(No Model.)

A. WOEBER.

FLYING TARGET.

No. 287,985. Patented Nov. 6, 1883.

FIG. 1.

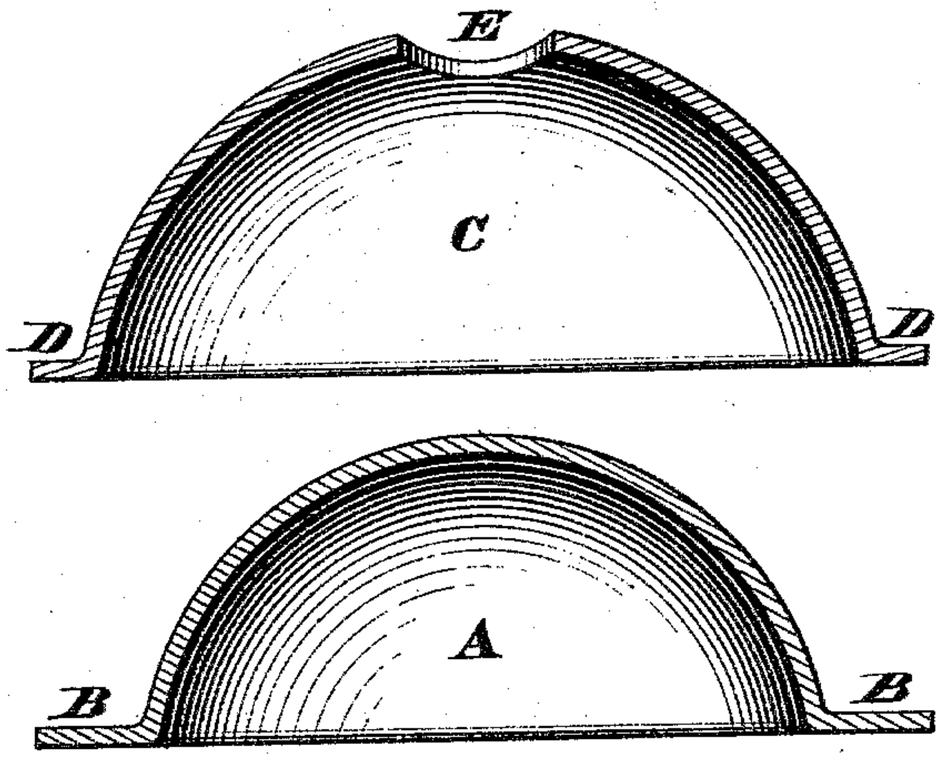
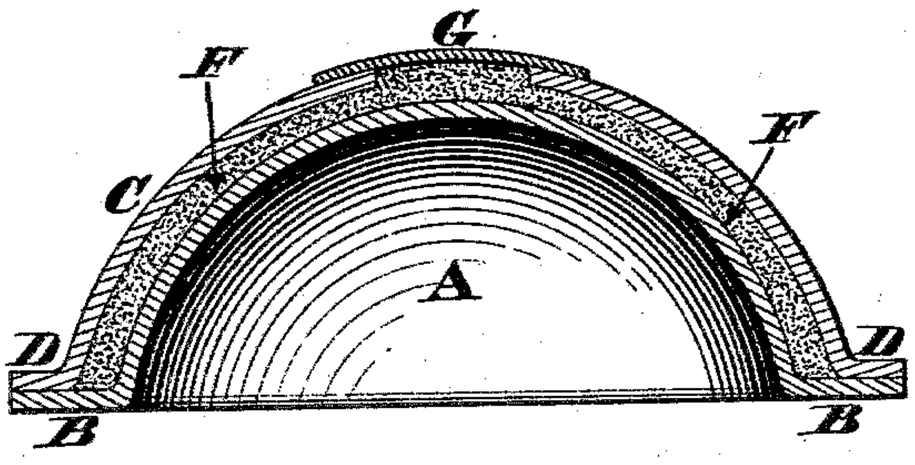


FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.



