No. 702,828. Patented June 17, 1902.

A. B. SMITH.

APPARATUS FOR GOLF PRACTICE.

(Application filed Oct. 10, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 5.

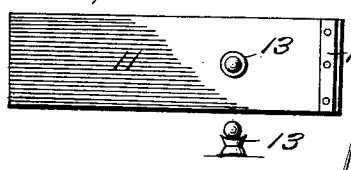


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

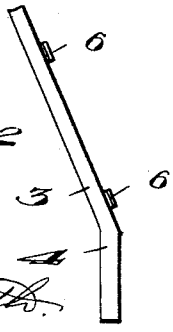


Fig. 3.

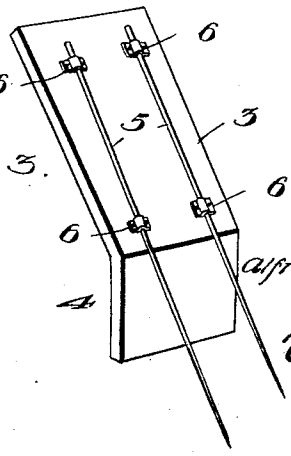
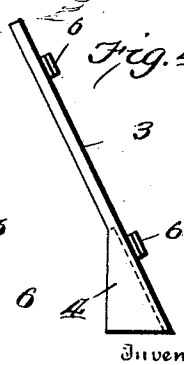


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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ALFRED BOWMAN SMITH, OF READING, ENGLAND.

APPARATUS FOR GOLF PRACTICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,828, dated June 17, 1902.

Application filed October 10, 1901. Serial No. 78,267. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED BOWMAN SMITH, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Rhodell, Hamilton road, Reading, England, have invented new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Golf Practice, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a golf-exerciser or apparatus for golf practice, the primary object being to provide means whereby the game of golf may be satisfactorily practiced at home either indoors or outdoors and the accuracy and strength of the "drive" of the player closely gaged.

A further object of the invention is to provide a target for golf practice so constructed that the ball will be arrested if it fails to strike the target and in case it hits the target will be returned by a rebound without danger of injury to the player or others.

The invention comprises a target which will insure the harmless rebound of the ball and in the detail characteristic features which will be fully described hereinafter in connection with the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, and defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a golf-exerciser embodying the invention adapted for outdoor use. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the target or "flight-gage." Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the rear side of the target and means for securing the same on the ground. Fig. 4 is a modified form of target, and Fig. 5 is a view in perspective of the "teeing-ground" employed in connection with the apparatus.

The reference-numeral 1 designates a net of wire-cloth or any other suitable fabric supported in vertical position by standards 2, the latter being either driven into the ground, as shown in Fig. 1, or otherwise supported when the apparatus is used indoors.

3 designates the target or flight-gage, consisting of a plate of any material which will insure the rebound of a ball striking it, as wood, metal, or vitreous material. The lower end of the target rests on the ground, and from a point 4 adjacent to said lower end the plate is inclined forward, as clearly shown. The target may be secured in position centrally in front of the net by means of parallel rods 5, sharpened at their lower ends and passed through eyes or keepers 6 on the back of the inclined portion of the target. The forward inclination of the target prevents the ball in its rebound after striking the target from glancing upward and striking the player or others.

The standards 2 are preferably braced by guy-ropes 7.

8 designates a tape-line laid on the ground and extending from the screen toward the player, and said tape-line measures the distance of rebound of the ball, and thus determines the strength of the drive. A row of pegs 9 may be substituted for the tape-line.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings I have illustrated a teeing board or plate 11, consisting of an oblong plate of suitable material having at its inner end a strip of metal 12 to keep it flat upon the surface, and at the proper point in the plate is secured a rubber "tee" 13, on the top of which the ball is placed preparatory to being hit and driven against the target, as indicated.

I claim—

1. In a golf-practice apparatus, a target consisting of a vertical base-plate and a forwardly-inclined and upwardly-extending plate, substantially as specified.

2. In a golf-practicing apparatus, a target consisting of a base portion and a forwardly-inclined upper portion, and downwardly-extending fastening-rods to hold the target against rearward movement.

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

ALFRED BOWMAN SMITH.

Witnesses:

W. G. WILSON,

F. DUCK.