V. PLATZ & W. W. ROGERS.
Cartridge-Belts.

No. 208,265. Patented Sept. 24, 1878.

Fig. 1.

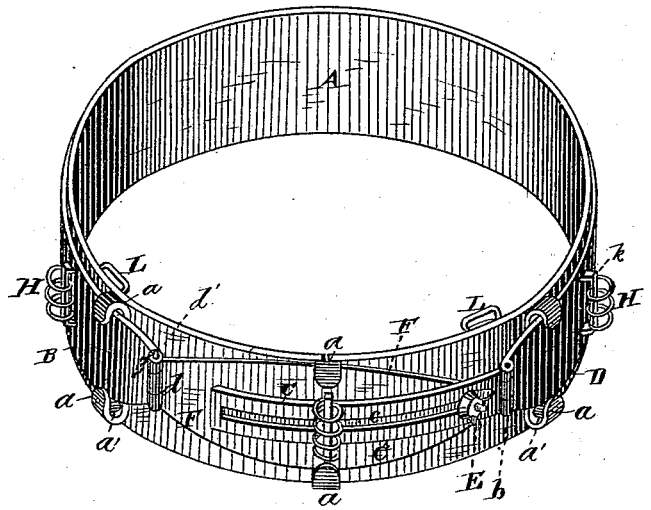


Fig. 2.

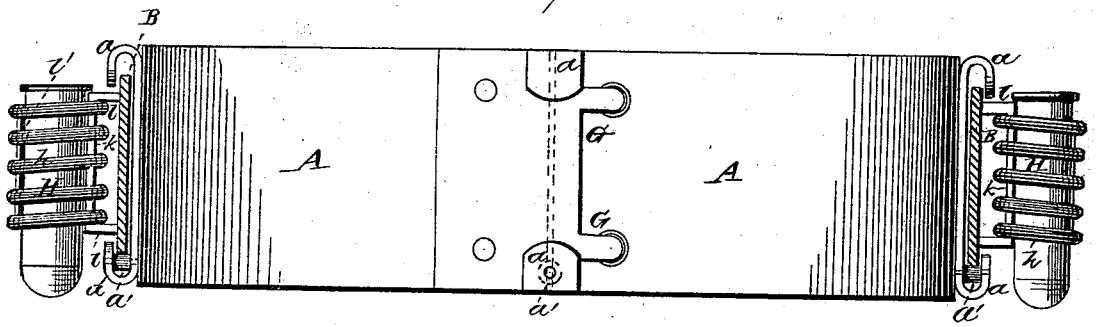
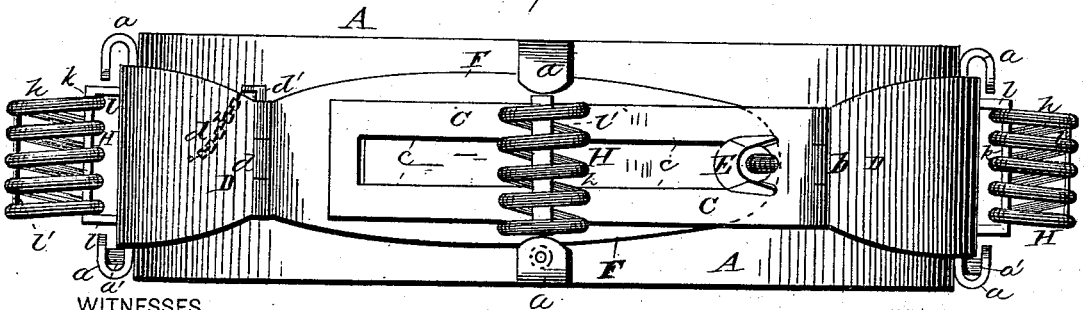


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VALENTINE PLATZ, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, AND WILLIAM W. ROGERS, OF UNITED STATES ARMY.

IMPROVEMENT IN CARTRIDGE-BELTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **208,265**, dated September 24, 1878; application filed May 20, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, VALENTINE PLATZ, of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, and WILLIAM W. ROGERS, of United States Army, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cartridge-Carriers; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

Our invention relates to revolving cartridge-belts, and is designed as an improvement upon Letters Patent No. 197,496, which was granted December 11, 1877, to W. W. Rogers.

The invention consists in the parts and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

Referring to the drawing, Figure 1 is a view, in perspective, of the invention. Fig. 2 represents the same, with the fastening device of the leather belt exposed. Fig. 3 is a front-elevation view of the belt.

