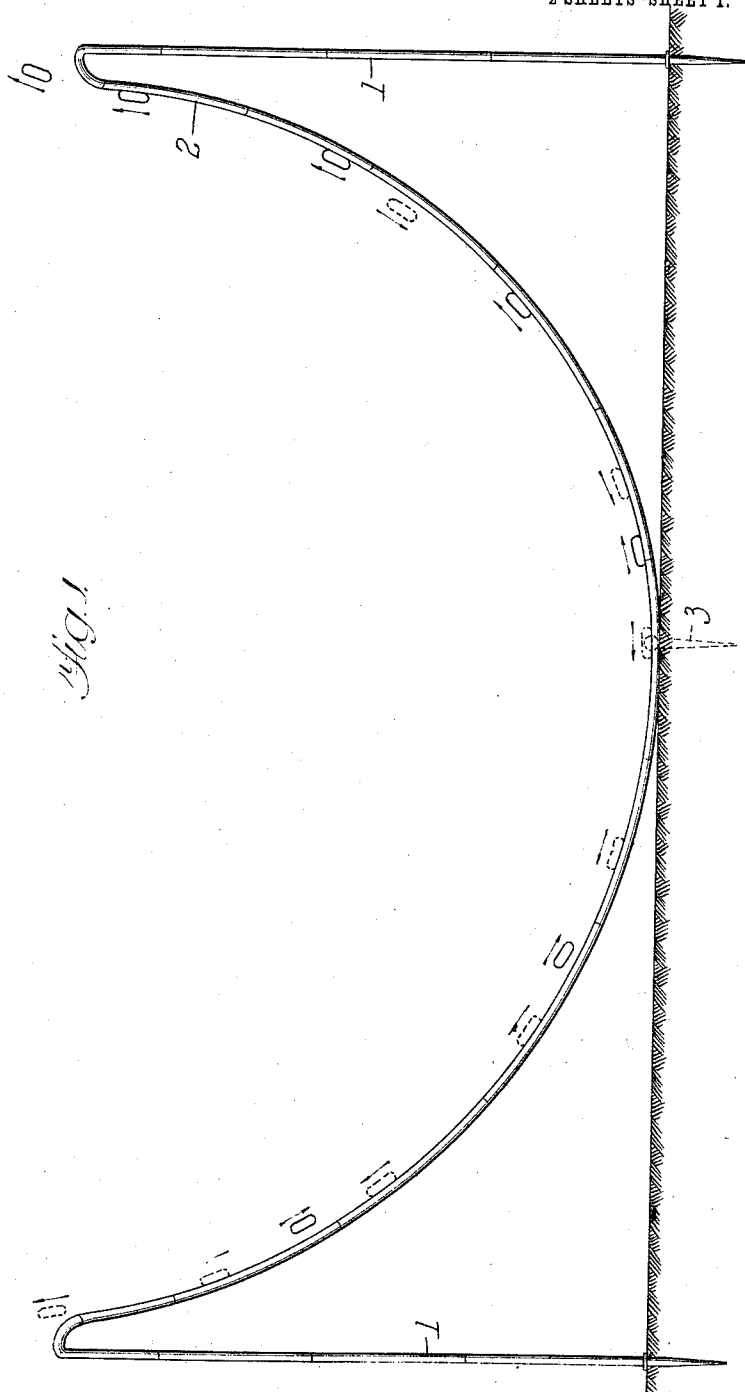
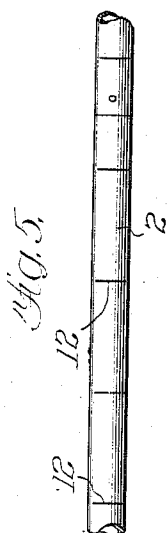


1,005,948.

