A. F. ABLE.
Toy-Pistol.

No. 204,123. Patented May 28, 1878.

Fig 1.

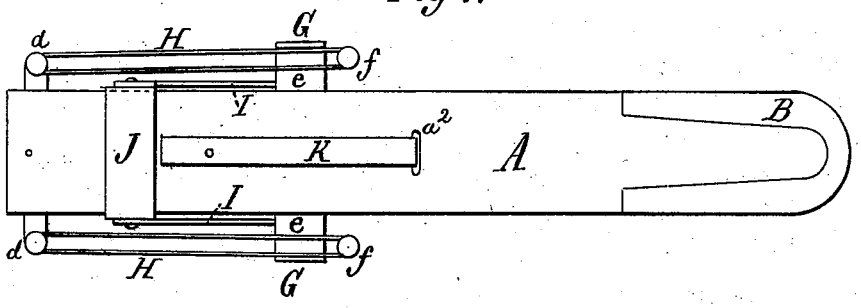


Fig 2.

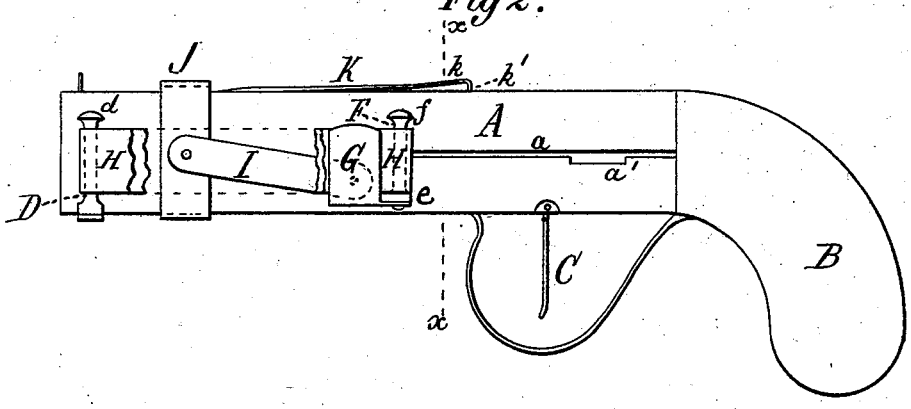


Fig 3.

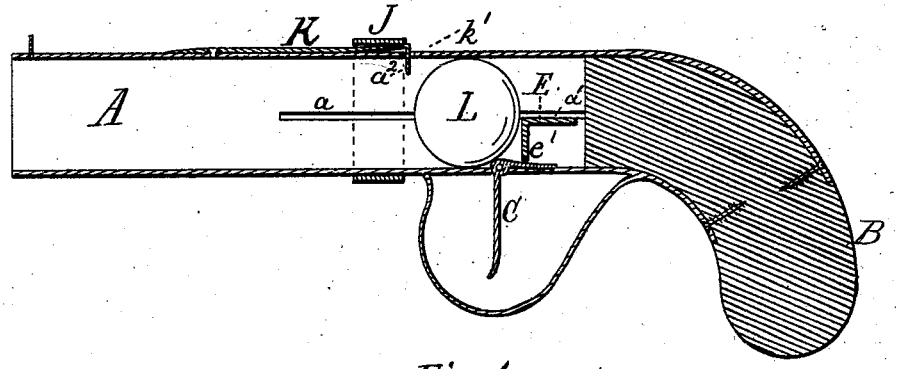
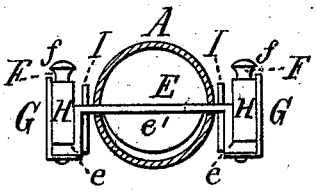


Fig 4.



Witnesses:
J. S. Th. Lang.
James Martin Jr.

Inventor:
Adam F. Able
by
Mason Fenwick & Lawrence
his attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADAM F. ABLE, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO CHARLES J. LEWIS, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOY PISTOLS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,123**, dated May 28, 1878; application filed April 29, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADAM F. ABLE, of New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Toy Pistols for Playing Marbles, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which latter—

Figure 1 is a top view of my improved toy pistol. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal central section of the same, showing it loaded. Fig. 4 is a transverse section of the same in the line *x x* of Fig. 2.

