(No Model.)

C. F. STOCK, Dec'd.

N. G. MOORE, Administrator.

FLYING TARGET.

No. 323,897. Patented Aug. 4, 1885.

Fig 1.

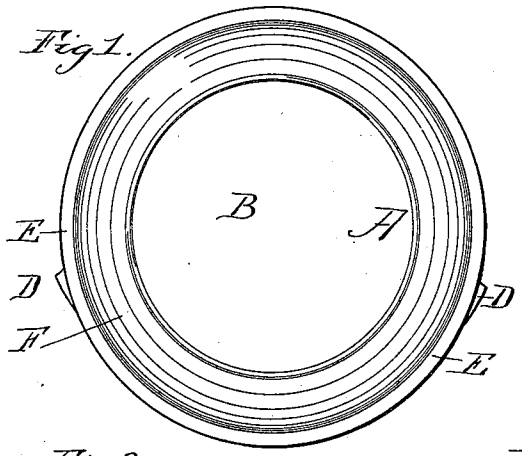


Fig 4

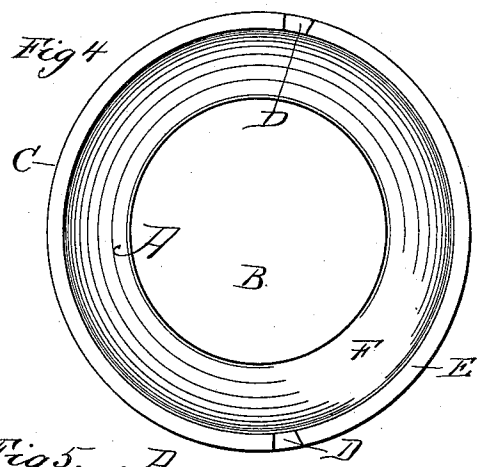


Fig 2.

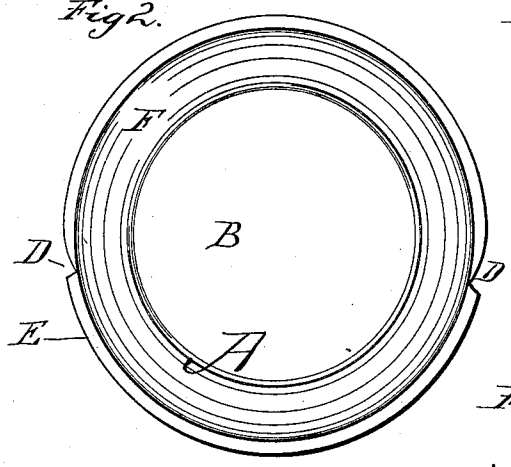


Fig 5.

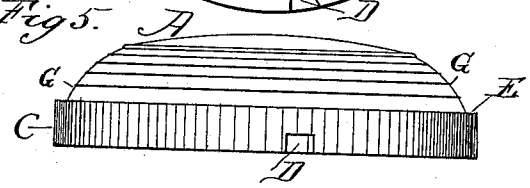


Fig 6.

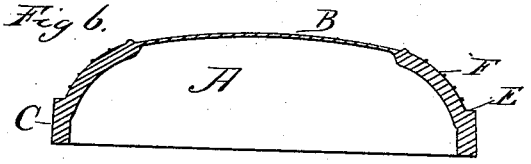


Fig 7.

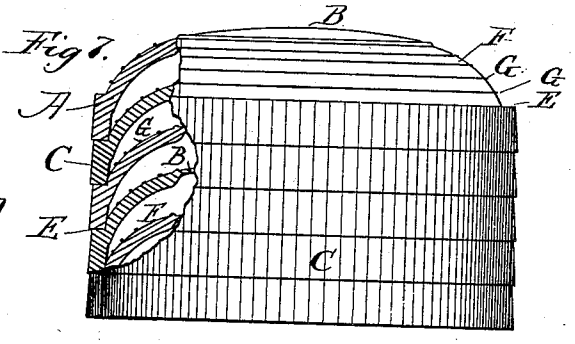
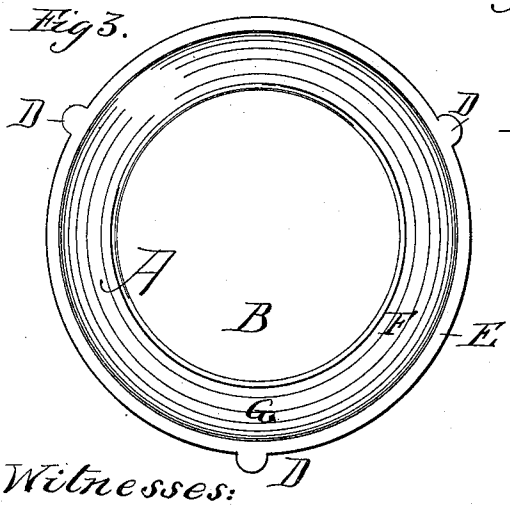


