No. 621,659. Patented Mar. 21, 1899.

G. HALDER.

GAME APPARATUS.

(Application filed July 12, 1898.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

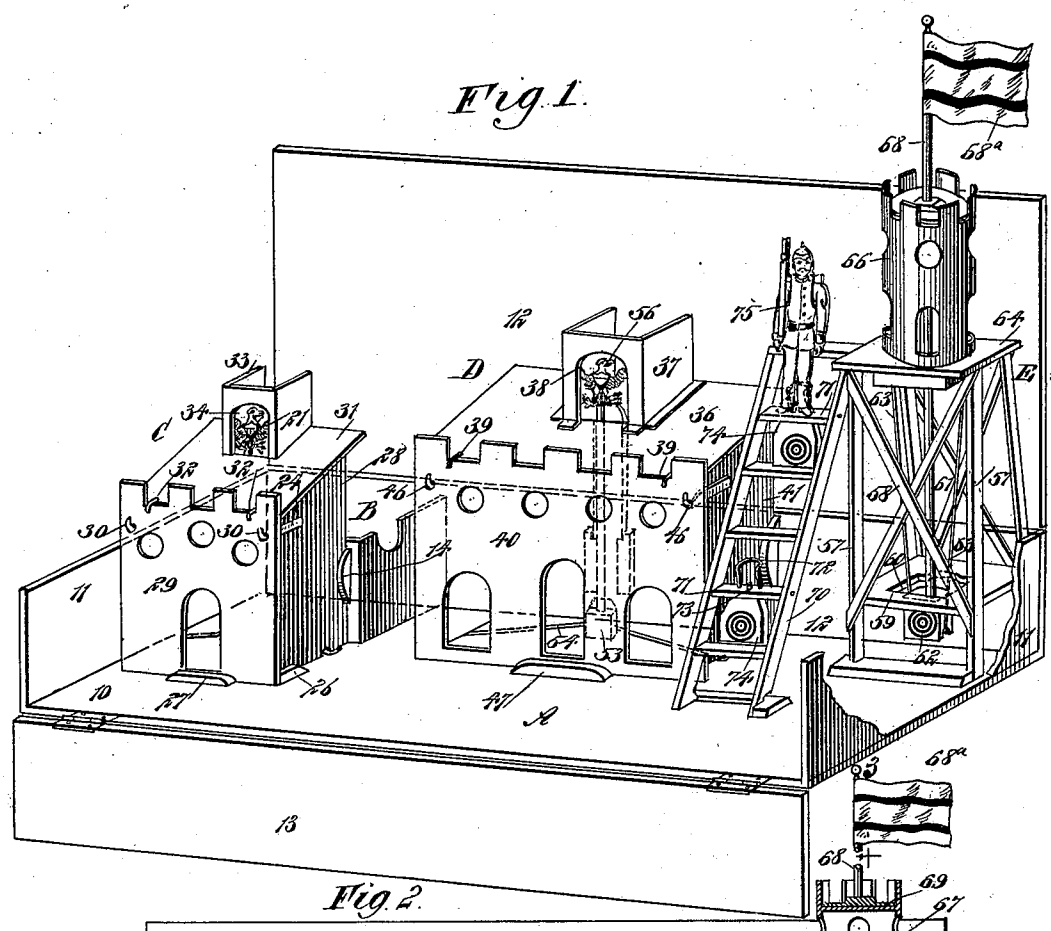
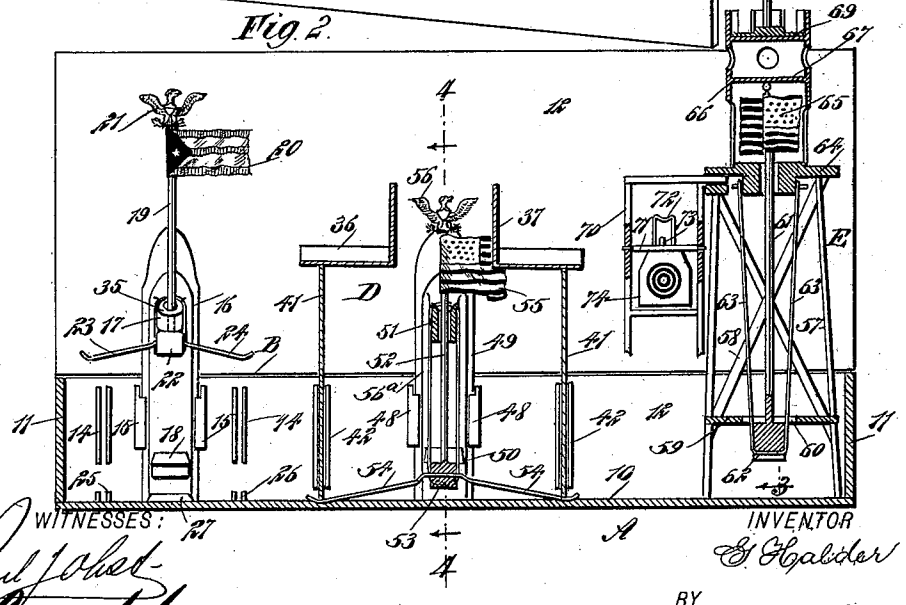


