No. 811,963. PATENTED FEB. 6, 1906.

H. A. SHAULES.

TARGET.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 3, 1905.

Fig. 1.

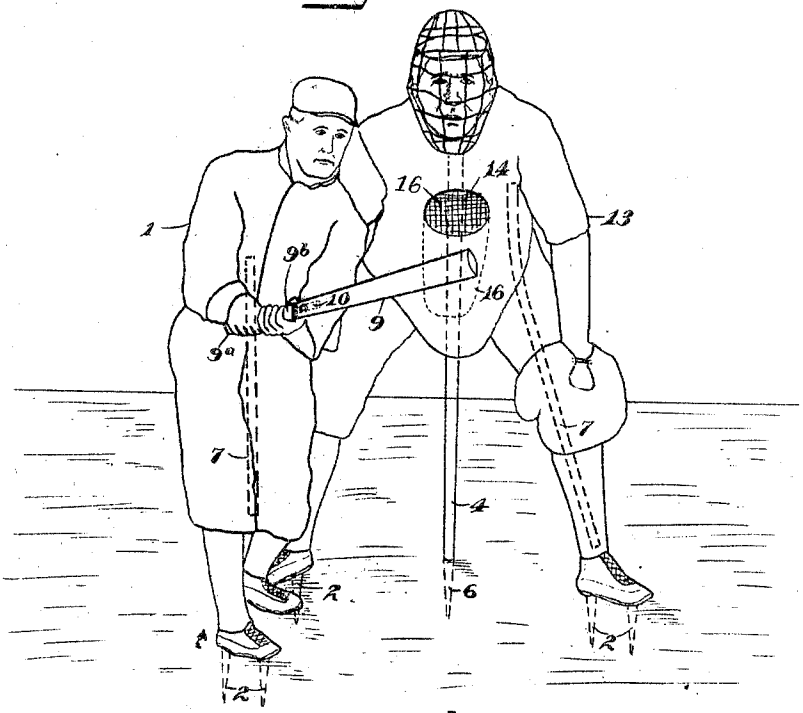


Fig. 2.

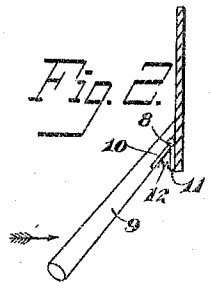


Fig. 3.

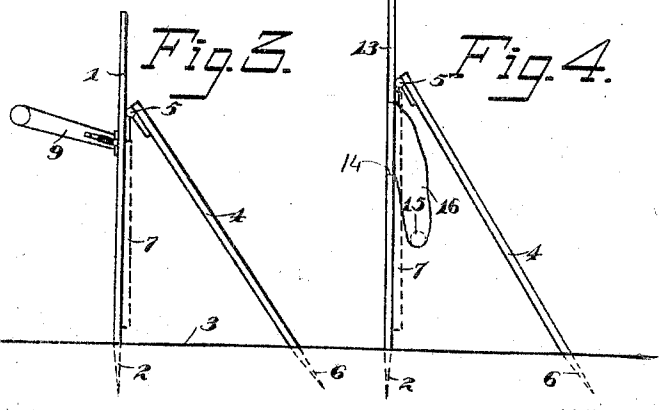


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

William M. Silbert

Kittie Frankfort.

INVENTOR.

Herbert A. Shaules

BY B. C. Stickney

ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT A. SHAULES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO SHAULES AMUSEMENT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

TARGET.

No. 811,963. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 6, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT A. SHAULES, a citizen of the United States, residing in Brooklyn borough, New York city, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Target, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a game set of the kind in which the player employs his skill in throwing.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to provide an inexpensive but attractive apparatus which can be used at country fairs and at other pleasure resorts for interesting and amusing the public, and particularly those who take an interest in the game of base-ball or who wish to try their skill at pitching balls. To this end I provide a pair or set of figures, one gotten up as a base-ball batter and the other as a base-ball catcher, the former to stand in front of the latter, with the bat extended in position to be struck by a pitched ball. A prize may be given to anybody who strikes the bat with a ball, and in order to avoid dispute as to whether the ball strikes the bat I hinge the latter to the figure of the batter, so that when the bat is struck it is caused to yield, thus giving a visible indication of the success of the pitcher. A spring returns the bat to normal position after yielding.

The figures may be made of sheet metal or boards suitably braced, and in the figure of the catcher I make an aperture which constitutes the mouth of a bag, the latter hanging down back of the figure and intended to receive some of the balls thrown past the bat. A small prize may be offered to any player who puts a ball through the aperture into the bag.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of one form of game set or apparatus constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional-view plan, illustrating the hinging of a bat to the figure of the batter, an arrow showing the direction taken by a ball thrown at the bat. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the apparatus when set up.

