F. L. CONNABLE.

APPARATUS FOR PRACTISING GOLF.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 17, 1911.

1,023,125.

Patented Apr. 16, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

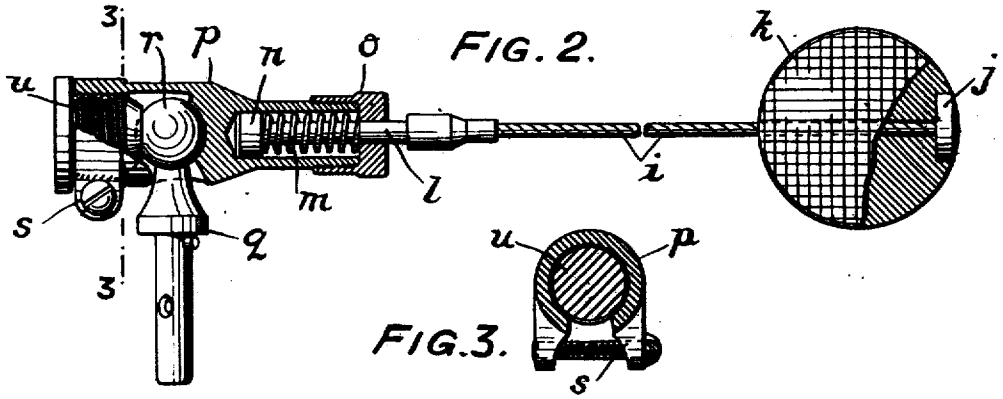

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

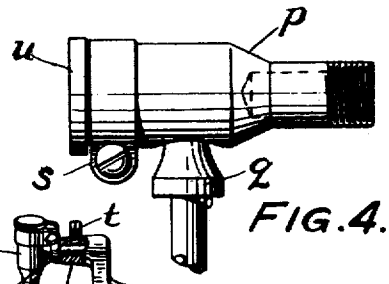

FIG. 4.

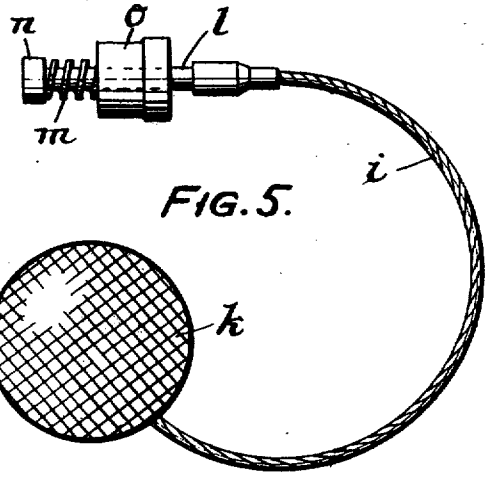

FIG. 5.

FIG. 1.

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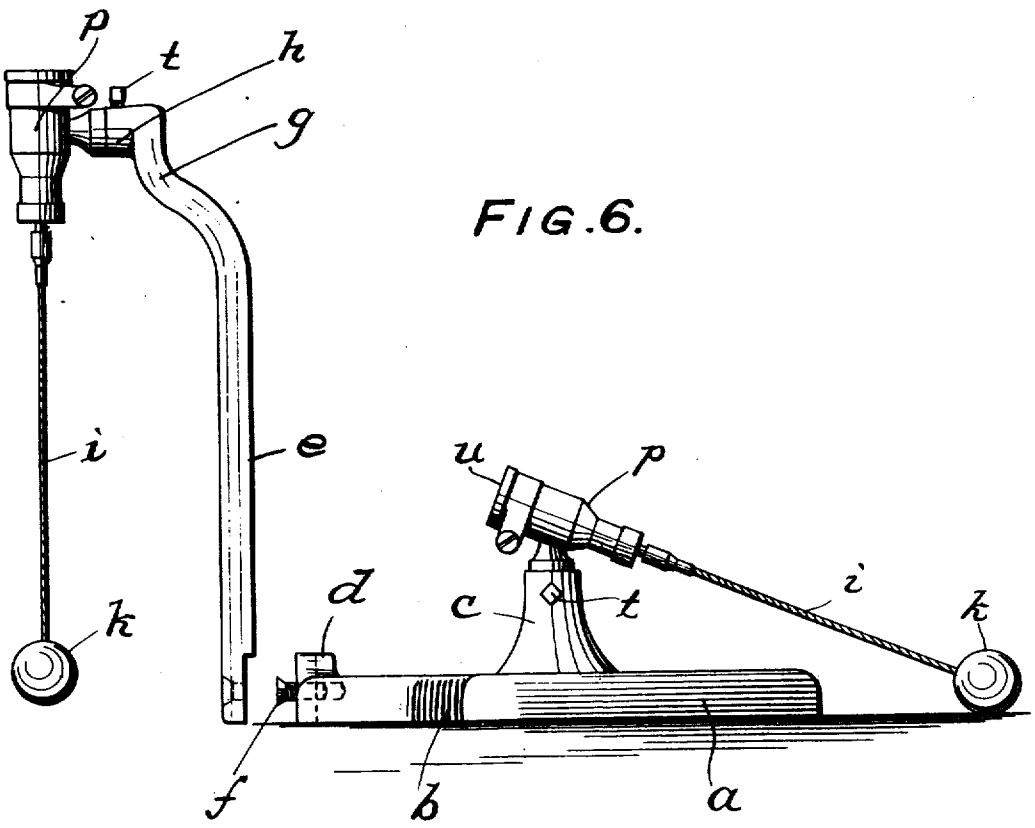