Fig. 2.



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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 3.

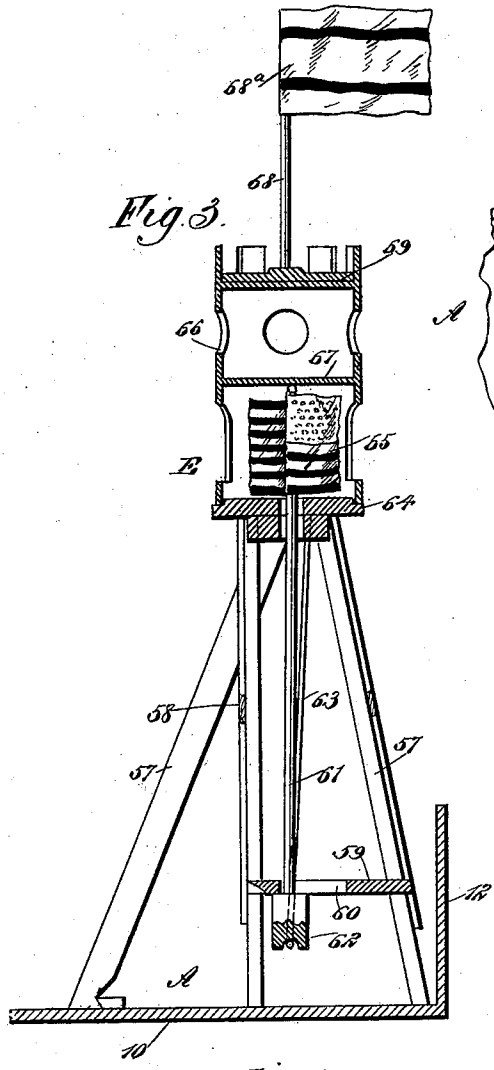


Fig. 5.

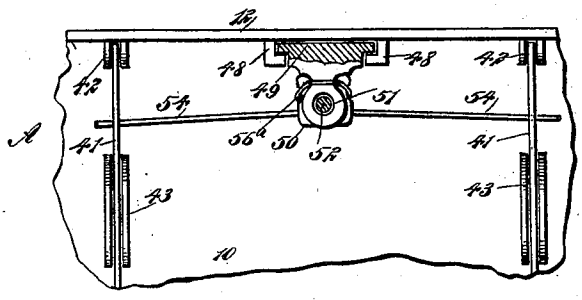


Fig. 4.

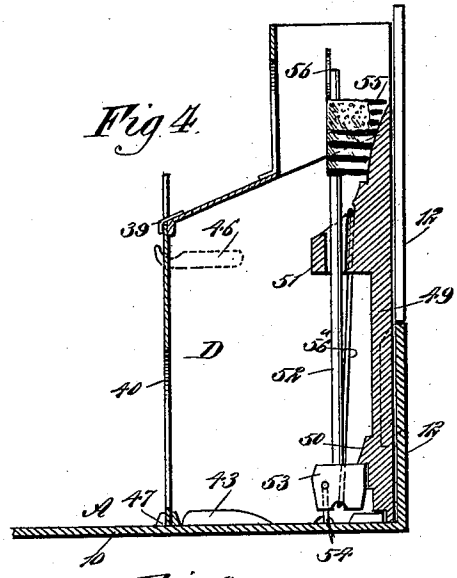


Fig. 6.

