its opposite sides so as to expose the frame between them, and having a portion of its rear tang recessed, and a filling piece for filling said recess, and larger stocks adapted when said filling piece is removed to fit the frame, and having a portion fitting into said recess.

3. A pistol, the grip of which comprises a middle frame and lateral stocks embracing the frame between them, the frame shaped and adapted to receive the smallest stocks to be applied as cheek pieces to its opposite sides so as to expose the frame between them, and having a portion of its rear tang recessed, and a filling piece for filling said recess, having a lug entering a socket in said tang, and a fastening pin passing through said lug and tang to hold the filling piece in place, and larger stocks adapted when said filling piece is removed to fit the frame, and having a portion fitting into said recess.

4. A pistol, the grip of which comprises a middle frame and lateral stocks embracing the frame between them, the frame shaped and adapted to receive stocks to be applied

as cheek pieces to its opposite sides so as to expose the frame between them, and having a portion of its rear tang recessed, and stocks adapted to fit the frame and extended beneath the frame to form a square butt, and having portions extending to the rear of the frame and fitting into said recess.

5. A pistol, the grip of which comprises a middle frame and lateral stocks embracing the frame between them, the frame shaped and adapted to receive stocks to be applied as cheek pieces to its opposite sides so as to expose the frame between them, and having a portion of its rear tang cut away, the cut

away portion terminating with an undercut, and stocks adapted to fit the frame and having rear walls entering into such cut away portion, the upper edges of said rear walls entering beneath and conforming to said undercut.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH H. WESSON.

Witnesses:

EVERETT A. KINNEY,
F. C. MARSH.