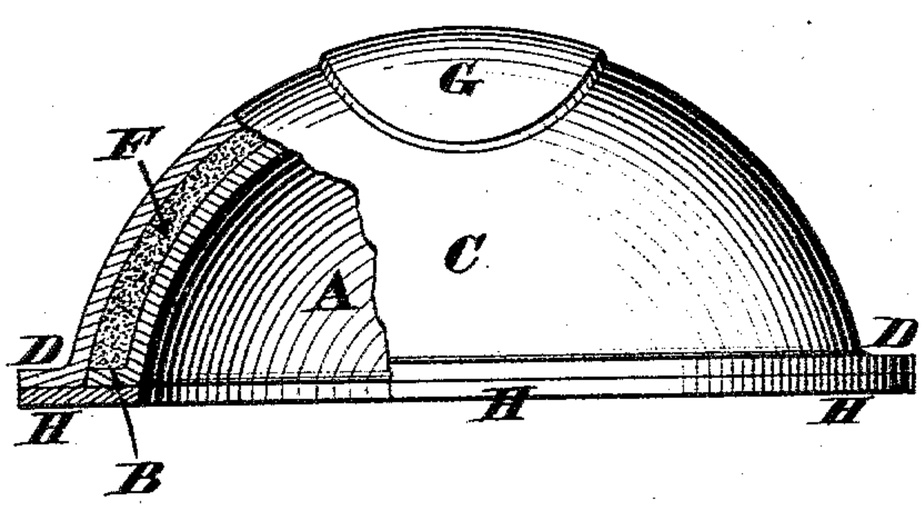
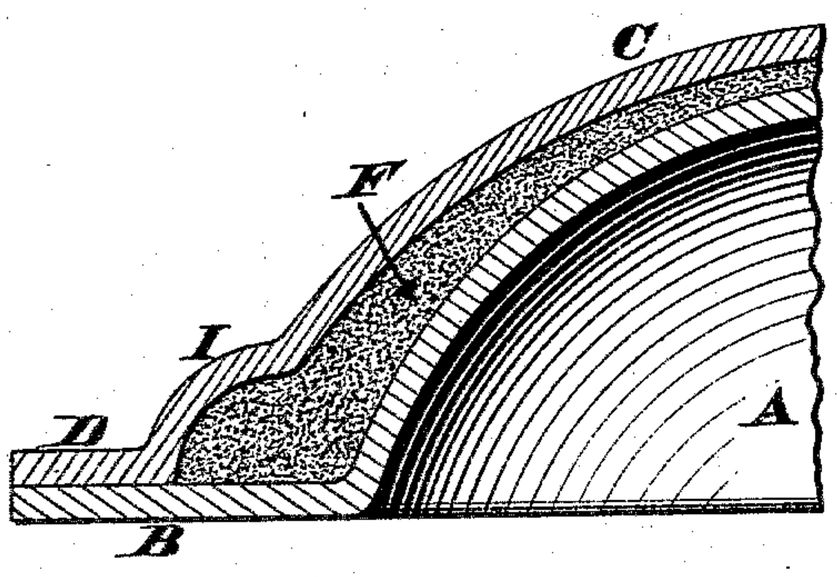
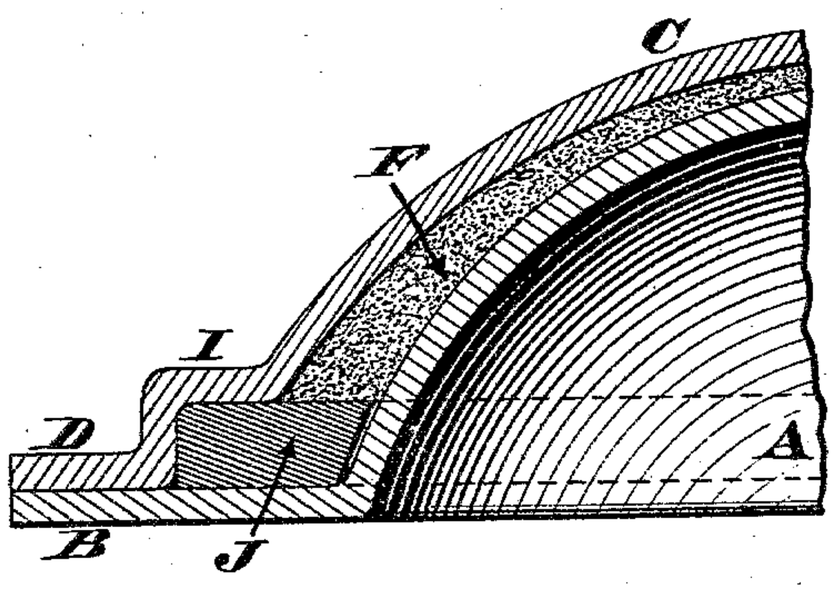


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.





Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AMOS WOEBER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO JACOB E. BLOOM, OF SAME PLACE.

FLYING TARGET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 287,985, dated November 6, 1883.

Application filed February 13, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AMOS WOEBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flying Targets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to those targets which are provided with a charge of pulverized charcoal or other powder, dust, or filling that will disperse and form a perceptible cloud or vapor the instant the device is punctured with shot or other similar projectiles. The target is composed of two approximately concave or dish-shaped shells, made of pasteboard, papier-maché, or any other cheap material that can be readily molded to the desired shape, provided it does not offer too much resistance to the shot, these shells being nested one within another, and being joined together, so as to inclose an annular chamber, into which latter the charcoal or other filling is inserted through a hole made preferably in the outer or upper shell, which hole is then permanently closed with a suitable cap or covering that is glued or cemented to the target. The method of uniting these concave shells is by providing each of them with an annular marginal flange or rim, which rims are either glued, cemented, or otherwise fastened together, so as to prevent escape of the filling.

Another feature of my invention consists in making an annular swell or bead in the outer shell, near its junction with the inner member, thereby forming a pocket that holds an extra charge of powder, for the purpose of imparting additional weight to the target-rim. This weight not only balances the target, but causes it to fly with the greatest precision, on account of the axial rotation of the target being increased thereby.

