(No Model.)

A. G. EASTON.

BALL TRAP.

No. 266,980. Patented Nov. 7, 1882.

Fig. 1.

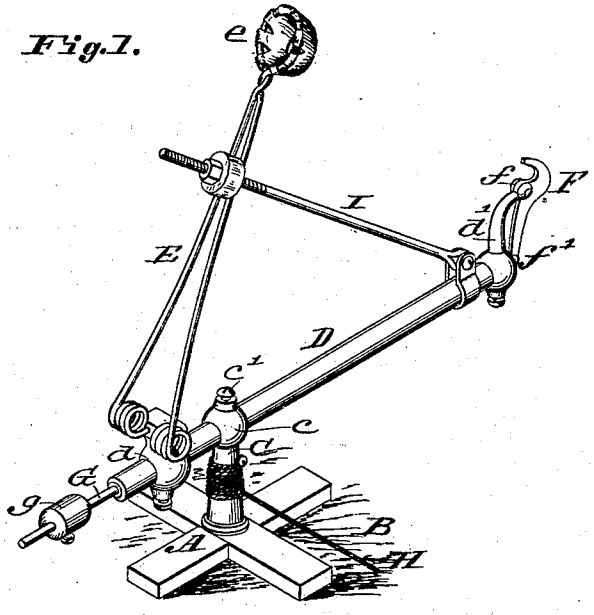
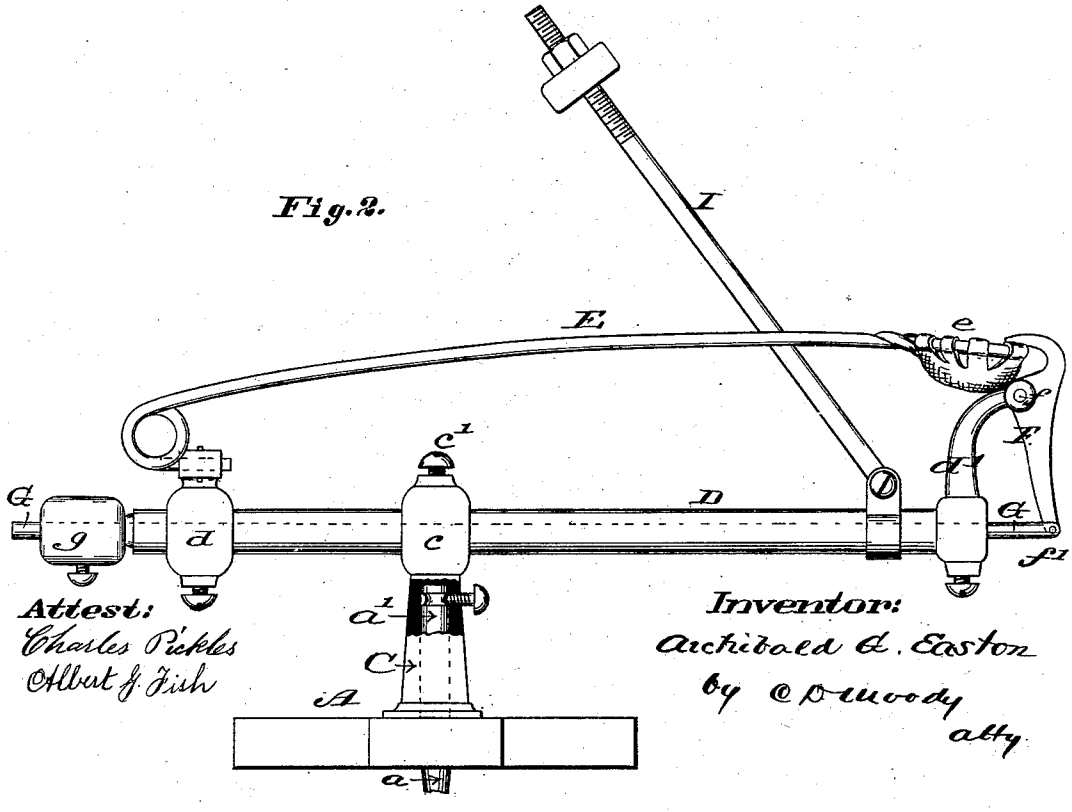


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARCHIBALD G. EASTON, OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI.

BALL-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,980, dated November 7, 1882.

Application filed June 21, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARCHIBALD G. EASTON, of Sedalia, Missouri, have made a new and useful Improvement in Ball-Traps, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the improved trap, and Fig. 2 a side elevation, a portion of the construction being shown in section.

The same letters denote the same parts.

By means of the present invention the operator is prevented from anticipating the direction of the discharge of the ball, as the ball is liable to be thrown to any quarter. An additional feature is the means for discharging the ball at any desired angle with the horizon.

In the drawings, A represents a base, which rests on the ground B, having a foot, *a*, which is driven into the ground. The base is provided with a spindle, *a'*. A post, C, is fitted to and to be rotated in a horizontal plane on the spindle *a'*. The post, above the spindle *a'*, has an eye, *c*, to receive a tube, D. The tube can be adjusted longitudinally in the eye, and can also be turned around in the eye, and when adjusted the tube can be fixed in the post C by means of the set-screw *c'*. The tube, at or toward one end thereof, and, say, by means of the block *d*, supports the spring-arm E. At or toward its other end the tube is supported with a standard, *d'*. A trigger, F, at *f*, is hinged to the standard *d'*, and at *f'* is jointed to a rod, G, which passes through the tube D. The farther end of the rod, at a point beyond the tube, is weighted preferably, the weight *g* being adjustable on the rod. The spring-arm E carries the cup *e*, and the parts are so proportioned and arranged that the arm E can be sprung down and held by means of the trigger F, as seen in Fig. 2.

In use a cord, H, is attached to and wound around the post C, and by drawing the cord the post, together with the tube D, arm E, rod G, and trigger F are caused to rotate upon the spindle *a'*. The centrifugal force thereby generated causes the rod G to slide longitudinally in the tube D, and in so doing to draw the lower end of the trigger F toward the tube D and to release the upper end of the trigger from the arm E. The arm E is then thrown upward and the ball discharged from the cup. This occurs, however, as the parts are rotating on the spindle *a'*, and hence it is impossible, in advance of the springing of the trap, to determine to what quarter the ball will be thrown. To cause the rod G to move in the tube D in the proper direction the tube should be properly adjusted in a longitudinal direction in the post C. The weight *g* is useful in perfecting the adjustment and in rendering the rod G sensitive to the influence of the centrifugal force.

The tube D can be set in the post C so as to cause the arm E to move in a vertical plane and to deliver the ball accordingly; but if it is desired to have the arm E move in a plane inclined to the horizon the tube D is turned around in the eye *c* until the arm E and cup *e* are set to the desired angle, whereupon the ball, in place of being discharged directly upward, is thrown in a plane inclined to the horizon. The usual device, I, is employed for arresting the upward movement of the arm E.

I claim—

1. The tube D, carrying the spring-arm, and mounted and operated as described, and having at one end the standard *d'*, to which the trigger F is jointed, combined with the rod G, which is movable centrally within said tube, and has a weight, *g*, at its other end, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the revolving post C, mounted, as described, on base A, and having eye *c*, with the tube D, carrying the spring-arm, and the trigger and set-screw *c'*, whereby said tube can be revolved and adjusted longitudinally, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of the rod G, having weight *g* on one end and trigger F on the other, with the tube D, carrying the spring-arm, and the standard *d'*, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:
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