Subject: "In the beginning..." (1877 Hunter model Pocket Watch)
Posted by Thojil on Wed, 12 Jun 2013 15:31:44 GMT
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...there was Columbus. Motivated by Art I thought it would be interesting for you WW folks to understand how it all started.

Model name : Pocket watch
Type : Hunter model
Period/date : 1877
Gender : Male

Case Maker : ? (No information found on "Nº1" trade mark)
Case Material : Coin silver
Case Serial : M296
Case Style no :

Caliber : ? 15j 19 Ligne (approx. 16 size)
Movement Maker : Aeby & Landry, Madretsch
Movement Serial: 7265

Bracelet :

Other info :
Dietrich Gruen started production in 1876 under the name Columbus Watch Co.. This example is from the second year of production.
Interesting detail is the reference to Gruen's patented safety center pinion, which was a Gruen USP at the time.
The dial word mark is made up of the letters "CWCo" and has some similarity with the later "DSG" word mark.
Hand painted words on dial center most likely owners name, but too damaged to be able to read.

File Attachments

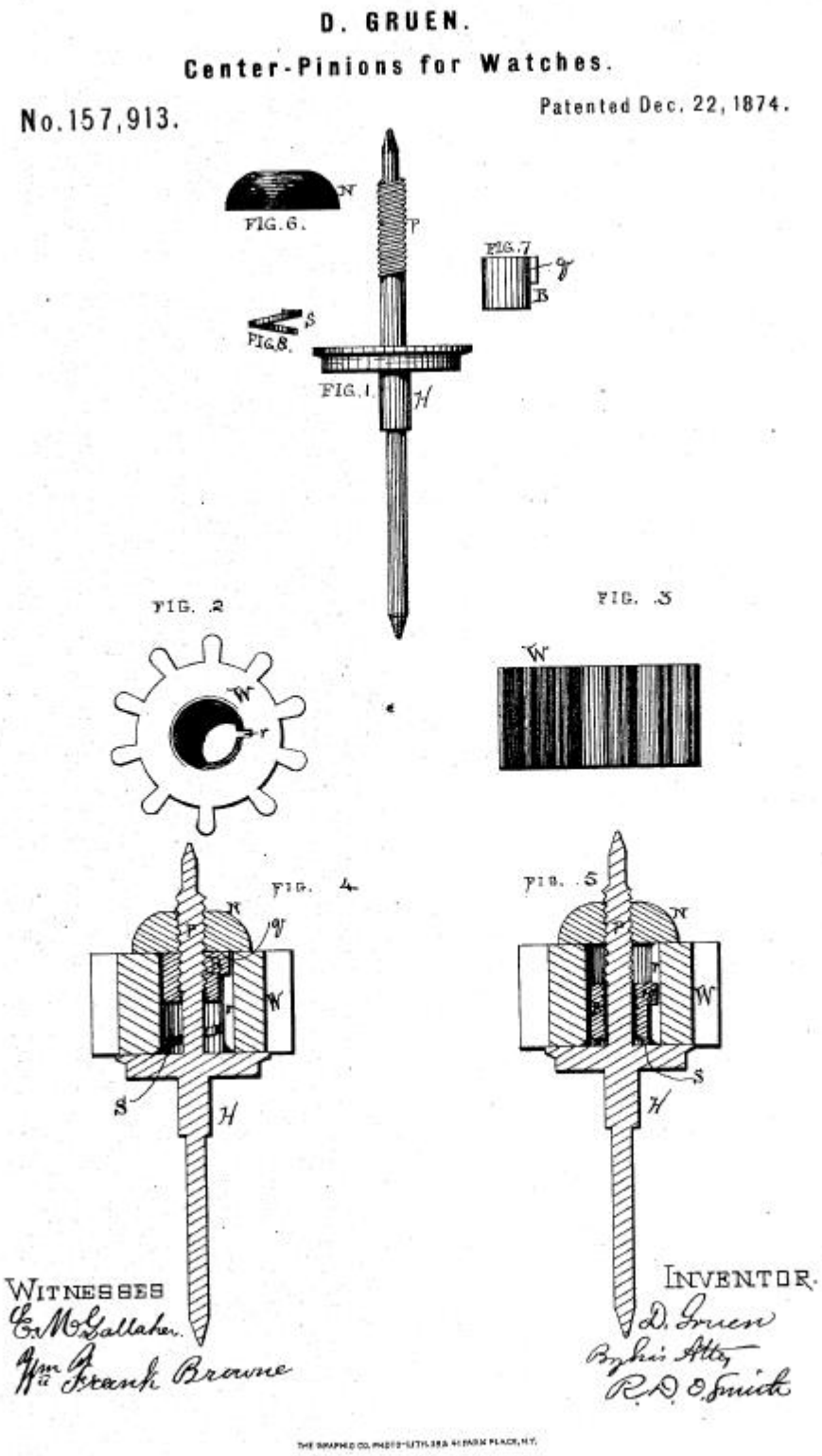
1) 088b.jpg, downloaded 3185 times



2) 090b.jpg, downloaded 3102 times



3) Patent safety pinion.jpg, downloaded 3114 times



4) 091b.jpg, downloaded 3160 times



5) 087b.jpg, downloaded 3142 times



Subject: Re: "In the beginning..."
Posted by JackW on Sun, 16 Jun 2013 04:20:56 GMT
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That ArtB is being a "bad" influence... Leading us WW peeps down a prim-rose path toward PWs with his great photography!

Also, thank you for sharing. This is a good one and hope to see a photo series on restoration.

Subject: Re: "In the beginning..."
Posted by artbissell on Sun, 16 Jun 2013 14:57:49 GMT

I have serial 562 indicating first Aeby movement numbers were 0 or 500 start. Gruen started Columbus with very low volume sales 1976-77. 7xxx likely took more than 2 years of orders.?? Also have 19908 1883? Much refined quality in appearance anyway of the last Columbus Swiss movement of which there were about 20,000.

File Attachments

1) IMG_1867a.jpg, downloaded 2821 times


1908
Pat. Pinion

2) IMG_1871a.jpg, downloaded 2749 times


30
20
40
10
50
60

3) col552mvt biga.jpg, downloaded 2699 times


FAST
SLOW

4) col552 dial.JPG, downloaded 2725 times



Subject: Re: "In the beginning..."
Posted by paul-s on Sat, 29 Jun 2013 00:47:03 GMT
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Artbissell, I've never seen that version of the Columbus logo with the centered W and Cs. That's also about the earliest Columbus watch that I think I've seen.

The Columbus Watch Company in 1889. The building in back with the chimney houses the steam engine that powered all the factory machines via a network of shafts and drive belts. Working in the engine house as a boy was where Fred Gruen got his start in the watch business:

File Attachments

1) cwc 1889.jpg, downloaded 2766 times



Subject: Re: "In the beginning..."
Posted by mikey on Fri, 05 Jul 2013 22:22:41 GMT

Excellent info guys!