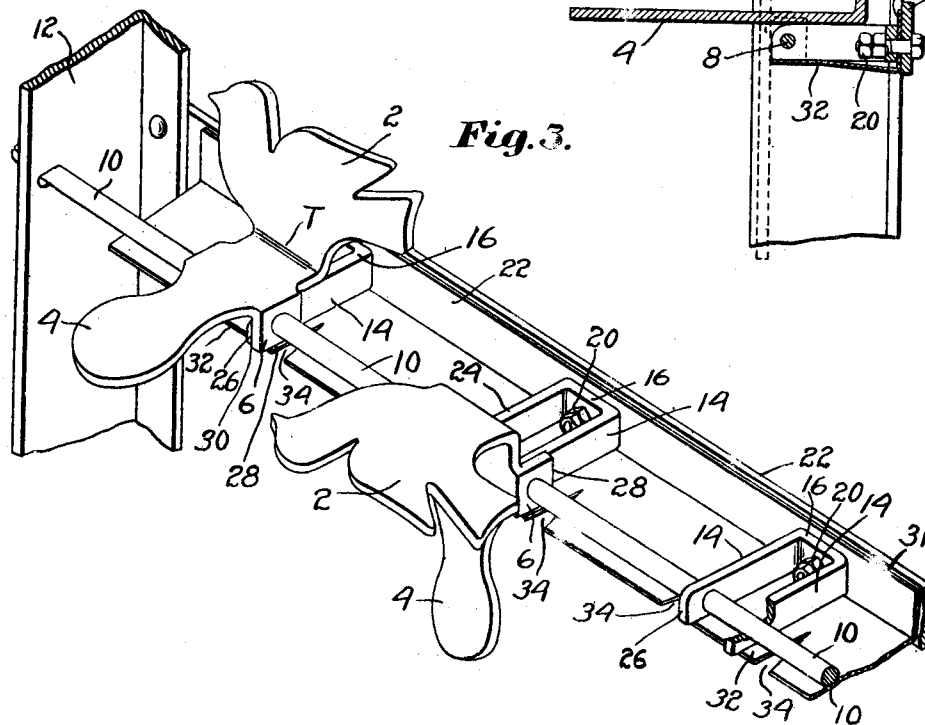
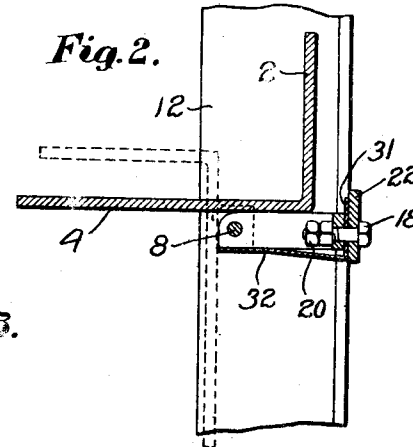
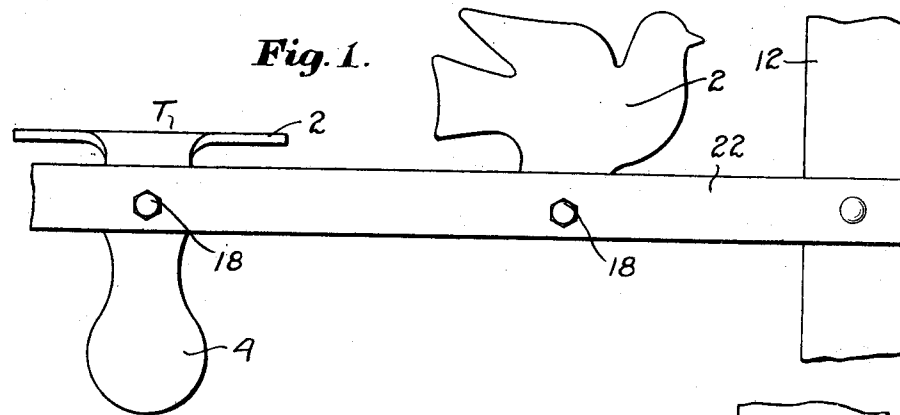


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 TARGET.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TARGET.

1,036,879.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER CURTIS MINER, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Targets, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to targets and has for its object and aim to provide a target of novel and simple construction and operation.

