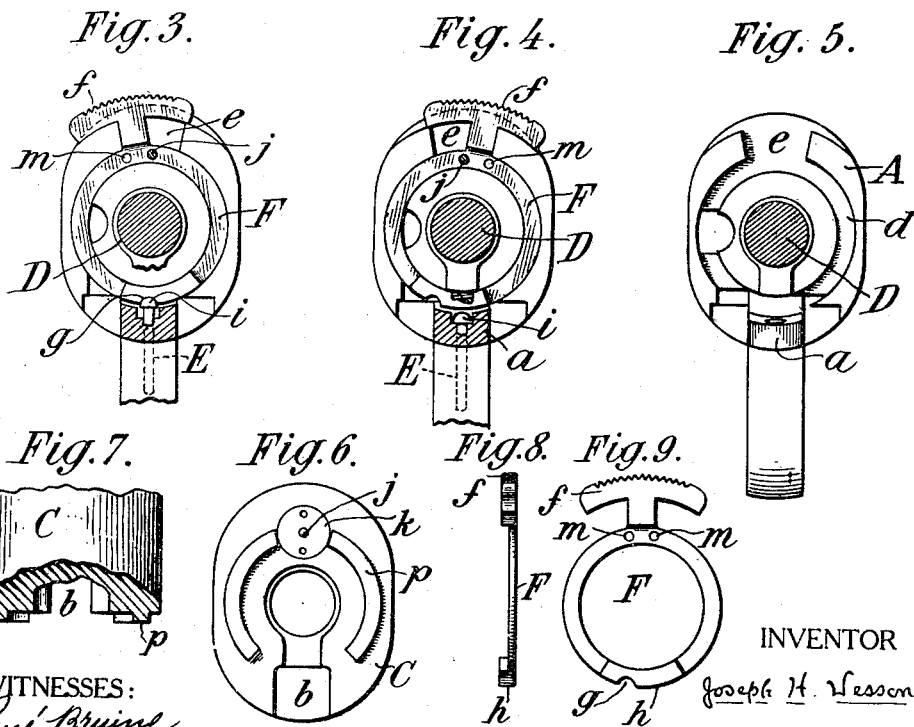
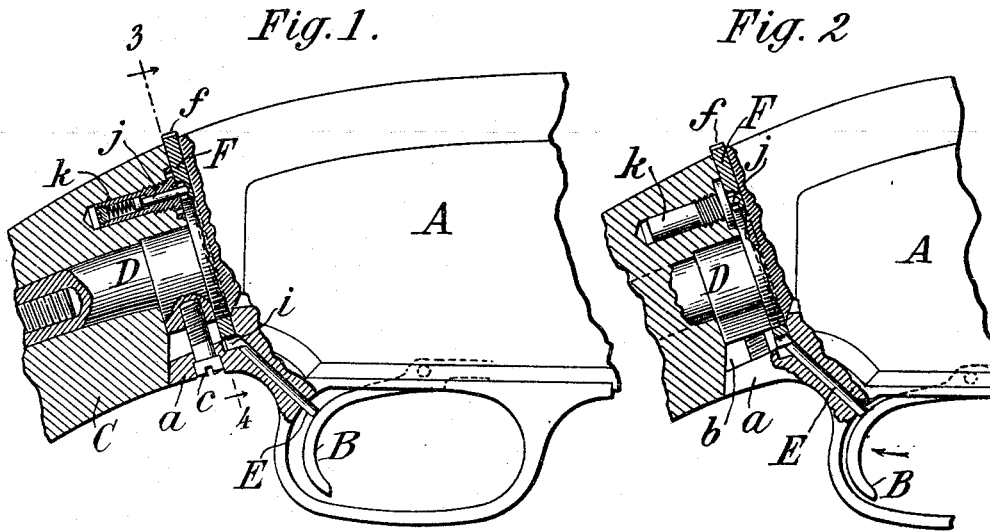


J. H. WESSON.
 SAFETY DEVICE FOR SHOTGUNS.
 APPLICATION FILED DEC. 29, 1916.

1,249,576.

Patented Dec. 11, 1917.



WITNESSES:
Rene Gruin
Ethel G. Nelson

INVENTOR :
Joseph H. Wesson.
 By Attorneys,
Traser, Dunk & Myers

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH H. WESSON, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

SAFETY DEVICE FOR SHOTGUNS.

1,249,576.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 11, 1917.

Application filed December 29, 1916. Serial No. 139,543.

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 Safety Devices for Shotguns, of which the following is a specification.

This invention provides an improved safety device or trigger lock for shot guns, particularly those of the hammerless repeating or automatic re-loading types. The invention relates to that class of safety devices in which the trigger is locked by means of a pin projecting behind it which in turn is locked by a movable piece which is set by the operator to either a safety or a firing position.

According to this invention the locking piece which locks or releases the locking pin is in the form of a ring having a rotary or oscillatory movement, and located in a plane transverse to the arm, and preferably between the stock and breech portion thereof. The invention in its preferred embodiment is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which,—

Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevation, partly in vertical mid-section, showing the trigger locked.

Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing the parts in the unlocked position and with the trigger drawn back in the act of firing.

