

E.A. Spofford & M.G. Raffington's Aim-Holder.

PATENTED

FEB 4 1868

74164 *Fig: 2*

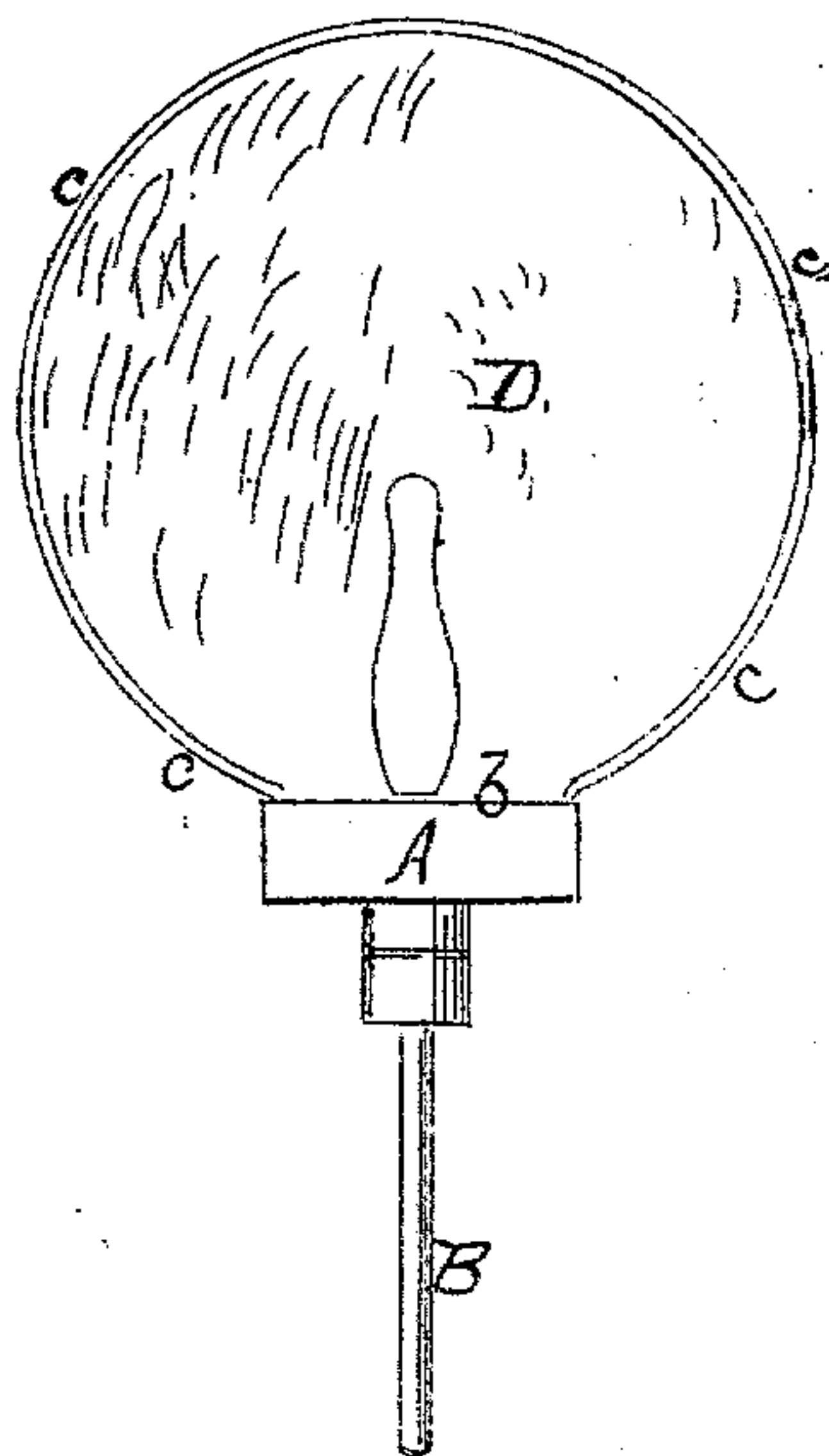
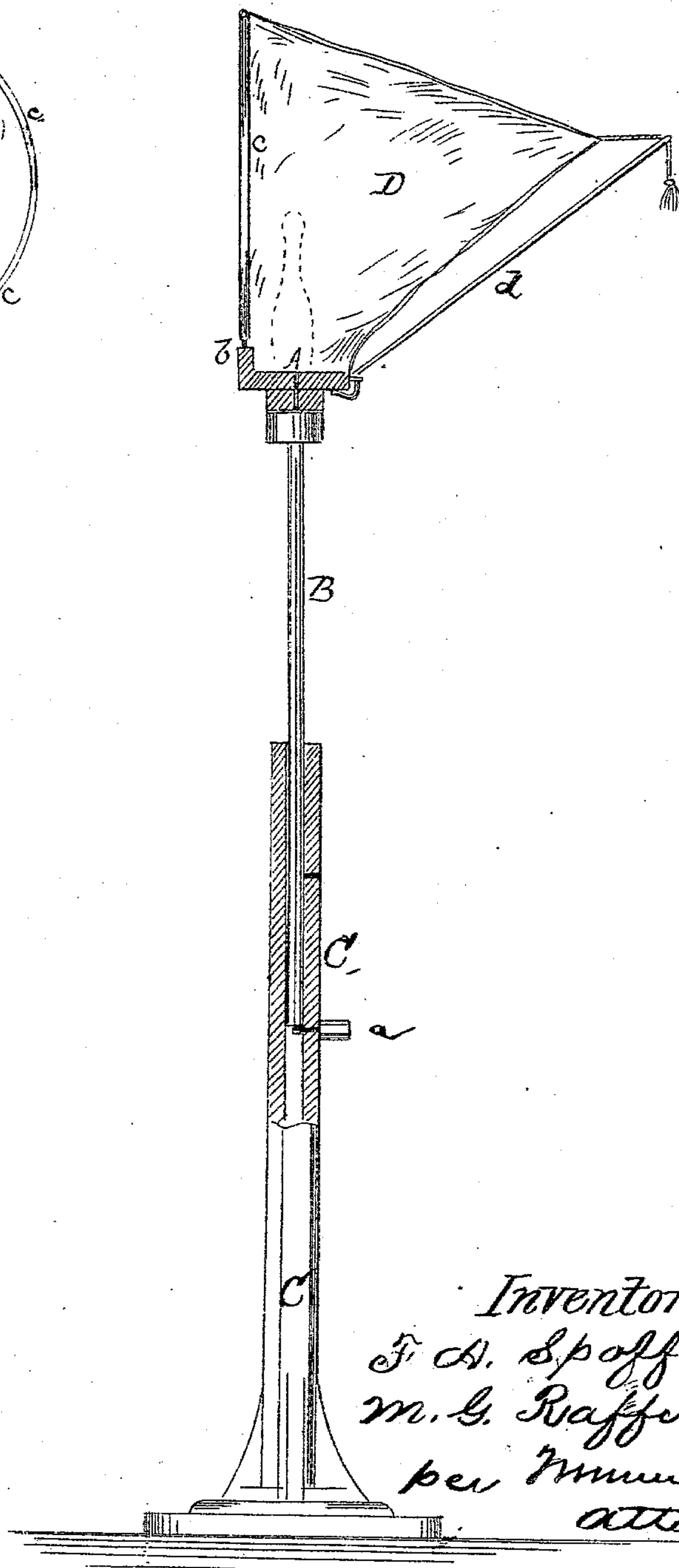