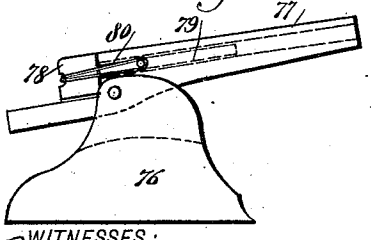


Fig. 8.

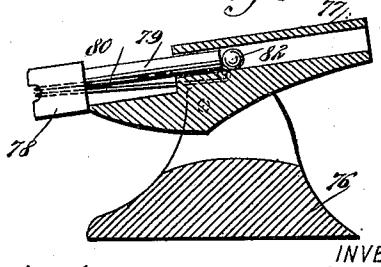
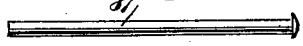


Fig. 7.



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GAME APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 621,659, dated March 21, 1899.

Application filed July 12, 1898. Serial No. 685,783. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE HALDER, of Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and Improved Game Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a game apparatus in which a fortress or fortresses will be represented capable of being demolished and whereby devices will be employed in connection with the representation of the fortresses, which devices when struck by a missile will obstruct or totally demolish the erected fortification.

Another object of the invention is to provide a means whereby when the fortification is demolished a flag of a predetermined character will be displayed over the ruins.

A further object of the invention is to provide a means whereby a representation of soldiers may be placed and sustained in an upright position and thrown down by a missile directed to their supports.

Another object of the invention is to provide a game of war which will be interesting and will necessitate a certain amount of skill in aiming on the part of the persons participating in the game.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved game apparatus. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section through the apparatus. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section drawn on an enlarged scale and taken practically on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a transverse section through the game apparatus, taken practically on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a partial plan view and horizontal section of the trip device for one of the fortresses. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the cannon arranged to fire darts and employed in connection with the apparatus. Fig. 7 is a side elevation of one of the darts used in the cannon shown in Fig. 6, and Fig. 8 is a vertical section of the cannon adapted for the propulsion of balls.

A represents a box structure which preferably consists of a base-board 10, side boards 11, a back board 12, which is usually of greater height than the side boards, and a drop front board 13, which has a hinged connection with the front portion of the base-board 10. A receptacle B is constructed at one end of the box-body A, the said receptacle being attached to the back board 12, which back board, it may here be stated, may be made in two sections, so that a portion of the back board may fold down and constitute a cover for the box structure.

Upon the front of the receptacle B, near each end of the said receptacle, pairs of cleats 14 are arranged, the said cleats being vertical, and between the pairs of cleats slideways 15 are constructed. The slideways 15 are adapted to receive between them a standard 16, the said standard being provided at the top with a rigidly-attached sleeve or bearing 17, and near the bottom of the standard a batten 18 is transversely secured on its front face. A rod 19 is arranged to slide in the bearing 17, and the said rod is provided with a flag 20 near its upper end and with an ornament 21 above the flag, while at the lower end of the rod 19 a block 22 is secured, to which block two oppositely-projecting arms 23 and 24 are secured, the said arms 23 and 24 being adapted to rest upon the bottom of the box-body when the rod 19 is carried downward and the block 22 is made to engage with the batten 18, said engagement holding the rod in its lower position.

In front of the receptacle B two pairs of cleats 25 and 26 are secured to the bottom of the box structure, and between and slightly in advance of the cleats 25 and 26 a single cleat 27 is secured to the bottom of the box structure. The cleats 14, 25, 26, and 27 are adapted to sustain the walls of the fortress C, the side walls 28 of the said fortress being carried in the spaces between the pairs of cleats 14 and the pairs of cleats 25 and 26, the front wall of the fortress being located at the back of the single cleat 27, which single cleat

may be made to represent the threshold-strip of the doorway of the fortress or a step leading to it.