The features of the invention will best be understood from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, of a target embodying one form of the invention for the purpose of illustration of the same, the scope of the invention being more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings: Figure 1 is a front elevation of two targets embodying the invention, said targets being shown in different positions; Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of the target shown in Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is an isometric projection of the two targets shown in Fig. 1, seen from the rear.

The target in accordance with the present invention comprises a plurality of marks which can be moved selectively into position to be shot at. To this end the target which for convenience may be designated by the reference character T, includes in the illustrative embodiment shown a plurality of target members, preferably two, designated by the reference characters 2 and 4. These target members have herein been given different shapes, one being shaped to simulate a bird, while the other is substantially disk shaped, but it will be understood that the invention is not limited in these respects, as said target members can be given any shape desired.

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention each target member constitutes one of the marks, and to enable the marks to be moved selectively into operative position, said target members are herein preferably mounted for vertical rocking movement, this being conveniently provided for in the illustrative embodiment of the invention by connecting the two target members or making them integral and providing the target T

with two lateral ears 6, 6, preferably integral therewith and bent at right angles to one of the target members, herein the target member 4, said ears being each provided with an opening 8, through which extends a shaft 10 upon which the target is free to turn. The shaft 10 may be sustained in any suitable manner at the required height from the ground or floor, this being herein provided for by securing the ends of the shaft in two vertically disposed angle irons, only the upper part of one of which 12 is shown in the drawings; said angle irons being in turn rigidly supported in any suitable manner, as by being secured directly to the floor, or to any suitable frame or base (not shown) adapted to rest upon the ground or floor. Said target members are preferably, though not necessarily, disposed at right angles to each other and for convenience and economy of construction they and the ears 6, 6 may be stamped from a single steel plate, the two target members then being bent into the rectangular position herein illustrated.

To prevent displacement of the target members longitudinally of the shaft, suitable abutments, or stops are provided, herein conveniently constituted by the two branches 14, 14 of a U-shaped member 16 rigidly secured as by a bolt 18 and nuts 20 to a bar 22. This bar is preferably of hardened steel, and extends parallel to the shaft 10 in front thereof, its two ends being rigidly secured in any convenient manner to suitable supports, herein for convenience to the angle irons in which are secured the ends of the shaft 10. The free ends of the two branches 14 of the U-shaped member 16 extend between the two ears of the target, into suitable position adjacent their inner faces to prevent longitudinal displacement of the target on the shaft 10, which extends through suitable openings provided in said branches 14, 14. It will be seen that the aforesaid bar 22 may also act as a shield to protect the shaft 10 and adjacent parts from injury by being hit by bullets. The U-shaped members 16 also serve as a convenient means to sustain the shaft 10 intermediate its ends, this function being more particularly advantageous when a plurality of targets is used, special intermediate supports for the shaft being thus dispensed with.

Means is preferably provided for limiting

the rocking movement of the target members, said means being herein conveniently formed by the upper edges 24 and front edges 26 of the branches of the U-shaped member 16; although it will be apparent that any other suitable stops might be provided to this end. The angle of rocking movement of the target members is thus herein limited to 90°, the under face of that portion of the target extending between the two ears 6, 6, contacting with the upper edges 24 of the U-shaped member 16 when the target member 2 is in vertical or operative position and with the front edges 26 of said U-shaped member 16 when said target member 2 is in horizontal or inoperative position.

It will be seen that in the specific embodiment of the invention herein illustrated, in which the two target members 2 and 4 are integral and positioned at right angles to each other, when the target member 2 is in vertical position it appears in operative position above the bar 22, while the target member 4 will be in horizontal or inoperative position and will be hidden from view from the firing point by said bar 22; that on the other hand when the target member 2 is turned down into horizontal or inoperative position it will be invisible from the firing point, it being behind the bar 22, while the target member 4 will be in vertical or operative position below the bar 22, and will be visible from the firing point.