FIG. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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APPARATUS FOR PRACTISING GOLF.

1,023,125. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 16, 1912.

Application filed July 17, 1911. Serial No. 638,796.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK L. CONNABLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wilmington, county of Newcastle and State of Delaware, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Apparatus for Practising Golf, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has for its object an apparatus for driving either from a tee or the ground, which is adapted either for practice without any special arrangement, or location. It is adapted for use either indoors and in an ordinary room or out of doors.

I will first describe the embodiments of my invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and then point out the invention in the claims.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a general perspective view of improved apparatus. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view, partially broken away. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view of the pivoted frame. Fig. 5 is a view of the ball attachment. Fig. 6 is a view showing apparatus with upright detached.

a is the base which should be made sufficiently solid and heavy to stand firmly when the ball is struck and revolving. It is provided with three openings *b* for the insertion of devices to hold the base firmly in position.

If the apparatus is used out of doors stakes having heads and rings are driven into the ground preventing the vibration or moving of the base. If used indoors any desired securing means, such as wood screws, may be used, such screws passing through holes provided in the base for the purpose of firmly securing it to the floor.

c is a central hollow projection or stud, and *d* is a laterally projecting jaw like lug.

e is a vertical upright adapted to enter between the jaws of the lug *d* and be secured to the base by the screw *f*. This upright has the outwardly projecting portion *g* provided with the orificed portion *h*.

i is a wire or cable having the stop *j* at its end.

k is a golf ball having an orifice therethrough, through which the wire or cable passes. The end of the wire or cable *i* opposite to the stop *j* is connected to the rod *l*. Surrounding this rod is the spring *m*. This spring *m* is confined between the enlarged end *n* of the rod *l* and the internal flange of a cap *o*. The interior of this cap, at its outer end, is threaded, which threaded portion meshes with the exterior thread on the frame *p*.

q is the supporting rod which is mounted on a ball and socket joint *r* in the interior of the frame *p*.

u is a nut on the end of the frame for adjusting and taking up wear and *s* is a clip for locking this nut.

In practice the ball, its wire or cable and rod, and the frame are mounted in the central hollow projection *c* or the orificed portion *h* of the outwardly projecting portion *g* of the upright *e* and locked or clamped by the bolt *t*.

In practice the length of wire, holding the ball, when the device is mounted in *c* is greater than when mounted in *e*. The mounting in *e* being used for driving when the ball is elevated above the ground as in teeing, while the mounting in *c* being used for driving from different positions with reference to the ground.

When the device is mounted in *c* the upright *e* is removed (see Fig. 6) to allow complete freedom of movement of the ball so mounted in the position shown in Fig. 1.

Further, with my apparatus I can readily vary the distance of attachment of the ball by separating the cap and frame and securing a cap with any desired length of wire to said frame.

