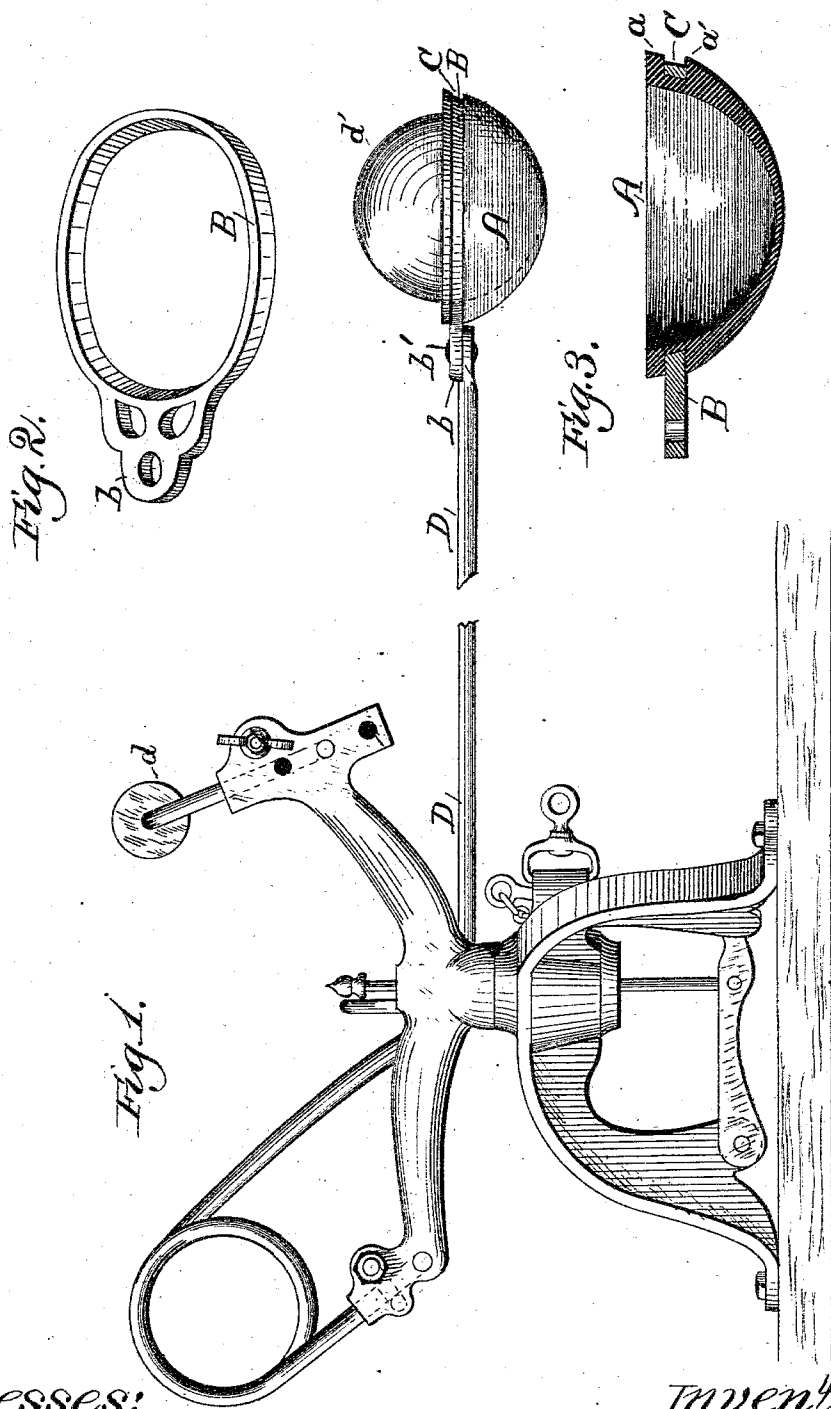


(No Model.)

