B. R. DIETZ.

DUMMY FOR MILITARY PRACTICE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 8, 1908.

906,392.

Patented Dec. 8, 1908.

Fig. 1.

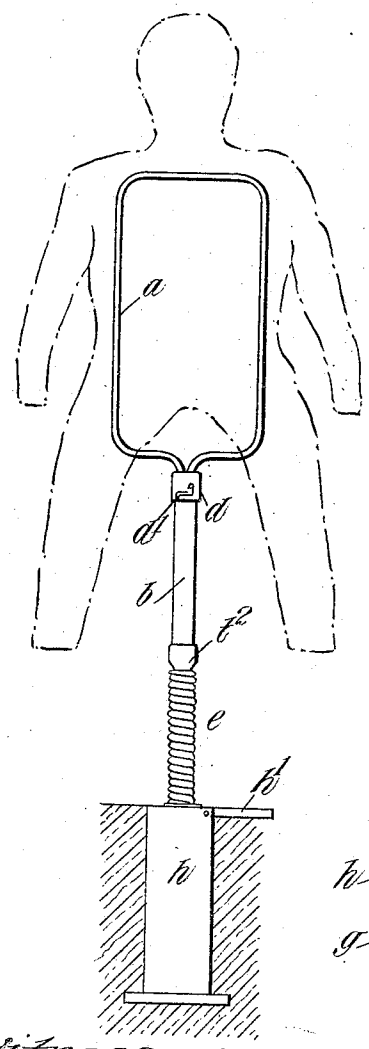


Fig. 2.

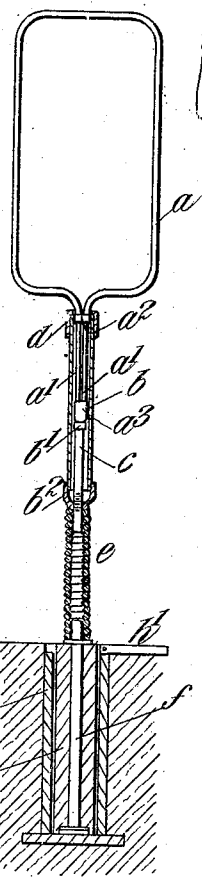


Fig. 3.

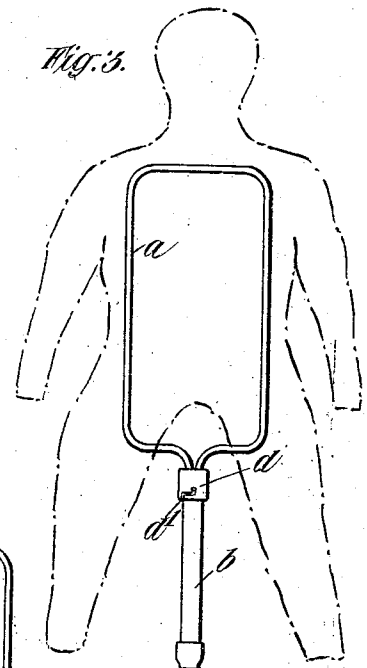
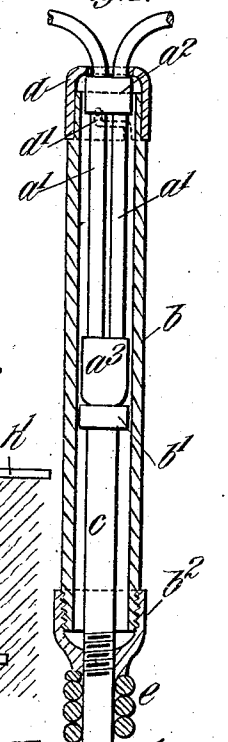


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNARD RUSSEL DIETZ, OF CANTERBURY, ENGLAND.

DUMMY FOR MILITARY PRACTICE.

No. 906,392. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 8, 1908.

Application filed April 8, 1908. Serial No. 425,905.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNARD RUSSEL DIETZ, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at St. Nons, Canterbury, in the county of Kent, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in or Relating to Dummies for Military Practice, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to exercising apparatus of the kind which is made in the form of a human figure, free to bend in any direction and return to its upright position under the influence of resilient members, when the displacing force is removed.

The invention particularly relates to dummies of this character for use in military practice, the object being to provide a more efficient means of obtaining proficiency in the use of weapons of war such as the lance, the sword, and the bayonet.