That portion of the target constituting the upper target member, herein the member 2, will preferably counterbalance the other portion constituting the lower member 4, so that when either target member is swung into operative position, it will remain in that position. If desired means may be provided automatically to insure that when a target member is moved into operative position or into inoperative position it shall not be inadvertently or accidentally moved from said position, said means herein comprising a yielding member disposed so as to contact with the edge 28 at the end of the ear or ears 6 of the target when the target member 2 is in operative position and with the front edge 30 of said ears 6 when the target member 4 is in operative position, said spring member herein consisting conveniently of a rectangularly bent plate of spring metal rigidly secured in any suitable manner to the bar 22 and having its horizontal portion 32 extending outwardly from said bar beneath the U-shaped member 16 into position to cooperate with the ears 6 as above described, said horizontal portion 32 yielding to enable the target members to be swung into and out of operative position. Where means, such as the spring member 32 is used, the upper target member need not counterbalance the

other target member. When a plurality of targets is used a single such rectangularly bent plate of spring metal will conveniently be employed, the horizontal portions 32 for cooperating as described with the individual targets being formed by suitably spaced notches 34, whereby operation of one target will not affect any other one.

From the construction described it will be apparent that in the target of the present invention the marks are selectively movable into operative position; that they are also selectively movable into inoperative position; and that the construction may be such that when one mark is moved from operative position another is moved into operative position. It will also be noted that either target member is movable from inoperative into operative position, by impact upon the other target member of a missile discharged at the front of the target. Also it will be noted that the operative position of one target member is different from that of the other, so that, when shooting at the target members alternately, more skill is required than if the target members occupied the same operative position, since it is necessary for the marksman to change his aim.

As one example of one use to which this invention can be applied, and assuming that, in the embodiment of the invention herein disclosed for illustrative purposes, the target member 2 is in operative position above the bar 22, as shown at the right in Fig. 1 or left in Fig. 3, the impact thereon of a missile will cause the target to rock rearwardly upon its shaft 10, thus throwing the target member 2 into horizontal or inoperative position, and bringing the target member 4 into vertical or operative position below the bar 22, the target remaining in this position; on the other hand, the target member 4 being in operative position, the impact of a missile thereon will rock the target upwardly about the shaft 10, until the target member 2 is again in vertical or operative position and the target member 4 in horizontal or inoperative position, in which position the target will come to rest, as already described. The target may be operated as described by shooting at it with a small arm, the object being to see how often in succession without a miss the two target members can be alternately shot out of and into operative position. Where a plurality of targets embodying the invention is used, all the targets may be positioned so that their corresponding target members, target members 2 for example, are all in operative position and then seeing who can first shoot all the target members 2 out of operative position and then, by shooting at the target members 4, restore the target members 2 to operative position again with the fewest

misses. The target is movable by impact thereon of a missile to always present a mark in position to be shot at.

While details of mechanical devices have been shown which have been found well adapted to carry the invention into effect, it is to be understood that the invention is not restricted or circumscribed thereby, the essentials of the invention being defined in the claims by intentionally broad language comprehensive of various forms or embodiments of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a target; two rigidly connected target members mounted for movement to and from operative position; means, whereby impact upon either one of said target members, that is in operative position, of a missile discharged at the front of the target will move that target member that is hit out of operative position and the other target member into operative position; and means to arrest the movement imparted to the target members by the impact of a missile, whenever either target member reaches operative position.

2. A target, comprising two target members; a shaft upon which said target is mounted for swinging movement alternately in opposite directions responsive to the impact upon said target members of a missile discharged at the front of the target to swing the target member that is hit from operative into inoperative position, and the other target member from inoperative into operative position; and means to arrest the movement of the target and prevent further movement thereof in the same direction, whenever either target member has reached operative position.

3. A target, comprising two rigidly connected target members, said target being mounted for swinging movement, responsive to the impact upon either one of said target members of a missile discharged at the front of the target, to swing the target member that is hit backward from operative into inoperative position, and the other target member forward from inoperative into operative position; and means to stop the movement of a target member, whenever it reaches operative position.

4. A target, comprising two target members each constituting a mark; means permitting said target members to be moved selectively in opposite directions, each into a different operative position from that of the other; and means to arrest the movement of either target member whenever it reaches operative position and to prevent accidental displacement thereof from operative position.

5. In a target a plurality of target mem-

bers mounted for movement to and from operative position; intermediate connections whereby impact upon one of said target members, of a missile discharged at the front of the target, will move said target member from operative into inoperative, and another target member from inoperative into operative position; means to arrest a target member when it reaches operative position; and separate means to secure a target member against accidental movement from operative position.

6. A target comprising two target members, each movable from inoperative into a different operative position from that of the other, by impact upon the latter of a missile discharged at the front of the target, one target member counter-balancing the other; and means to arrest movement of either target member, whenever it reaches operative position.

