

No. 795,493.

PATENTED JULY 25, 1905.

C. H. DITTO.
DUCK CALL.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 28, 1905.

Fig. 1.

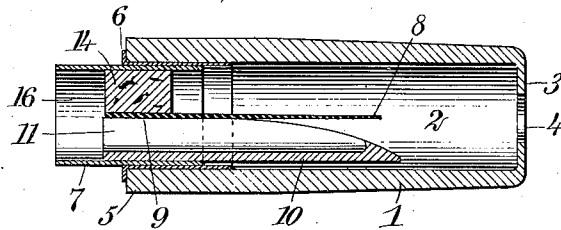


Fig. 2.

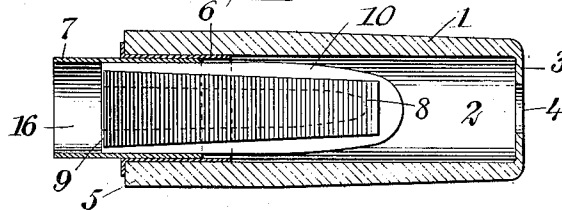


Fig. 3.

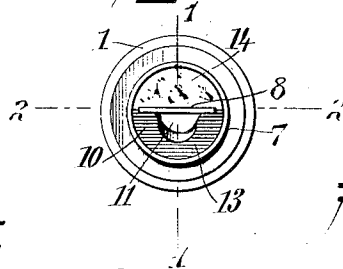


Fig. 4.

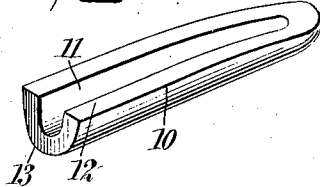
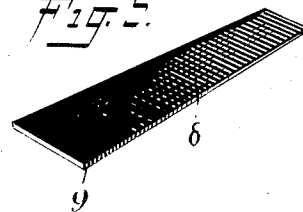


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES HARRIS DITTO, OF KEITHSBURG, ILLINOIS.

DUCK-CALL.

No. 795,493.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 25, 1905.

Application filed February 28, 1905. Serial No. 247,664.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES HARRIS DITTO, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Keithsburg, in the county of Mercer and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Duck-Call, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to duck-calls such as used by sportsmen for calling wild ducks.

The object of the invention is to produce a device of this kind which is of simple construction and adapted to be readily adjusted or tuned so as to imitate the voice of different species of wild ducks.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal central section taken through the device. Fig. 2 is a section similar to Fig. 1, but at right angles with the plane in which Fig. 1 is taken. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the device. Fig. 4 is a perspective view representing one of the parts, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the reed or tongue which assists in producing the required sound.

Referring more particularly to the parts, 1 represents a body or barrel of cylindrical form and preferably constructed of wood or metal, the same being formed with a cylindrical inner chamber 2, substantially closed at one end by a transverse head 3, which head is provided with an opening 4, as shown. The wall of the barrel is preferably enlarged or increased in thickness toward the butt 5 opposite the head 3. At the butt 5 the bore of the chamber 2 is preferably provided with a bushing 6. At this point a sleeve 7 of cylindrical form is provided, which fits snugly into the bushing 6, as indicated, in such a manner that it may be adjusted out or in, as may be desired. This sleeve 7 affords means for mounting the reed 8 in position. The construction of this reed is shown most clearly in Fig. 5. It consists of a tongue preferably formed of hard rubber, celluloid, or similar material, and this tongue preferably tapers slightly from its butt 9 toward its forward extremity.

In Fig. 4 is illustrated a bill 10, which cooperates with the reed 8 in order to produce the note. This bill is preferably formed of wood, elongated, as shown, and preferably

half round, as indicated. It is provided on its inner face with a channel or groove 11, which is formed between longitudinal cheeks or faces 12. As indicated most clearly in Fig. 1, the thickness of the bill toward its extremity is reduced in a direction substantially at right angles to the plane of the faces 12.

The butt 13 of the bill 10 is adapted to be received within the sleeve 7 aforesaid, the curved face of the said butt conforming, substantially, to the curvature of the inner face of the sleeve, as will be readily understood.

The reed 8 is held at its butt 9 against the cheeks 12 of the bill by means of a semicircular block or plug 14, which is forced into the sleeve, as shown in Fig. 1, for this purpose, the flat face 15 of the said block resting upon the upper side of the reed, as indicated.

The note produced by the call depends upon the longitudinal adjustment of the reed upon the bill and also upon the amount of projection of the sleeve 7 beyond the butts of the reed and bill. Thus the sleeve when projecting as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2 forms a bell 16, which very much influences the character of the sound produced. The character of the note produced is also influenced to a certain extent by the distance of the forward extremity of the reed from the opening 4. Hence it will be seen that there are substantially three factors upon which depends the character of the sound produced.

When it is desired to adjust the parts, the sleeve 7 is withdrawn, bringing with it bodily the bill 10 and the reed 8, together with the plug 14, which retains the parts within the sleeve. Having the parts removed in this manner, the position of the reed with respect to the bill may be adjusted as desired and the assembled reed, bill, and plug may be positioned accurately at any point desired within the sleeve. In this way the depth of the bell 16 is accurately controlled. The reed, bill, and plug having been attached in the sleeve in the manner suggested, the sleeve is then inserted at the butt of the barrel and forced into the bushing to any distance desired, so that the forward extremity of the reed will approach sufficiently to the opening 4 to produce the desired note. It will be seen that this distance of the reed from the opening 4 may be adjusted without necessitating a change in the depth of the bell 16.

The call described is evidently of very simple construction and affords means for mak-

ing the different adjustments which produce the note independently of each other. At the same time the construction is such that the parts are mounted very simply and accessibly within the barrel.

With a call of this kind the principal species of wild ducks—such as the mallard, pintail, widgeon, teal, &c.—may be readily called, the device being adjusted, as described, so as to suit the species of duck being called and also so as to adapt the device to the peculiarities of the sportsman using the call.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. In a device of the class described, in combination, a barrel having a bore, a sleeve slidably received in the extremity of said bore, a bill presenting a longitudinal channel and having its butt within said sleeve, a reed disposed against the face of said bill at

said channel, and a plug received within said sleeve and holding said reed and said bill therein, said plug, bill and sleeve being adjustable longitudinally within said barrel.

2. In a device of the class described, in combination, a barrel having a bore and a transverse head in the forward extremity thereof, said head having an opening there-through, a slidable sleeve mounted in said bore at the extremity of said barrel remote from said head, a plug, a bill and a reed clamped between said plug and said bill, said plug, said reed and said bill being adjustable longitudinally within said sleeve.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES HARRIS DITTO.

Witnesses:

W. H. DAVIS,

S. D. KIRKPATRICK.