The front wall of the fortress is provided with openings, which are adapted to receive hook-like projections 30, which are secured to the side walls of the fortress, as shown in Fig. 1. The fortress is completed by the addition of a roof or a top 31, provided with projections 32 at its front edge, which extend over and engage with the upper edge of the front wall of the fortress C, and in the top or roof of the fortress C an opening is made, which is surrounded at the front and at the rear by a three-walled tower 33, the back of the tower being usually open, and the front wall of the tower is provided with an opening 34, through which the ornament 21 of the rod 19 is visible when the said rod 19 is in its lower position. The side walls of the fortress when placed within the cleats 14, 25, and 26 rest upon the arms 23 and 24, secured to the bottom block 22 of the rod 19. Springs 35 are attached at one end to the bearing 17 of the standard 16 and at the other end to the block 22 on the rod 19. Under such a construction it is evident that if a projectile should strike the ornament 21 or any equivalent of the said ornament the upper portion of the rod 19 will be carried rearward, thereby disengaging the bottom block 22 of the said rod from the batten 18, and since the springs 35 are attached to the bearing 17 of the standard 16 and the bottom block 22 of the rod 19, when said block is disengaged from the batten 18 the springs will force the rod 19 upward, carrying the arms 23 and 24 with them, which arms in their upward movement will raise the walls of the fortress B from their supports and cause the said walls to fall, thereby representing the demolishment of the fortress, while the flag 20 on the rod 19, which was before concealed within the fortress, will be raised and rendered visible.

Preferably a second fortress D is erected adjacent to the fortress C. The second fortress D, which is preferably the main fortress, consists of a top 36, provided with a tower 37, having an opening 38 and projections 39, which bear upon the upper edge of the front wall 40, the side walls 41 of the second fortress being placed between pairs of cleats 42, secured to the lower portion of the back of the box structure and between cleats 43, attached to the bottom of the box structure, as shown in Fig. 5, the front wall receiving projections 46 from the side walls, and the lower edge of the front wall has bearing against a single cleat 47, corresponding to the single cleat 27 of the fortress C. Between the pairs of cleats 42 slideways 48 are erected, in which slideways a standard 49 is detachably located. The standard 49 is provided with a batten 50 near its lower edge and a bearing 51 near its upper edge, and a rod 52 is passed through the bearing 51 correspondingly to the rod 19 of the fortress C. A block 53 is attached to the lower end of the rod 52, being arranged for engagement with the batten 50, and arms 54 are projected from the said bottom block 53 in opposite directions. A flag 55 is located at the upper end of the rod 52, and above the flag an ornament 56 is secured, or a target of any description. Springs 56^a are attached respectively to the bearing 51 and the block 53 on the standard 52. When the rod 52 is carried downward, bringing the arms 54 in engagement with the base of the box structure, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5, and the block 53 to an engagement with the batten 50, the ornament or target 56 will appear at the opening 38 in the tower of the fortress D. As the side walls of the fortress D rest upon the arms 54, when the target 56 is struck and carried rearward the block 53 will be disengaged from the batten 50 and the rod 52 will be carried upward by the springs 56^a, causing the fortress D to be demolished and bringing the flag 55 into full view at a point above what was formerly the roof of the fortress.

Within the box structure A, at one side of the central fortress D, a tower E is erected. This tower consists of a suitable number of uprights 57 and cross-braces 58, and near the lower portion of the tower a platform 59 is erected, having an opening 60 made therein. Through said opening 60 a shaft or a staff 61 is carried, said shaft or staff being provided at its lower end with a block 62, and a spring 63 is secured to an upper platform 64 and to the block 62, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. A flag 65, preferably the flag of the United States, is attached to the upper end of the staff 61 at a point above the platform 64. A structure 66, representing a castle or a fortress of any description, is made to normally rest loosely upon the top platform 64 of the tower, and the said representation of the castle or fortress is provided with a partition 67, located between the top and the bottom, against which the upper end of the staff 61 has bearing when the staff has been carried downward, placing the spring 63 under tension, and the block 62 is engaged with the forward edge of the opening 60 in the bottom platform of the tower. At the top of the representation of the fortress 66 a flagstaff 68 is located, which staff carries, for example, the Spanish flag 68^a, and the staff at its bottom is attached to the base 69, which rests upon the upper portion of the fortress, as shown particularly in Figs. 2 and 3. A target of any approved type is produced upon the front face of the block 62 at the end of the main flagstaff 61.

