

Chapter I.—Continued

the names of its different parts, including the spirals on the bolt and bolt sleeve, the firing pin, cocking piece, extractor, ejector, the resisting shoulders of the receiver, the bolt unlocking pin, the sear and safety pawl of the trigger action.

LOADING ACTION.

After charging the magazine, on pushing forward the bolt it takes with it the uppermost cartridge in the magazine, pushing it clear of the Magazine Retainer Springs, the nose of the bullet being guided into the chamber of the Receiver by the bullet guide-way. When the cartridge has been pushed forward sufficiently its base rises up to the bolt head, against which it is tightly held by the claw of the Extractor, and when the lugs of the bolt head come opposite the resisting shoulders of the receiver the bolt unlocking pin comes in contact with the cam on the bolt head, turning the latter over sufficiently to release the locking spirals of the bolt sleeve, and the bent of the cocking piece at the same time engages with the nose of the sear. On further pushing forward the bolt sleeve, the bolt head revolves into the resisting shoulders by the action of the spirals on the bolt and bolt sleeve. The cocking piece, and with it the firing pin, is held back by the sear, thereby keeping the main spring compressed. The rifle is now cocked and ready for firing.

FIRING ACTION.

On taking up the first pressure on the trigger, equal to about two pounds, the first point of engagement on the trigger bears upon the sear, causing it to rotate, thus lowering the nose of the sear down the bent of the cocking piece.

On taking the second pressure on the trigger, equal to a further three pounds, the second point of engagement further rotates the sear, bringing its nose clear of the bent of the cocking piece, thus allowing it, and with it the firing pin, to fly forward under the action of the mainspring, the firing pin striking the cap of the cartridge and exploding it.

The rotation of the sear through the action of the trigger also raises the safety pawl behind the lugs on the bolt sleeve, thus preventing the sleeve or bolt being blown back so long as the trigger is held.