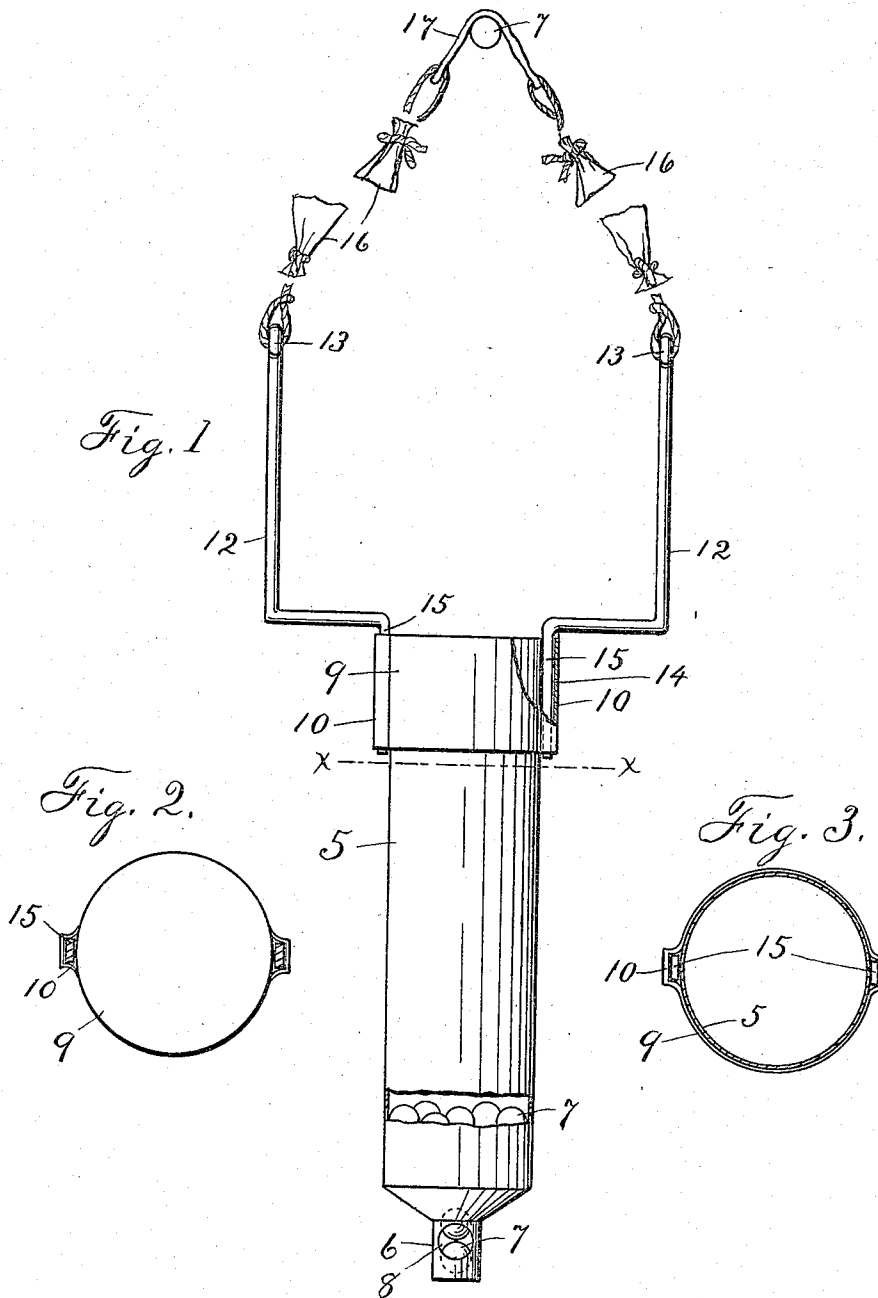


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CATAPULT.  
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942,300.

Patented Dec. 7, 1909.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH C. WINCHESTER, OF GOTEBO, OKLAHOMA.

## CATAPULT.

942,300.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 7, 1909.

Application filed February 13, 1909. Serial No. 477,645.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RALPH C. WINCHESTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gotebo, in the county of Kiowa and State of Oklahoma, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Catapults, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to toy catapults, or "bean shooters," used by children for projecting small missiles as shot, peas and similar articles.

The improvements for which I desire protection, are fully explained herein, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The accompanying drawing illustrates the device, of which—

Figure 1 is a side view, partly in section, and with the elastic strips shown fragmentarily. Fig. 2 is an enlarged plan view of the top of the magazine cap, and cross sections of the fork members, or arms, in their sockets. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the under side of the cap, on the magazine, the latter being in cross section on line  $x-x$  of Fig. 1.

The reference character 5, designates the body or handle of the magazine, which is a hollow tube, or cylinder, preferably made of thin metal. This body is provided with an extension 6, at its lower end, large enough diametrically, to easily admit a shot 7, and having a lateral opening 8, for the outward passage of a shot.

The missiles used must be approximately of the same size. When the magazine is held vertically, parts of two shots are seen at the opening 8; but on inclining the magazine over toward the opening so that the shot will gravitate toward the cap of the magazine, the lowermost shot will drop out through the opening 8 into the hand held to receive it. On turning the magazine to the upright position again other shot will fill the extension, but owing to the position of the opening 8, which is slightly above the bottom of the extension 6, the shot cannot pass out until the magazine is inclined again, as above explained. A snugly fitting cap 9 is provided to slide down over the upper end of the body 5, having at opposite sides the broad, flattened recesses 10, 10.

12 designates the arms, or the fork, made in two members, to the upper ends 13, of which, are secured the elastic strips 16, connecting with the sling 17. These arms 12 are bent as shown and are preferably of round wire except their lower ends 13 which are flattened to fit into the sockets 14, formed by the sides of the body 5 and the recesses 10, 10, in the cap.

The body 5 is made of a size convenient for grasping in the act of shooting, and the arms and elastics are of a size to permit their insertion into the magazine, where they are covered by the cap 9.

Having now described the invention what I claim is,—

1. A catapult having a magazine body adapted to hold missiles and the other parts of the device, detachable arms for said catapult and a cap for said magazine provided with means to hold said arms in operative position.

2. In a catapult a magazine body, a reduced extension on the lower end of said body having a lateral opening therein, detachable elastic-holding arms, a cap on said body and means to hold said arms in operative position.

3. A catapult comprising a body, a cap on said body having longitudinal recesses to form sockets between its own opposite sides and the sides of said body and arms adapted to stand in said sockets when in operative position.

4. A catapult having a tubular body a reduced extension having a lateral opening on the lower end of said body, a cap extending down over the upper end of said body and having recesses in its opposite sides, a fork made in two members having their lower ends flattened to fit into sockets formed by said recesses in said cap and the exterior of said body, and elastic strips and a sling, as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

RALPH C. WINCHESTER.

Witnesses:

F. D. LUCAS,  
MILTON FORAN.