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are transverse views in the plane of the line 3—4 in Fig. 1, Fig. 3 showing the lock in the firing position and Fig. 4 in the safety position, while Fig. 5 shows it removed.

Fig. 6 shows the front of the stock, looking rearwardly.

Fig. 7 is a fragment of the front end of the stock, partly in section.

Figs. 8 and 9 show the safety piece or ring in edge and face views respectively.

In the drawings, A designates the frame or breech case of the gun formed with the usual trigger guard; B is the trigger, and C is the stock, of which only the front part is shown. D is the fastening shank projecting rearwardly from the breech-case and entering the stock and receiving a screw for securely attaching the latter in the well-known manner. The frame has on its under side a tang *a* which projects rearwardly into a recess *b* in the stock; through this tang in the construction shown passes a screw *c*

entering the shank D. E is the locking pin which passes obliquely through the lower part of the breech case and trigger guard, its lower end coming behind the trigger to block the firing movement of the latter when the pin is locked, as shown in Fig. 1.

The upper end of the locking pin E comes beneath the locking piece F which is shown separately in Figs. 8 and 9. This locking piece is in the form of a ring and enters an annular groove *d* formed preferably at the junction of the breech-case and stock, the groove being preferably in the breech-case, as shown in Fig. 5. The ring F has a thumb-piece *f* on its upper side, the top surface of which is preferably roughened for engagement by the thumb. This thumb-piece projects up through a widened recess *e* above the annular groove *d*, the recess *e* being wide enough to enable the thumb-piece to move to right or left to the extent shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and the roughened head projecting laterally preferably enough so that in either position it covers the recess, as shown. The upper end of the locking pin E comes against the under side of the ring F. The ring has a notch *g* which in one position of the ring stands directly above the upper end of the pin, so that the latter may be pushed up into it in firing, this being the position shown in Figs. 2 and 3. In the other position of the ring a blank or unnotched portion *h* (Fig. 9) stands in line with the pin so that when an effort is made to pull the trigger, the pin is pushed up against this blank portion which forms a solid abutment, and thereby prevents the pulling of the trigger. This is the position shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The pin is preferably formed with a head *i* at its upper end, whereby it is widened to the full width of the locking portion of the ring F.

To retain the ring in either position a spring catch is provided. This may be formed as a spring bolt housed in the stock, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, where *j* is the bolt and *k* is its shell or housing, this being shown as screw-threaded and screwed down into the stock, a small spring being inclosed behind the bolt to press it forward. The ring F is shown with two hollows or notches *m m*, so located that in either the locked or safety position one of these notches coincides with the locking pin and the latter enters it so as to resist displacement of the ring, and hold it securely in either position to

which it may have been turned by the user. This is clear from Figs. 3 and 4 where *l* is the locking pin shown in section, and *m* is the recess other than the one which it is engaging. In Fig. 6 the end of the locking pin *l* is seen and the front of the housing *k*. The stock is shown as having an annular rib or tongue *p* projecting forward to enter the groove *d* (Fig. 5), the rib being of less projection than the depth of the groove so as to leave room for the ring between.

The improved safety lock is intended to be operated by the thumb of the right-hand and operates by a transverse motion, being pulled to the right for safety or pushed to the left for firing. These manipulations are made with the utmost ease, and while grasping the gun in the natural position with the index finger against the trigger ready for firing. The improved safety device has thus a decided advantage over those forms of safety lock which are located forward of the trigger or in the trigger guard, and beneath the breech-case, and which cannot be operated while the index finger is within the trigger guard or against the trigger. The new safety device operates more expeditiously and more readily, and by a more natural movement. The construction is simple and readily lends itself to the existing construction of arms of this type.

The invention is not necessarily limited in its application to shot guns as it might be applied to other forms of hand firearms.

The invention is not limited to the precise details set forth as these may be varied without departing from the scope of the invention as set forth in the claims.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A firearm comprising a stock, frame and trigger, a locking pin behind the trigger and a safety lock located at the junction of the frame and stock, movable in a transverse plane, and having a notch for permitting the

movement of the pin to the firing position and forming a solid abutment blocking the pin in the safety position.

2. A firearm comprising a frame and trigger, a locking pin in the frame behind the trigger, and an annular safety lock shaped to permit the movement of the pin to the firing position and to form a solid abutment blocking its movement in the safety position.

3. A firearm comprising a frame and trigger, a locking pin behind the trigger and a locking ring above the pin, having a thumb-piece projecting to the exterior and movable to safety or firing positions, the ring having a notch permitting movement of the pin to the firing position and forming a solid abutment blocking its movement in the safety position.

4. A firearm comprising a frame and trigger, a locking pin in the frame behind the trigger, and a locking ring movable in an annular groove in the frame and having a thumb-piece projecting to the top of the arm.

5. A firearm comprising a frame and trigger, a locking pin in the frame behind the trigger, an annular safety lock above the pin, and a yielding catch engaging said safety lock to hold it in either the locked or firing position.

6. A firearm comprising a stock, frame and trigger, the stock detachable from the frame, and safety locking means engaging the trigger, and comprising a locking piece mounted in a transverse plane, between the frame and stock, and exposed by the detaching of the stock.

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.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."