W. J. ENGLISH.
TRAINING DEVICE FOR GOLF PLAYERS.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 19, 1910.

Patented Oct. 17, 1911.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



Witnesses:
Robert McEir
Charles I. Cobb

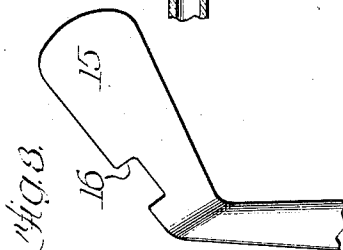
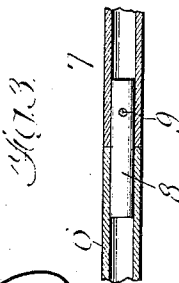
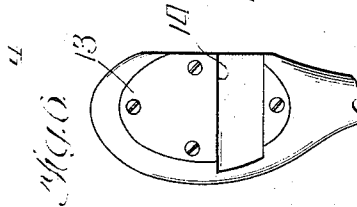
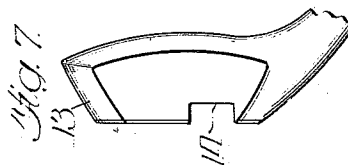
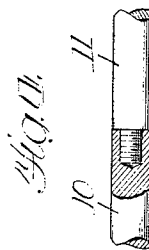
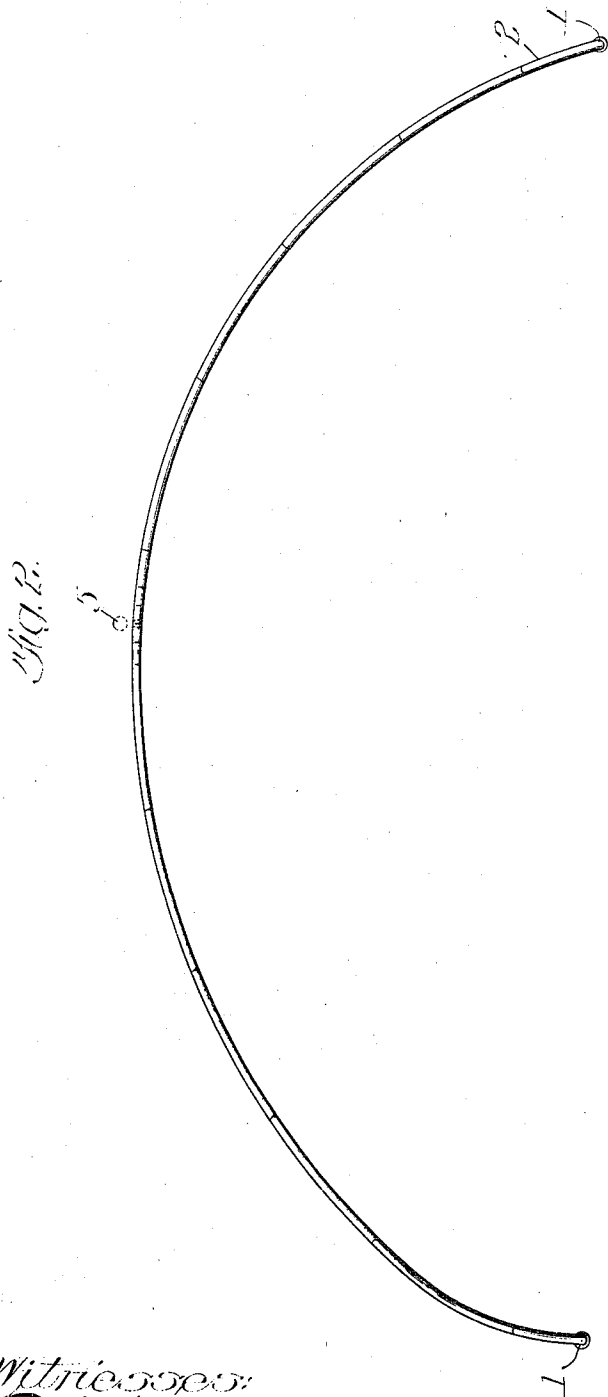
Inventor
William J. English
By Will W. Hill
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:
 Robert H. McEir
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. ENGLISH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

TRAINING DEVICE FOR GOLF-PLAYERS.

1,005,948.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 17, 1911.

Application filed December 19, 1910. Serial No. 598,029.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. ENGLISH, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improved Training Device for Golf-Players, of which the following is a description.

In playing the game of golf, one of the most essential attributes to play the game well, is the ability of the player to control the swing of the club in a manner to secure a proper stroke of the ball, and thus acquire an effective delivery. This is probably the most difficult part of the game to acquire. Without it it is practically impossible to acquire great, or even reasonable skill in the game, and the judgment of the player as to the necessary force to be exerted, is continually handicapped by the fact that the blow has not been properly delivered.

The object of my invention is to secure a training device, by means of which a player can acquire correct "form" in the swing of the club, either by himself alone or by the aid of a trainer or expert.

To this end my invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and combination of parts herein shown and described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 illustrates the guiding means for the head of the club substantially in elevation, and indicates the curve of the track in a vertical plane. Fig. 2 indicates the curve of the track substantially in a horizontal plane. Figs. 3 and 4 indicate simple means of joining the sectional parts of the track together so that the parts are readily detachable for convenience in handling or shipping, or shortening the guide, as may be desired for particular purposes, etc. Fig. 5 is a slightly enlarged view, showing the track graduated so that the player may more accurately gage the swing of his club. Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view of the head of a brassie, which may be used with the guiding means to indicate the correct engagement of the head of the club with the guiding track. Fig. 7 is a face view of

the said club. Fig. 8 is a face view of an iron club, adapted for the same purpose.

In playing the game of golf in a correct manner, the neck of the player acts as a center, while the arms, together with the length of the shaft from the hands to the head of the club, are substantially the radius of a partial circle, which the head of the club describes in a proper swing. This partial circle, or part of a circle, may more properly be termed a curve, since it is not a true circle ordinarily, as the arms are usually bent at the elbow a portion of the swing, generally at the beginning, consequently at the beginning of the curve it may be more abrupt, while as the head of the club approaches the objective point, to-wit the ball upon the ground, the arms straighten, and the curve from that point to the final delivery is substantially regular for a time, terminating in a bend of the elbows again after the stroke is delivered, and the club is swung substantially back of the player.