A ladder 70 is made to extend to the fortress 66 at one side of the top of the tower E, and sundry of the rungs 71 of the ladder are pivoted, as shown in Fig. 2. On the pivoted rungs a rest 72 is erected, usually of wire, and in front of the rest a pin 73 is located on the said pivoted rungs, while from the bottom of each pivoted rung a target 74 is suspended, being attached rigidly to the rung, so that when a target attached to a rung is

hit the rung will be rotated in a forwardly direction, since the target will be struck from the front of the apparatus. Upon the rungs provided with the rests and the pins above mentioned representations 75 of soldiers are mounted, and the base of each soldier figure is provided with a recess (not shown in the drawings) and adapted to receive a pin from a pivoted rung, the backs of the soldier figures near the feet being made to bear against the rests 72 on the said pivoted rungs.

In connection with the game apparatus above described a toy gun is employed, two forms of gun being shown, respectively, in Figs. 6 and 8. Each gun is pivotally mounted upon a base 76, and the barrel 77 of the gun is provided with the usual bore, which extends through from the front to the rear, and each barrel is provided with an extension-support beyond its rear end, upon which support a sliding breech 78 is adapted to have movement, and the said breech when the gun is loaded is made to engage with the rear end of the support upon which in action it would slide. A piston 79 is secured to the breech employed in both forms of the gun, the said pistons having sliding movement in the bores of the barrels, and one or more springs 80 are attached to each barrel at opposite sides, the said springs being carried around the breech-block.

In the gun shown in Fig. 6 a dart 81 is adapted to be fired, whereas in the form of the gun shown in Fig. 8 a ball or a bullet 82 is the projectile used.

In operation it is obvious that more than one person may participate in the game, since there is a target for each fortress, sundry targets for the soldiers or guards, and a target for the castle, which may be termed a "Morro" castle, being mounted upon the tower E.

In the event a projectile should strike the target of either of the lower fortresses C or D the target will be carried rearward and the staffs or shafts carrying the targets will be released from engagement with their locking devices and will be carried upward by the attached springs. As the shafts or staffs move upward the arms attached to their lower ends will cause the structure of the fortress in which the target is placed to be demolished, as the sides of the fortress will be forced upward, thus dislodging the top and the front portions of the same. When a target connected with a pivotal step is struck by a projectile, the soldier standing on such step will be thrown forwardly and dislodged from guarding position. In the event the target 62, located in the tower E, is struck the target will be carried rearward and will be disengaged from its keeper, whereupon the spring 63, connected with the flagstaff 61 in the tower, will carry the staff upward and cause the Morro castle 66 to be dislodged from the tower, consequently causing the Spanish flag to be thrown to the ground.

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

1. In a game apparatus, the combination with a boxing, of a structure therein consisting of two side walls and a front wall, the said walls being separable one from the other and also separable from the boxing, a vertically-movable staff in the structure, arms on said staff extended outward under the side pieces of the structure, a spring for moving said staff upward, means for yieldingly holding said staff in its downward position, and a target carried by said staff, substantially as specified.

2. In a game apparatus, a boxing, a receptacle near one end thereof and consisting of the detachable walls and a detachable roof, pairs of cleats arranged in said receptacle, slideways between the pairs of cleats, a standard movable in the slideways, the said standard being provided at the top with a rigidly-attached sleeve or bearing, a batten transversely secured to the lower end of said standard on its front face, a rod arranged to slide in a bearing at the upper end of the standard, an ornament on the upper end of said rod, a lock-block on the lower end of the rod, arms projected laterally from said block and adapted to be engaged with the batten, and a spring for moving said rod upward when released, substantially as specified.

3. In a game apparatus, the combination with a structure constructed in sections capable of collapsing, hooks connected with one section and adapted for engagement with another section, for holding the parts temporarily together, a support, and a keeper located upon said support, the keeper being below the top portion of the structure, of a spring-controlled staff provided with a target, a member of said staff adapted for engagement with the keeper, and arms extended from said member in opposite directions and upon which portions of the structure normally rest, substantially as specified.

4. In a game apparatus, a fortress, a ladder made to extend to the fortress, sundry of the rungs of said ladder being pivoted, a rest on each pivoted rung, a pin on each pivoted rung forward of the rest, a target extended from the bottom of each pivoted rung, and figures supported by the pins and the rests, the backs of the figures being made to bear against the rests, substantially as specified.

5. In a game apparatus, a tower, a spring-actuated flag-bearing rod movable vertically in said tower, a fortress loosely resting on the tower and normally inclosing the upper end of said flag-bearing rod, and another flag-bearing rod carried by said fortress, substantially as specified.

GEORGE HALDER.

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HENRY WILKE.