7. A target comprising two movably mounted target members, one of which is normally in operative and the other normally in inoperative position; means whereby movement of either one of said target members from operative into inoperative position will move the other into a different operative position from that of the first named target member, one of said target members counter-balancing the other; and means to arrest movement of either target member, whenever it reaches operative position.

8. A target comprising two target members, each constituting a mark, and only one of which is in operative position at a time; a shaft upon which said target is mounted for rocking movement by impact of a missile upon either target member; means to arrest the rocking movement of said target when a target member reaches operative position; and yielding means to secure the target against movement when a target member is in operative position.

9. In a target; a plurality of target members mounted for movement to and from operative position, one of said target members being in operative position at a time; intermediate connections whereby impact upon one of said target members of a missile discharged at the front of the target will move said target member from operative into inoperative position, and another target member from inoperative into a different operative position from that of the target member that was hit; and means to arrest movement of any one of said target members, whenever it reaches operative position.

10. In a target; two connected target members mounted for movement to and from operative position, the construction and arrangement being such that one is normally in operative and the other is normally in inoperative position, and that impact

upon that target member that is in operative position of a missile discharged at the front of the target will move said target member into inoperative position, and the other target member from inoperative into a different operative position from that of the target member that was hit; and means to arrest the movement of either target member, whenever it reaches operative position.

11. In a target; two target members, one of which is normally in operative and the other in inoperative position, and each one mounted for swinging movement to and from a different operative position from that of the other; connections between said target members, whereby impact of a missile upon the target member that is in operative position will swing that one into its inoperative and the other into its operative position; and means to arrest the movement of either target member, whenever it reaches operative position and to secure said target member from accidental displacement from operative position.

12. In a target; two rigidly connected target members mounted for movement to and from operative position; means whereby impact upon either one of said target members that is in operative position, of a missile discharged at the front of the target, will move that target member that is hit out of operative position and the other target member into operative position; a stop to arrest the movement of said target members, whenever either one reaches operative position, and a spring member to secure either target member from accidental movement from operative position.

13. In a target; two rigidly connected target members mounted for movement to and from operative position; means whereby impact upon either one of said target members, that is in operative position, of a missile discharged at the front of the target will move that target member that is hit out of operative position and the other target member into operative position; means to arrest movement of a target member when it reaches operative position; and yielding means to secure said target member against accidental displacement from operative position.

14. In a target, the rigidly connected target members 2 and 4, the shaft 10 for sustaining said target members for swinging movement, supporting means for said shaft and the stops 16 and 26 to limit the movement of said target members.

15. In a target, the rigidly connected target members 2 and 4; the shaft 10 for supporting said target members for swinging movement; stops for limiting the movement

of the target members and the spring member 22 for yieldingly retaining a target member in position.

16. In a target, a plurality of pairs of target members, each target member of a pair being mounted for movement from operative into inoperative position by impact thereon of a missile discharged at the front of the target; connecting means for the target members of each pair, whereby movement of a target member of a pair from operative into inoperative position will cause the other target member of said pair to be moved from inoperative into operative position; means to arrest the movement of a target member, whenever it reaches operative position; and common means for preventing accidental movement of any one of the target members of all the pairs out of operative position.

17. In a target a plurality of pairs of target members, each target member of a pair being mounted for movement from operative into inoperative position by impact thereon of a missile discharged at the front of the target; a common shaft, upon which all the pairs of target members are mounted for swinging movement; connecting means for the target members of each pair, whereby movement of a target member of a pair from operative into inoperative position will cause the other target member of said pair to be moved from inoperative into operative position; means to arrest the movement of a target member, whenever it reaches operative position; and common means for preventing accidental movement of any one of the target members of all the pairs out of operative position.

18. In a target a plurality of target members, each adapted to occupy a different operative position and each mounted for movement out of operative position, responsive to impact thereon of a missile discharged at the front of the target; intermediate connections whereby movement of one target member out of operative position responsive to impact thereon of a missile discharged at the front of the target will through said connections move into its operative position another target member that is in inoperative position; and means always to arrest movement of a target member, whenever it reaches operative position.

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

WALTER CURTIS MINER.

Witnesses:

MARY E. FLYNN,
HAROLD P. WILLIAMS.