This invention relates to a blind for concealing a game or fowl hunter, and has for its objects to provide a collapsible and portable blind whose light weight is compatible with that of the usual equipment carried by the hunter, and which may be quickly erected on land or in a boat.

According to the invention the blind comprises a framework having an arch portion, a netting having marginal portions forming an opening therebetween, said netting having grass-simulating material attached thereto and distributed thereover, and means to secure the netting to the frame, covering the frame, and with said opening disposed at the arch side of the frame so that the occupant of the blind is substantially covered overhead without obstruction in said arch and opening. Preferably the framework comprises upper and lower spaced supports as a part of the frame, and the netting is secured with the opening disposed between said supports.

Further according to the invention the blind includes a covering comprising a web of coarse netting having spaced strands and a plurality of bunches of grass-simulating material distributed over the netting and attached to the strands of the netting by a fastener encompassing both the strands of the material and of the netting.

For the purpose of illustration a typical embodiment is shown in the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is an isometric view of a blind including a framework erected in a boat and covered by a netting;

Figs. 2 and 3 are isometric views of the framework;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the blind assembled in the boat parts being shown in sections; and

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a fragment of the covering.

In the figures the blind is shown assembled in an elongate, collapsible boat such as that shown in my United States Patent No. 2,529,745. The blind comprises the framework portions shown in Figs. 2 and 3, including a relatively low rail 2 and a relatively high frame 3. The rail 2 includes end members 21 and 24 and cross members 22 and 23 formed of aluminum tubing and jointed by means of tongues 25 of reduced diameter fitting snugly within the tubes. Directed downwardly from the end members 21 and 24 to pins 26 and 27 are pins 21 and 24 to pins 26 and 27 are pinned into the rail 2 and 24 and are aligned with the cross in which the blind is to be erected, said cross and high frame being shown in sections.

The upper or relatively higher frame portion 3 comprises an arch portion including jointed aluminum tube members 31, 32 and 33 and a rearwardly extending leg comprising legs 34, 35 and 36 telescopically connected by detachable joints such as a pin 39 of reduced diameter which is secured to one of the tubular members and fits in the lower end of the adjacent member. The lower end of the arch legs and of the rearwardly extending legs are fitted with rubber ferrules 38. The juncture of the rear leg and arch is secured by a wing bolt 37 passing through the tubular members 33 and 34. The upper frame portion 3 is adapted to be set on a flat surface, on the members of a conventional boat, or as shown in Figs. 1 and 4 may be wedged between the gunwales of a collapsible boat of the type described. For this purpose the arch legs including members 31 to 33 are formed of aluminum stock sufficiently light to be flexible so that the legs of the arch may be sprung between the gunwales. If desired the rear leg may be secured to one of the ribs of the boat by a line L. The lower and upper frame portions 2 and 3 may be completely disassembled for convenience in carrying.

The covering for the framework 2-3 comprises a web of coarse netting 1 having strands 11 spaced approximately one to two inches apart. I have found that a very inconspicuous blind may be made by attaching strands of grass like material such as raffia to bunches of the netting by means of staples 12. If the bunches of raffia strands are distributed over the entire netting a blind covering is provided which does have the unnatural appearance of an opaque covering.

According to my invention the netting 1 comprises marginal portions 14 which form an opening 15 somewhat offset from the center of the netting 1, and clips 16 are attached adjacent the opening 15 for securing the netting to the frame by looping the clips or the netting to which they are attached across the crossbar of the rail 2 and the arch of the frame portion 3, with the opening 15 disposed between the arch and the rail. The remainder of the netting or marginal portions are disposed over the frame 3 and rail 2 and hence over the gunwales G of the boat B. Preferably the netting is extended to the waternile W of the boat B and the edge of the netting tightened around the boat by means of a purse string 17 woven through the strands 11 of the netting at the edge thereof. An overhead cover for the body of the huntsman occupying the boat is thereby provided while still allowing an unobstructed opening through the arch and netting opening 15 for observation or shooting. If the need arises for rowing the boat from one point of concealment to another the rail 2 may be lifted out of the oarlock holes in the ribs 20 temporarily without disturbing the attachment of the netting 1 to the rail by means of the clips 16.