J. G. MOLE.
FLYING TARGET.

No. 295,271.

Patented Mar. 18, 1884.



Witnesses:
Chas. E. Gaylord.
L. H. Freeman.

Inventor:
John G. Mole.
By G. B. Coupland & Co.
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. MOLE, OF BATAVIA, ILLINOIS.

FLYING TARGET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 295,271, dated March 18, 1884.

Application filed November 20, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. MOLE, of Batavia, county of Kane, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Flying-Target Trap, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, that will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

This invention is an improvement in Letters Patent No. 201,118, granted to me on the 12th day of March, 1878.

The nature of the invention relates to a receptacle for holding a glass ball or other object in place to be thrown from the trap as flying targets; and it consists of a flexible elastic holder or cup of a semi-globular form, gradually increasing in thickness from the bottom upward, and provided near the top with an exterior annular groove, adapting the holder to engage with an inclosing metallic band or bracket, whereby the same is retained in relation thereto without other fastening devices.

The target-holder in a device of this character is a very essential and important feature, and it has been a very difficult matter to get a holder that would throw glass balls without fracturing the same, and at the same time provide a holder that could be readily and conveniently replaced when worn out.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a target-trap embodying my improved feature; Fig. 2, a perspective of the retaining band or bracket; Fig. 3, a vertical central section of the cup-shaped receptacle.

As the trap proper has already been patented to me, the description in this case will be confined to the improved part.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the cup or holder, which is ordinarily composed of rubber-molded in the required form. This cup gradually increases in thickness from the bottom to the top, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. This form of construction leaves the bottom thin, elastic, and pliable, and avoids the danger of fracturing the balls, and the increased thickness near the top affords the required stiffness or body for retaining the same in position relative to the holding band or bracket B. The cup or holder A is provided near the top with the annular groove

C, into which sets the band B, the flange or top *a* projecting over the top of the same, while the under side of the band rests on the bead *a'*, thus rendering it a matter of impossibility for the cup or holder to become accidentally misplaced or thrown out by the action of the trap. In this manner the cup is detachably secured in position in the holding band or bracket by its elastic nature and peculiar form of construction, the cup of course being made a snug fit, so that it will have to be sprung into position with the fingers.

The trap when sprung flies off with a powerful jerk, so that it is very essential that the cup or holder be tightly secured, and at the same time provide for the convenient insertion of a new holder without a moment's delay.

Heretofore the holders have been secured by the use of wire and similar means; but this manner often caused vexatious delays, and seriously marred the sport, all of which objections are removed by my improved manner of constructing and securing the holder in the band inclosing the same.

The band or bracket B is provided with the lateral perfecting part *b*, which is perforated for the passage of the rivet *b'*, for securing the same to the flattened end of the spring-arm D.

Fig. 1 shows the trap set, and when the same is sprung the spring-arm D strikes and stops against the under side of the rubber roller *d*, and the ball *d'* is discharged from the holder.

Rubber is preferably used in the construction of the holder; but any other material suitable for the purpose may be used.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A target holder or cup of a semi-globular form composed of rubber or other material of an elastic nature, and provided near the top with an annular exterior groove, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A target holder or cup of an elastic nature, the inclosing-walls whereof are thin at the bottom, and gradually increase in thickness upward, and are provided near the top with an exterior annular groove, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination, with a target-holding

cup composed of flexible material, and provided near the top with an annular groove, of an encircling band or bracket adapted to engage with said groove, and be retained in place
5 by means of the flange *a* and the bead *a'*, formed on said holder, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with a cup-shaped target-holder of an elastic nature, thin at the bottom and gradually increasing in thickness upward, and provided near the top or edge with

an annular groove, of the encircling-band *B*, adapted to fit into said groove, and provided with the attaching projection *b* and the spring-arm *D*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN G. MOLE.

Witnesses:

I. GRIFFIN,

E. S. SMITH.