The leather belt A, which is to be secured immediately next to the body of the wearer, has a series of metallic guides, *a*, fastened thereto, and provided each with an anti-friction roller, *a'*, in its lower body portion. Within these guides, and having a bearing upon said rollers, a metallic band, B, is adapted to rotate or revolve in either direction about the leather belt. If desired, (though the same forms no part of our invention,) this band may be formed with oblong perforations throughout its length, which would serve to make the belt lighter and more flexible without impairing its strength, while in making the belt these perforations would prevent what is termed "buckling" in working the steel. This band, preferably made of steel, is divided into three transverse parts, each of which latter is formed without longitudinal division. Two of said parts are approximately of the same length, and have their opposite extremities connected respectively with the ends of the third and largest piece. One of the two short pieces, C, is permanently hinged to the large band-piece D, and has a longitudinal slot, *c*, extending through part or all the length of its body. A clamping device, E, connected with the free end of the second short piece, F, provides means whereby the slotted piece may overlap the latter to a greater or less extent. This second short piece, F, is connected to the main band-piece D by a hinge-joint, *d*, having a readily-removable pintle, d^1, so that the said parts may be engaged or disengaged, as desired, the said pintle being prevented from loss by means of a small chain, d^2, which secures it to either one of the connecting band-pieces. This construction permits the metallic band or cartridge-carrier to be varied in length, taken up, or made of greater annular dimension, to correspond with the wearer or his wish at any particular time.

The three distinct parts, together with the respectively permanent and detachable hinge-joints, permit the wearer to disconnect the detachable hinge-joint and throw the cartridge-carrier open, so as to obtain access to the fastening device G of the leather belt.

The permanent hinge-joint *b* causes the two shorter pieces, connected together by the adjusting clamp device, to swing away from the belt and over against the main band-piece, in order to thus permit the belt-fastening to be reached.

The main band-piece has its two ends made of less width than the remaining body thereof, so that the entire cartridge-carrier can be readily removed from the supporting-belt by disconnecting the detachable hinge-joint and drawing the carrier out over the guard-flanges of one of the metallic guides. Hence, the belt is adapted for different cartridge-carriers, the same having cartridge-holders of varying sizes.

Thus a single supporting-belt might be provided with several different cartridge-carriers, each of which is provided with cartridge-holders of different sizes, so that a carrier having cartridge-holders of the proper size would be selected to be used with the supporting-belt, according to the arm or variety of arm that was desired to be used.

These cartridge-holders H are each made as follows: A spiral spring, *h*, is secured to a vertical bar, *k*, having horizontal arms *l* formed

on its extremities, said arms being secured to the cartridge-carrier.

The coils of the spiral spring are rigidly connected together in vertical line on the outer side of the same by means of a metallic bar, l', or other connection, so as to make the spring both firm and durable. These holders are secured to the cartridge-carrier at suitable points thereon, and one of them is secured to the adjusting-piece F, in which position it performs a double function—besides serving in its usual capacity as a cartridge-holder, its supporting-bar k acts as a guide-loop for the slotted adjusting-piece C as the latter slides to and fro in the space inclosed between it and its connecting band-piece.

Suitable brass loops, or other similar attachments, L, may be secured to the upper side of the leather belt, which adapt the latter to be suspended and supported, if so desired, by bearing-straps from the shoulders of the wearer.

In use, the belt is readily revolved so as to bring the cartridges successively in front of the right side of the body, where they are most convenient, especially for breech-loading guns.

The cartridge-carrier may be made of other metal, but preferably is formed of finely-tempered flexible steel, and is thus adapted to be filled with cartridges and rolled up in compact compass, for transportation, ready to be inserted in the belt.

The empty cartridge-cases, after being discharged, can be replaced in the holders, and preserved for recharging, which is a desirable matter when metallic shells are used.

Having fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the metallic cartridge-carrier, having suitable cartridge-holders, and made in three transverse sections, each of which latter is formed without longitudinal division, of the belt A, having the vertical metallic guides a secured thereto, said guide being provided with anti-friction rollers a', journaled in their lower body portions, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a leather supporting-belt, of a metallic cartridge-carrier consisting of a main band-piece and two adjusting-sections, one of which latter is longitudinally slotted, and the other is provided with a bolt or threaded stud and nut, whereby the slotted section may be longitudinally adjusted over the other section, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. In a metallic cartridge-carrier, the adjusting-piece of the main band-piece, connected thereto by the detachable hinge-joint mechanism, substantially as set forth.

4. In a metallic cartridge-carrier, the combination, with the main band-piece, of the two adjusting-pieces, the latter being respectively connected to opposite ends of the main band-piece by a permanent and a detachable hinge-joint mechanism, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands this 14th day of May, 1878.

VALENTINE PLATZ.
WILLIAM W. ROGERS.

Witnesses:
WM. I. FISHER,
W. N. SAGE.