Fig 3.



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By Taylor E. Brown
his Attorney.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. STOCK, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS; N. GRIER MOORE (ADMINISTRATOR OF SAID CHARLES F. STOCK, DECEASED), ASSIGNOR TO EDWARD H. WALKER, OF SAME PLACE.

FLYING TARGET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 323,897, dated August 4, 1885.

Application filed October 13, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. STOCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peoria, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flying Targets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of targets or projectiles, sometimes called "blackbird targets" or "clay pigeons," which are thrown through the air from traps or suitable mechanism, to be shot at by marksmen, and is designed for use particularly in that class of traps which have clamping fingers, arms, or projections which take hold of the target at more than one point. Such targets are usually made of burned clay or other fragile material, and are so shaped that when given an axial rotation as they leave the trap or sending device their flight will more or less resemble that of a bird. It is found that the force of the wind blowing across the path of these targets will seriously interfere with this object, as the targets are usually made quite light. Being of fragile material, it is quite difficult to handle them without breakage, and the loss therefrom during transportation is considerable.

The object of my invention is to overcome these defects, and is fully explained below in connection with the accompanying drawings.

It consists in providing a saucer-shaped target, made of burned clay or other light and fragile material, whose thickness in cross-section shall be greatest at the periphery and thinnest at the center, so that the minimum amount of material is used, but so distributed as to insure a firm and solid target, and yet light enough to be projected through the air properly.

It also consists in providing a recess or step on the thick or flange portion thereof, so that when packed together for shipment one target will fit nicely inside of the other, and thus lessen the liability of breakage.

It also consists in providing proper lugs or recesses for the reception of the clamping-jaws of the trap or sending mechanism.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, I have shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3 plan views of my improved targets, in Figs. 4 and 5 bottom and side views, in Fig. 6 a cross-section, and in Fig. 7 I have shown a nest of five targets as they are arranged for shipment.

In said drawings the target A is constructed with a central portion, B, which I prefer to make as thin as the material used in its construction will allow, and also about one-half of the whole diameter, or greater in size.

C is the flange or rim, provided with lugs or recesses D to receive or engage with the pins or projections on the clamping-arms of the trap. The flange C is made with a ledge or shoulder, E, so that the targets may be nicely packed together, as shown in Fig. 7.

In order to prevent the possibility of pellets of shot glancing when they strike the convex portion F, I provide the same with small annular rings or ridges G.

That portion of the target which receives the most handling, and which is usually presented to the view of the marksman, I make thick, as shown. The rim C is made of such depth as will prevent the central convex portion or body of one target touching or resting on the body of another target when packed or nested for shipment. This construction reduces the breakage during transportation and handling to a minimum.

In Figs. 1 and 3 I have shown the rim of the target provided with lugs to receive the clamping-fingers of the trap. In Fig. 2 the rim is cut out, so as to form lugs to engage said clamping-fingers, while in Figs. 4 and 5 notches or slots in the lower edge of the rim serve the same purpose.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The circular convex target made of fragile material, having its thickest portion in cross-section at its periphery, and provided with two or more lugs or notches on said periphery, as and for the purpose specified.

2. The fragile flying target A, when provided with thin central portion, B, convex portion F, ridges G, lugs or notches D on the periphery of the target, and ledge or shoulder E, substantially as shown, and for the purpose specified.

CHARLES F. STOCK.

Witnesses:
JOHN T. NEILSON,
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