The figure of the batter 1, which is illustrated as formed of a plate of sheet metal, (although it may be formed of wood and sheathed by tin,) is suitably painted to represent the various portions of the clothing and the other features and is provided with a pair of spikes 2 in a foot, to be stuck into the ground or floor 3. The latter is further braced by means of a rear support 4, which is hinged at 5 to the back upper portion of the figure, being sharpened at its lower end, at 6, to stick into the ground. The plate may be stiffened by one or more ribs 7, secured upon the back thereof.

Upon the front of the figure is hinged at 8 a bat, which, it will be seen, is of ordinary solid form or construction, so that the player may throw the ball at a real bat. The hands, as well as the other portions of the batter, are painted directly upon the flat front surface of the figure, and the bat projects from the painted hands, as seen at Fig. 1, the handle of the bat being painted to appear as held in the hands, as at 9^a and 9^b, so as to perfect the illusion. The movable bat is cut away near the handle and beveled, as at Fig. 2, to abut against the flat surface of the figure of the batter, and is also recessed at 10 to receive a leaf of a hinge, the other leaf 11 being secured to the batter's figure. A compression-spring 12 between the leaves 10 and 11 holds the bat in normal position and returns the same after being moved back by the ball. The beveled end of the bat serves as a stop to prevent the spring 12 from turning the bat too far.

At 13 is seen a figure of a catcher, which is made either of a sheet of metal or of board tinned over and painted in the same style as the figure of the batter. This is also provided with spikes or anchors 2 and a hinged brace 4 and also with a stiffening rib or ribs 7. In practice the catcher is placed directly behind the bat 9, as seen at Figs. 1 and 3.

Through the body of the catcher I form a perforation 14 of convenient size, through which may pass any ball 15 that is thrown just a little above the bat, a bag 16 hanging at the back of the catcher to receive such balls, the opening 14 constituting the mouth of the bag.

It will thus be seen that at extremely low cost an interesting and entertaining pastime is provided, while the apparatus may also be used for experts desiring to perfect themselves in pitching without risk of injury to other players, the figures and bat being life-size.

It is not necessary in all cases that the figures should be made in the form of flat plates illustrated.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter and of a base-ball catcher, with means for supporting them in upstanding positions; the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat, and also with means for signaling when the bat is struck by a ball thrown by the player.

2. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter and a figure of a catcher, with means for supporting them in upstanding positions; the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat, and the figure of the catcher being provided with a receptacle into which may drop some of the balls thrown past the bat.

3. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter and a figure of a catcher, with means for securing and bracing each of them in upstanding position; the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat, which is movably mounted upon said batter, so as to be displaceable by a ball striking the same while the batter remains motionless.

4. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter and a figure of a catcher, with means for securing them in upstanding position; the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat, which is movably mounted so as to be displaceable by a ball striking the same while the batter remains motionless, and means for returning said bat to normal position after being struck.

5. A game-set comprising a profiled figure of a base-ball batter and a profiled figure of a catcher, with means for securing them in upstanding positions; the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat, and each of said figures being formed of a plate of metal suitably painted upon its front side, with a stiffening-rib, such as 7, fixed upon the back of each plate.

6. A game apparatus comprising a profiled figure of a base-ball batter and a profiled figure of a catcher, the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat, each of said figures provided with prongs upon its feet to stick into the ground or floor, and also with a hinged rear support or brace to rest upon the ground.

7. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter and a figure of a catcher, with means for supporting them in upstanding positions; the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat and with means for signaling whenever the bat is struck by a ball thrown by the player, and the figure of the catcher being provided with a receptacle into which may drop some of the balls thrown past the bat.

8. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter and a figure of a catcher, both having means whereby they may be secured and braced upon the ground or floor; the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat and with means for signaling whenever the bat is struck by a ball thrown by the player, and an opening being formed in the body of the catcher, and a receptacle being provided in rear of said opening for the balls thrown at the bat.

9. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter and a profiled figure of a base-ball catcher; the batter being provided with an extended bat; and the catcher having a receptacle for the thrown balls, the opening for said receptacle being in the body of the catcher.

10. A game apparatus comprising a figure of a base-ball batter provided with an extended bat, which is hinged upon the body of the batter, and a figure of a catcher, provided with a receptacle for balls thrown at the bat.

11. A game apparatus comprising a profiled figure of a base-ball batter and a profiled figure of a catcher, each of said figures provided with prongs upon its feet to stick into the ground or floor, and also with a hinged rear support or brace to rest upon the ground, the figure of the batter being provided with an extended bat and with means for signaling when the bat is struck, and the figure of the catcher having a receptacle for the thrown balls.

HERBERT A. SHAULES.

Witnesses:
B. C. STICKNEY,
WILLIAM M. HILBERT.