

### German Patent marks.

According to "The swords and bayonet makers of Imperial Germany 1871-1918", John Walter, 1973:

The most important was **D.R.P.u.A.P.** or *Deutsches Reich Patent und Ausländische Patente* (German and foreign patents): this mark was rarely, if ever, found on edged weapons.

The stamp **D.R.P.**, or *Deutsches Reich Patent*, was the usual internal protection, signifying the grant of German letters patent only.

Another mark, **D.R.G.M.** or *Deutsches Reich Gebrauchs Muster* (German empire utility design) is usually thought to have had some value at law, but such was not the case: in reality the mark served little purpose other than acting as an implication that the design to which it was attached was no more than an ersatz (substitute) pattern. It was, in a sense, an apology for an inferior type.

The mark **Ges. Gesch.** or *GESETZLICH GESCHÜTZT* - protected by law - indicated that the weapon had been registered with the Deutsches Patentamt and granted some protection from those who might otherwise be tempted to copy it. This mark was used to signify a design registry in which there was insufficient novelty to justify a grant of letters patent.