The nature of my invention consists in certain constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, hereinafter fully described and specifically claimed, whereby a toy pistol or gun for shooting marbles is produced which, among the several advantages over other similar inventions which it possesses, has the special one that when it is loaded with a marble or other missile the marble or missile cannot be discharged from the pistol by violent movements, such as jerks, tapping of the muzzle against a hard substance, or from any other cause, or in any other manner than by pulling the trigger.

In the drawings, A represents the barrel of a gun or pistol; B, its handle or butt, and C the trigger. Near the muzzle the barrel A is provided with two parallel pins, D, having flared heads *d*. The sides of the barrel are partly slotted, as at *a*, and near the rear termination of these slots a downward step, a^1, is formed by cutting rectangular portions out of the barrel. E is a transverse slide, constructed to move in the slots *a*. This slide has outer angular extensions *e*, to which upright U-shaped guides G G and parallel pins F, having flared heads *f*, are attached.

The stationary pins D are connected with the sliding pins F by means of rubber bands H, which are endless, and are passed around the pins D F, and prevented by the flared heads *d f* of said pins from sliding upward, while the guides G prevent the displacement of the bands by the recoil due to the discharge of the pistol.

The extensions *e* are, by means of the connecting-rods I, connected with a sliding ring, J, which encircles the barrel, and moves back and forth on the same along with the slide E. The slide E is provided with a downward flange, *e'*, which is placed over the horizontal arm of the trigger C, and within the lifting range of the same, as shown in Fig. 3.

To the top of the barrel A a spring, K, is attached, which has a short rise, *k*, near its rear end, and which terminates in an angular stop, *k'*. An opening, a^2, in the barrel A permits the stop *k'* to enter the barrel and play up and down in such a manner that when it is in its highest position it occupies a place within the hole a^2, but not within the bore of the barrel, and when in its lowest position it stands within said bore, and serves to confine a ball or marble, L, between it and the slide E. The latter position of the stop is caused by the sliding ring J passing over the elevated portion of the spring K and depressing the spring and stop, as shown in the drawings.

The stop *k'* of the spring K is located at such a distance from the point where the marble rests when the pistol is ready for being discharged that the forward part of the marble stands some distance in rear of said stop *k'*, and the marble moves forward the amount of such distance before it comes under the stop, and during such movement the ring J moves forward and allows the stop to move out of the way.

Operation: When the pistol is to be loaded with a marble, it is held with its muzzle upward and a marble, L, is dropped into the barrel A, in which it moves downward until stopped by the slide E, which occupies a position at this time forward of the stop *k'*, said stop being out of the bore of the barrel. The operator then with his fingers pulls the slide E back until it enters the steps a^1 of the slots *a*. During this operation the ball passes back behind the stop *k'*, and, the ring J following, the slide acts upon the rise *k* of the spring K, and depresses it sufficiently to cause the stop *k'* to stand in the bore of the barrel forward of the marble, and thereby prevent it from rolling out of the barrel. To shoot the pistol, the operator pulls the trigger so as to act upon the flange *e'*, and thereby cause the slide

E to be raised out of the steps a^1 and in line with slots a, at which moment the tension of the rubber band H causes the slide to suddenly move forward and propel the marble, and at same time the forward-moving ring J leaves the elevated portion of the spring K, and thus allows it to rise and lift its stop k' out of the way of the marble. This is due to there being sufficient play between the marble L and the stop k' to allow the ring J to slide forward far enough to permit the stop to rise out of the bore of the barrel in advance of the propelled marble, and thereby prevent their jamming together within the barrel.

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

1. In a toy-pistol device, the spring-stop k', confined by a rigid external mechanical pressure device, such as described, so as to retain the marble until the pistol is discharged, substantially as set forth.

2. The pins D and F, having flaring heads d and f, in combination with the slide E, having lateral guides G, and the elastic bands H, whereby the elastic bands H are prevented from slipping off and from being displaced by recoil, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of the slide E, connections I, ring J, and spring K, whereby the marble or other missile, L, is prevented from changing its proper position previous to its discharge, and allowed a free exit when the pistol is discharged, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand, in the matter of my application for a patent for an improved toy pistol for playing marbles, this 25th day of March, A. D. 1878.

ADAM F. ABLE.

Witnesses:
CHAS. J. LEWIS,
J. R. CARR.