My apparatus is a convenient and simple apparatus for practicing hitting the ball from different positions, and can be readily set up and used both indoors and out of doors without any especial arrangement for its use. The arrangement of the connection of the ball enables the ball to respond to any character of stroke, whether correct or defective.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a base having a vertically projecting central hollow stud and a socketed outer portion adapted to an upright, an upright secured in said socket, said upright having an overlying hollow portion, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball, at one end of said wire, and a spring, against

the action of which said wire moves, on the other end of said wire, a frame connected with said wire, a rod, a universal joint for said rod, and means to secure said rod in said vertical hollow central stud and the overhanging of the upright.

2. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a base having a vertically projecting central hollow stud and a socketed outer portion adapted to an upright, an upright secured in said socket, said upright having an overlying hollow portion, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said wire, base connecting means, a universal joint upon which said means are mounted, and securing means to secure the base connecting means in the central stud and in the overhanging of the upright.

3. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a base having a vertically projecting central hollow stud and a socketed outer portion adapted to an upright, an upright secured in said socket, said upright having an overlying hollow portion, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said wire, a stop on the opposite end of said wire, a cap, said cap having a flange, a spring surrounding said wire and confined between the last mentioned stop and the cap flange, a frame, means to secure the frame and cap together, a rod, a ball and socket joint in said frame for said rod.

4. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a base having a vertically projecting central hollow stud and a socketed outer portion adapted to an upright, an upright secured in said socket, said upright having an overlying hollow portion, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball, at one end of said wire, and a spring, against the action of which said wire moves, on the other end of said wire, a frame connected with said wire, a rod, a ball and socket joint for said rod, and means to secure said rod in said vertical hollow central stud and the overhanging of the upright.

5. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a base having a vertically projecting central hollow stud and a socketed outer portion adapted to an upright, an upright secured in said socket, said upright having an overlying hollow portion, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said wire, base connecting means, a ball and socket joint upon which said means are mounted, and securing means to secure the base connecting means in the central stud and in the overhanging of the upright.

6. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a base having a vertically projecting central hollow stud and a socketed outer portion adapted to an upright, an upright secured in said socket, said upright having an overlying hollow portion, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said wire, a stop on the opposite end of said wire, a cap, said cap having a thread and a flange, a spring surrounding the rod and confined between the last mentioned stop and the cap flange, a frame having a threaded portion coacting with the cap thread, a rod, a ball and socket joint in said frame for said rod.

7. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball, at one end of said wire, and a spring, against the action of which said wire moves, on the other end of said wire, a frame connected with said wire, a supporting rod, and a universal joint connecting said rod and frame.

8. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said wire, a spring against the action of which said wire adapted to move, wire supporting means, and a universal joint upon which said means are mounted.

9. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball, at one end of said wire, a stop on the opposite end of said wire, a cap, said cap having a flange, a spring surrounding said wire and confined between the last mentioned stop and the cap flange, a frame, means to secure the frame and cap together, a rod, a ball and socket joint in said frame for said rod.

10. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball, at one end of said wire, and a spring, against the action of which said wire moves, on the other end of said wire, a frame connected with said wire, a supporting rod and a ball and socket joint connecting said frame and supporting rod.

11. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said wire, a spring against the action of which said wire is adapted to move, wire supporting means and a ball and socket joint upon which said means are mounted.

12. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a ball, a wire on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said wire, a stop on the opposite end of said wire, a cap, said cap having a thread and a flange, a spring

surrounding the rod and confined between the last mentioned stop and the cap flange, a frame having a threaded portion coacting with the cap thread, a rod, a ball and socket joint in said frame for said rod.

13. In an apparatus of the character described, in combination, a ball, a flexible wire rope, on which said ball is mounted, confining means for said ball at one end of said flexible wire rope, a cap, said cap having a thread and a flange, a spring surrounding the rod, and confined between the last mentioned stop and the cap flange acting as a spring cushion to the ball during operation, a frame having a threaded portion coacting with said cap threads, a rod, a ball and socket joint in said frame for said rod.

In testimony of which invention, I have hereunto set my hand, at Wilmington, Del., on this 10th day of July, 1911.

FRANK L. CONNABLE.

Witnesses:
ETHEL M. PARSONS,
T. W. KEITHLEY.