I claim:

1. A portable blind comprising a frame having an arch portion, a netting having an overhead portion and marginal portions extending around the periphery of the netting, said overhead and marginal portions forming a generally upward extending opening off center of the netting, said netting having grass-simulating material attached thereto and distributed thereover, and means to secure the netting to the frame and with said opening disposed at the arch side of the frame, the marginal portions adjacent said opening extending about the lower end of the arch so that the occupant of the blind is substantially covered overhead without obstruction in said arch and opening.

2. A portable blind comprising a frame having relatively high and low spaced supports, the high support forming an arch, a netting having an overhead portion and marginal portions extending around the periphery of the netting, said overhead and marginal portions forming a generally upward extending opening off center of the netting, said netting having grass-simulating material attached thereto and distributed thereover, and means to secure the netting to said supports with the netting covering the frame and with said opening disposed between said supports at the arch side of the frame, the marginal portions adjacent said opening extending about the lower end of the arch so that the occupant of the blind is substantially covered overhead without obstruction in said arch and opening.
3. A portable shooting blind for a boat comprising a frame of disjointable aluminum tubing having legs resting in one portion of the boat, two of said legs forming an arch transversely of the boat and said tubing being resilient so as to hold the legs against the sides of the boat, a coarse netting having strands of grass-simulating material attached to the strands of the netting in bunches distributed closely over the netting, said netting having an overhead portion and marginal portions extending around the periphery of the netting, said overhead and marginal portions forming a generally upwardly extending opening off center of the netting, and means for securing the netting to said arch with said peripheral portions covering the frame and gunwales of the boat and with said opening disposed adjacent said arch the marginal portions adjacent said opening extending about the lower end of the arch so that the occupant of the boat is substantially covered overhead without obstructing shooting through said arch and opening.

4. A portable shooting blind for a boat having spaced oarlock holes in its gunwales, comprising a relatively high frame of disjointable aluminum tubing having legs resting in one portion of the boat, two of said legs forming an arch transversely of the boat, a rail of telescoping aluminum tubing having at opposite ends downwardly directed pins for insertion in said oarlock holes, said rail being extendible to register the pins with the holes, a coarse netting having strands of grass-simulating material stapled to the strands of the netting in bunches distributed closely over the netting, said netting having an overhead portion and marginal portions extending around the periphery of the netting, said overhead and marginal portions forming a generally upwardly extending opening off center of the netting, and means for securing the netting to said rail and arch with said netting covering the rail, frame and gunwales and with said opening disposed between said arch and rail, the marginal portions adjacent said opening extending about the lower end of the arch so that the occupant of the boat is substantially covered overhead without obstructing shooting through said arch and opening.

5. A portable shooting blind for a boat having spaced oarlock holes in its gunwales, comprising a relatively high frame of disjointable aluminum tubing having legs resting in one portion of the boat, two of said legs forming an arch transversely of the boat, a rail of telescoping aluminum tubing having at opposite ends downwardly directed pins for insertion in said oarlock holes, said rail being extendible to register the pins with the holes, a coarse netting having strands of grass-simulating material stapled to said strands of the netting in bunches distributed closely over the netting, said netting having an overhead portion and marginal portions extending around the periphery of the netting, said overhead and marginal portions forming a generally upwardly extending opening off center of the netting, means for securing the netting to said rail and arch with the netting covering the rail, frame and gunwales and with said opening disposed between said arch and rail, the marginal portions adjacent said opening extending about the lower end of the arch so that the occupant of the boat is substantially covered overhead without obstructing shooting through said arch and opening.

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