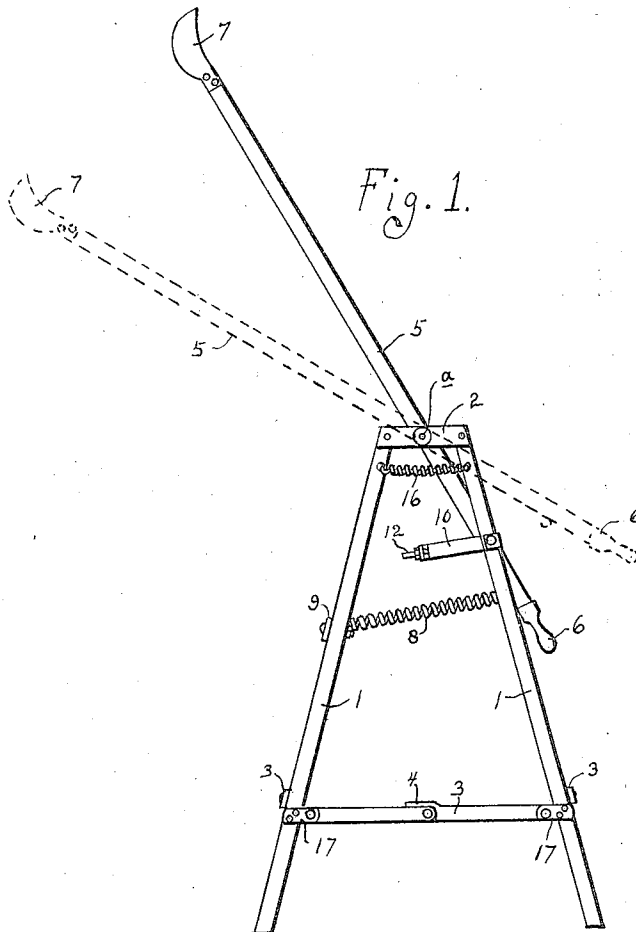
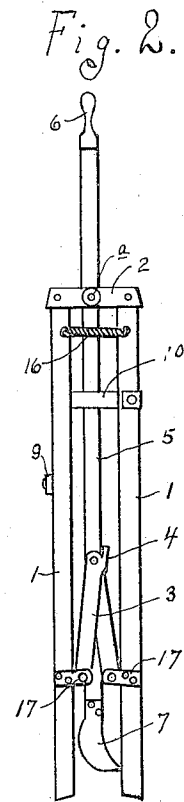
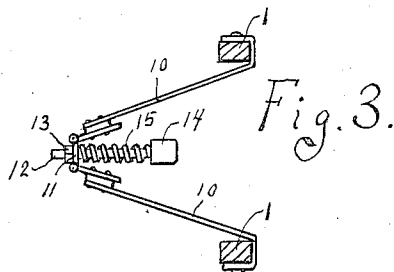


A. CARRINO.
CATAPULT.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 12, 1920.

1,384,046.

Patented July 12, 1921.



Inventor

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By

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW CARRINO, OF STERLING, ILLINOIS.

CATAPULT.

1,384,046.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed May 12, 1920. Serial No. 330,911.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW CARRINO, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sterling, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Catapults, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to catapults, and has for its purpose to discharge a missile with a great amount of force and precision. It is specially adapted for use in throwing hand grenades, but it can also be employed for throwing a base ball, in practice, or in other ways.

My device is simply and durably constructed, and is capable of being closed up into a compact space for storage or shipment.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 shows my invention, in side elevation.

Fig. 2 shows the same, when folded.

Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the buffer mechanism.

The device has a supporting frame, comprising two pairs of legs 1, united at their upper ends by plates 2, having a pivotal connection with said legs. Near their lower ends the legs 1 are united in both directions by folding braces 3, one part of which has an extension 4 which engages the other part when the brace is open and limits the downward movement thereof. Pivoted between the plates 2, as at *a*, is a hand-lever 5, provided at its lower end with a handle 6, and at its upper end with a pocket 7, to serve as a receptacle for a hand grenade or other missile. One end of a contractile coiled spring 8 is attached to the short arm of the lever 5, the other end thereof being fixed to a cross-bar 9, also formed of hinged parts, so as to fold with the braces 3.

The frame is also provided with a buffer mechanism, consisting of a pair of arms 10, secured to the front legs of the frame and hingedly connected with a plate 11 through which passes a pin 12, so as to be slidable therein. The forward movement of said pin is limited by a nut 13 thereon, and at its outer end is a head 14, separated from the plate 11 by a contractile coiled spring 15.

In operation, the receptacle 7 is provided with a missile, which is loosely held

therein. The lever is then tipped rearwardly, as shown in broken lines in Fig. 1, whereupon the short end thereof is moved downwardly with considerable force, aided by the spring 8. The upper end of the lever is thereby thrown upwardly and forwardly, until the short arm thereof comes in contact with the buffer 14. This acts to suddenly arrest the movement of the lever, causing the discharge of the missile from the pocket 7, and the projection thereof for a considerable distance, depending upon the force which is exerted upon the lever 5.

When not in use, or when being transported from place to place, the device can be folded into a compact space, as shown in Fig. 2. For this purpose the pivot *a* is removed and the lever 5, released, whereupon the long arm of said lever can be turned inwardly, as shown in said figure, and the pivot replaced.

Springs 16 unite the side pairs of legs 1 and tend to hold said legs in folded position. The folding braces 3 are preferably pivoted to plates 17 attached to the legs instead of directly to such legs, whereby such braces are permitted to fold compactly between the legs.

When used for throwing hand grenades the device would ordinarily be operated by two men, one of whom would feed the missiles into the pocket, and the other one of whom would work the hand-lever.

The legs 1 are preferably formed of wood, but can be constructed of angle-plate, or otherwise, if desired.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure, is:

A device of the class described, comprising two pairs of legs, foldably united; plates uniting said legs, in pairs, at their upper ends; a hand-lever pivotally mounted in said plates and provided at its outer end with a pocket; a spring connecting said lever with said frame, and capable of imparting force thereto, when operated; and a yieldable buffer mechanism mounted in said frame, and adapted to be contacted by said lever at the end of its movement, when discharging a missile.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ANDREW CARRINO.