According to my invention, the dummy comprises a framework upon which the figure is built up. The figure consists of clothing having a filling of straw or other suitable material. The frame is provided with a stem which is arranged to project from the body portion of the figure. This stem is formed or provided with a collar and is adapted for insertion in a tubular holder formed or provided with a bush for the collar to work upon or against and so permit the figure to rotate. The tubular holder is joined to a block of wood or other suitable material by means of a flexible or resilient connection; a socket being provided in the ground for the reception of the said block. The socket may be covered by a suitable cap when not required for use.

In order that the said invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into effect, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the apparatus, the figure of the dummy being outlined in broken lines and adapted to represent a man of the line or infantry. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same arrangement, the lines representing the outline of the dummy being omitted. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing the device as adapted to represent a mounted man. Fig. 4 is a view in section on a larger scale illustrating a construction of the tubular holder.

The figure or effigy shown in broken lines is formed of clothing or other material and a filling of straw or other suitable substance, the figure being built up on a frame a provided with a stem a' adapted to be inserted in a tubular holder b. The frame and stem may be constructed of tubular form as affording the required strength. Steel tubing is found to be most suitable but the frame may be otherwise constructed if desired. The stem is formed or provided with a ring or collar a^2 which fits or nearly fits the bore of the tubular holder b the portions a' a' forming the stem passing through the said ring or collar a^2 and being held or tied together thereby. The extremity of the stem is formed or provided with a collar or terminal piece a^3 adapted to take a bearing upon a bush or support b' formed or provided in the holder b. This bush or support may be secured to the holder b or it may be carried by a stem or tubular piece c passing through the lower end of the holder b.

In the arrangement shown, the stem is held in the holder by means of a perforated cap or cover d secured to the holder b by means of a bayonet joint d'; the lower end of the holder is secured by screwing or brazing to a socket b^2 adapted to be screwed or brazed to the stem c. Beyond the socket b^2 the said stem c is inserted a short distance into a spiral spring e to which it is brazed or shrunk; the opposite end of the spring is similarly connected to a stem or length of tubing f which is inserted in and which passes through the block g, the projecting end being secured by riveting, nuts or other convenient means. The block which may be composed of wood or other suitable material is inserted in a socket h provided in the ground for its reception, the socket being covered by a suitable cap or cover when not required for use. The cap or cover may consist of a hinged flap h' as shown. When it is desired to carry out the practice on the assumption that mounted men are being attacked, the device is preferably constructed as shown in Fig. 3, in which the stem c is elongated considerably beyond the socket b^2 and secured at its extremity, as in the previous construction, to the flexible or resilient connection e.

The herein described dummy affords considerable scope for the use above referred to, the effigy by its capacity for rotating and bending simulating the actions of a human being, taking the lunge and bending forward again at the withdrawal of the weapon; the man under instruction also realizes what an

impact there is when passing his weapon through a body which offers resistance, horses become more accustomed to go up to a life-like figure, the practice is therefore rendered much more effectual. Moreover gallows as now used for rings and balls are dispensed with and the dummies may be expeditiously erected and taken down as occasion may require.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. In a dummy for military practice, the combination of a rotatable framework, a ground socket, a block adapted for insertion in said socket and a resilient connection between said framework and block.

2. In a dummy for military practice, the combination of a framework, a ground socket, a block adapted for insertion in said socket, a tubular holder, a bush in said holder, a stem on said framework adapted for insertion in said holder, a collar on said stem arranged to work upon or against the aforesaid bush, and a flexible connection between said holder and the ground socket.

3. In a dummy for military practice, the combination of a framework, a ground socket, a block adapted for insertion in said socket, a tubular holder, a bush in said holder, a stem on said framework adapted for insertion in said holder, a perforated cap secured to the holder by a bayonet joint for holding the stem in the holder, a collar on said stem arranged to work upon or against the aforesaid bush and a flexible connection between said holder and the ground socket.

4. In a dummy for military practice, the combination of a framework, a ground socket, a block adapted for insertion in said socket, a tubular holder, a bush in said holder, a stem on said framework adapted for insertion in said holder, a perforated cap secured to the holder by a bayonet joint for holding the stem in the holder, a collar on said stem arranged to work upon or against the aforesaid bush, a screwed socket to which the lower end of the holder is secured, and a spiral spring between said socket and the block in the ground socket.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BERNARD RUSSEL DIETZ.

Witnesses:
T. J. WALKER,
CHAS. J. H. HELVERTON.