Fig: 1



Witnesses.
H. C. Sackett
Theo. Truitt

Inventor.
E. A. Spofford
M. G. Raffington
per Munn & Co.
attorneys

United States Patent Office.

FISHER A. SPOFFORD AND MATTHEW G. RAFFINGTON, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 74,164, dated February 4, 1868.

ADJUSTABLE BALL-HOLDER FOR GAMES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, FISHER A. SPOFFORD and MATTHEW G. RAFFINGTON, of Columbus, in the county of Franklin, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and improved Adjustable Ball-Retainer and Aim-Holder for Pistol Exercise; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying plate of drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a sectional elevation of our invention.

Figure 2 represents a front view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to a new device for holding the aim during shooting-practice with toy guns and pistols, and for retaining the same when it has been hit; also, for retaining the balls or marbles ejected from the guns or pistols.

The invention consists in the use of an up-and-down adjustable platform, which is set upon a pole, and which can be revolved on the same. Upon one side of the frame is secured a circular, oval, or other bow, lining the mouth of a bag, that is stretched by external or other braces, so as to be wide open. The aim, which consists of a ball, pin, or other suitable device, is placed upon the platform, and, when it is hit, it falls against the sides of the bag, and is thus retained on the platform, or at least on the device. The balls are, by the bag, also prevented from being lost, a ledge on the front edge of the platform preventing their being thrown out by a rebound.

A represents a horizontal or nearly horizontal platform, made of wood or other suitable material, and mounted upon the upper end of a pole, B, which is supported by and swivelled in an upright standard, C, as shown. We prefer to have the pole B up-and-down adjustable in the standard C, either by means of set-pins, *a*, or by ratchet-wheels and racks, or other equivalent devices. One edge of the platform A is provided with a projecting ledge, *b*, as shown, upon which a bow, *c*, is secured, which lines and holds open the mouth of a bag, D, as shown. The bag, which is of conical or other suitable form, is stretched lengthways by means of a brace or braces, *d*, fastened to its near end, and hooked or hinged to the platform, as shown in fig. 1. The aim to be shot at is placed upon the platform, and the same is then turned, so that the open bag will face the player. When the aim has been hit, it falls upon the platform or into the bag, as well as the balls or marbles thrown at it, the ledge in front preventing the loss of the latter by rebounding.

It will be noticed that the invention is a modification of the patent, No. 61,960, granted to us on the 12th day of February, 1867. It is considerably simpler and less expensive than the device shown in the aforesaid Letters Patent, and is intended more particularly for practice for grown persons, while the object of the former was to produce a new play for children.

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

The revolving platform A, when provided with a ledge, *b*, and bow, *c*, in combination with the bar D, brace *d*, and standard B C, all made and operating substantially as and for the purposes herein shown and described.

FISHER A. SPOFFORD,
MATTHEW G. RAFFINGTON.

Witnesses for SPOFFORD:

WM. F. McNAMARA,

A. V. BRIESEN.

Witnesses for RAFFINGTON:

JOHN G. MITCHELL,

JAMES WATSON.