The above description applies particularly to the use of those clubs having a comparatively long shaft, although the same rule applies to a greater or less extent in the use of all of the clubs, and even when but a short stroke is employed. It will be apparent from the above that the curve is usually a compound one, and is inclined in relation to the vertical or horizontal planes. At the beginning and end of the stroke the head of the club may be in a plane substantially vertical with the stance of the player, while at the moment the club engages the ball, the head of the club is a considerable distance forward from the feet of the player, and in a substantially horizontal plane therewith. With this explanation the drawings will be readily understood, and may be described as follows:

1—1 are suitable supporting standards, which may be formed as shown to be set in the ground, or if for in-door practice, with suitable feet to stand upon the floor. From the top of the two standards extends a track 2, which describes a curve, indicating the course the head of the club assumes when

swung in a proper manner. The center of the track may be anchored, if desired, as shown at 3 in Fig. 1, to secure stability of the track and to prevent accidental lateral displacement. The player takes his stance substantially at the point marked 4 in Fig. 2, and as he swings his club upward and backward for the stroke, he may permit the head of the same to ride upon the track to acquire a conception of the proper forward stroke, in which event the course of the club is substantially indicated in the full lines on Fig. 1. In a full swing the head of the club will leave the track in the backward preliminary swing and engage it again as it comes forward, taking the course substantially as indicated by the dotted lines shown on Fig. 1, leaving the track after the swing is effected, the momentum of the swing carrying the club back of the player. The position of the ball as indicated at 5 in Fig. 2, to the stance of the player, will be regulated according to the club used in making the swing, as is well understood by those familiar with the game.

The guiding track is preferably made in sections, and may be joined together as indicated in Fig. 3, in which the sections 6 and 7 are maintained in proper relative position by a pin 8 inserted in the proximate ends of the sections, and, if desired, a cross pin 9 maintaining the said pin in position. If preferred, however, the sections may be secured together as shown in Fig. 4, in which sections 10 and 11 are joined by a threaded engagement. In order that the player may more accurately estimate his stroke, the track, or a considerable portion of it near the center, is preferably graduated as shown in Fig. 5, in which the graduating lines 12 guide the player as to the distance of the swing, as for illustration, when less than a full swing is employed, commonly referred to as three-quarters, half or quarter swing.

In the preferred form, I construct the head of the club particularly for use with the training device. As shown in Figs. 6 and 7, the brassie 13 has a transverse groove 14 formed therein, which loosely engages the track and indicates to the player any inaccuracy in his swing in a horizontal direction. This inaccuracy is one of the common faults in playing, and by this means accuracy in this direction is also gained, as the club is not liable to accidentally leave the track, and if the side walls of the groove engage it, intimates to the player that he is moving the body forward or backward improperly, and thereby enables him to correct the fault. Fig. 8 indicates an iron club 15, provided with a similar groove 16. Any other means may be employed, however, to cause the head of the club to follow the

track, preventing accidental disengagement of the two, and indicating to the player proper movement backward and forward in his swing. If the training is in a proper place, the ball may be positioned at the proper point, substantially as indicated in Fig. 2, so that the player may readily perceive the effect of the blow and correct any inaccuracies in his play resulting from an improper grip, or from other causes.

Having thus described my invention, it is obvious that various modifications may be employed to secure substantially the same results, without departing from the spirit of the invention. Hence I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the exact form and construction shown, as such modifications will readily present themselves to the skilled teacher or expert.

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

1. A device of the kind described, comprising a suitable guiding track for the head of the club, describing a curve extending both vertically and horizontally to secure the most effective stroke, in which the neck of the player acts as a center, and the length of the arms of the player and the club used, act as the radius of such curve, substantially as described.

2. A device of the kind described, comprising a suitable guiding track for the head of the club, describing substantially a curve extending both vertically and horizontally to secure the most effective stroke, said track being graduated to measure the length of the stroke, the neck of the player forming the center, and the length of the arms of the player and the club used, acting as the radius of such curve or circle, substantially as described.

3. A device of the kind described, comprising a suitable guiding track for the head of the club, describing substantially a curve both vertically and horizontally, to secure the most effective stroke, with the neck of the player as the center, and the length of the arms and club used as the radius of such curve or circle, in combination with a club, in which the head is provided with means to loosely engage such track, to indicate the proper effective engagement of the club therewith, and hence the proper position of the player during the stroke, substantially as described.

4. A device of the kind described, comprising a suitable guiding track for the head of the club, describing a curve extending both vertically and horizontally to secure an effective stroke, in which the neck of the player acts as the center, and the length of the arms of the player and club used act as the radius of such curve, and means for ad-

justing the length of the guide as desired, substantially as described.

5 5. A device of the kind described, comprising a suitable guiding track for the head of the club, describing a curve indicating the path of the club head to secure an effective stroke, said guide being adjustable to modify the said curve as desired, whereby said guide may be adjusted to adapt it to

different individuals varying in their swing 10 of said club, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM J. ENGLISH.

Witnesses:

JOHN W. HILL,
CHARLES I. COBB.