My invention further consists in fitting within this annular pocket a ring that affords additional weight to the target-rim, said ring being composed either of plaster-of-paris, clay, or other comparatively heavy but inexpensive material or materials.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is an axial section of the two concave shells of my flying target, detached from each other. Fig. 2 is a similar section of the complete target. Fig. 3 is a sectionized elevation of a modification of the device. Figs. 4 and 5 are enlarged sections through the rims of two different forms of targets.

A represents the inner shell of my target, which is of any suitable diameter and concavity, and terminates with an annular flange or rim, B. C is the outer shell, of somewhat greater diameter than the inner one, and having an annular marginal rim or flange, D. Furthermore, it is preferred to make an opening in the top of this outer shell, as at E, to permit the target being filled with the powder F after the two rims B and D have been glued together. G is a cap or cover glued over the charging-hole E. The target is now complete, as seen in Fig. 2, and is at once ready for use.

In the modification of the invention, as seen in Fig. 3, the flange B is sufficiently narrow to allow the outer shell, C, to fit down around it, and the flanges B D are glued or otherwise fastened to a special ring, H, that imparts additional stiffness to the target-rim. In Fig. 4 the shell C is joined to its rim D by an annular swell or bead, I, thereby forming a pocket near the junction of the shells for admitting an extra charge of powder or other suitable filling. In Fig. 5 this annular pocket is shown as inclosing a ring, J, made either of clay or plaster-of-paris, or other similar material or materials. Furthermore, Figs. 4 and 5 show more clearly that the chamber situated between the shells A and C is eccentric, and is so arranged as to afford more space at the base of the target than at the crown of the same. Consequently the filling F causes the lower part of the target to be heavier than its top, by which arrangement the device is preserved in its proper position while flying through the air. Whichever construction is adopted the method of using the target is as follows: Its composite rim B D is grasped by the jaw or clamp of the throwing-trap, and is projected therefrom in the usual manner, the concentration of weight at the rim causing the target to have a very rapid axial rotation, that insures the utmost accuracy of flight, and while the device is thus flying through the air the sportsmen shoot at it. If a shot should pierce either the outer or inner shells, the filling is instantly and freely sifted through the holes thus made, on account

of the whirling motion of the target, thereby furnishing the most convincing proof of the latter being fairly struck. It will require, however, quite a number of shots before the target becomes so completely riddled as to be useless; hence, if it has been punctured with but a single shot, the hole can be at once closed with a short wooden plug, or with a piece of suitably-gummed paper or cloth, and the target can be used again. Another advantage due to the present construction is that the rim of the target is integral with the body or shell of the same, thereby rendering it impossible for said rim to pull off when the device is thrown from the trap, which is quite a common occurrence when the projecting tongue or rim is made separate from the shell and is glued or cemented thereto. Finally, the invention is not to be limited to any special powder or compound that may be inclosed between the pair of concave shells, as it is evident the target may be charged either with pulverized charcoal, air-slaked lime, lamp-black, soot, or plumbago, &c.; but waste casting-sand, that can readily be procured at all foundries, is preferred on account of its cheapness and dark color.

I claim as my invention—

1. A dish-shaped flying target composed of two concave shells nested one within the other, united at their rims by a transverse web, and inclosing a chamber that is charged with a discernible or non-explosive powder capable of dispersion when the target is punctured, substantially as herein described and set forth.

2. A flying target composed of two concave shells nested one within the other, united at their rims in such manner as to afford a peripheral flange or grasp by the jaws of the trap, and inclosing between their contiguous walls or faces a chamber charged with discernible or non-explosive powder capable of dispersion when the target is punctured, substantially as herein described and set forth.

3. A dish-shaped flying target composed of two concave shells nested one within the other, united at their rims, and inclosing a chamber that is charged with the powder or other filling capable of dispersion when the target is punctured with shot or similar projectiles, said chamber being of greater capacity at the rim of the shells than at the crown of the same, for the purpose herein described.

4. A flying target composed of two concave shells united at their rims, and inclosing a chamber that is charged with the powder or other filling capable of dispersion when the target is pierced, said chamber being provided near its base with an outwardly-projecting bead or annular pocket, for the purpose specified.

5. A flying target composed of two concave shells united at their rims and inclosing a chamber that is charged with the powder or other filling capable of dispersion when the target is pierced, said target being balanced and rendered stable in its flight by a suitable weighty filling inserted at or near the junction of the rims of its shells.

6. A flying target consisting of the concave shells A B C D, hole E, filling F, and cap G, said shells being united at their flanges B D, substantially as herein described.

7. The combination of flanged concave inner shell, A B, flanged concave outer shell, C D, and filling F, the shell C D being provided near its base with an annular pocket, I, within which latter is fitted the ring J, as and for the purpose herein described.

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

AMOS WOEBER.

Witnesses:
JAMES H. LAYMAN,
SAML. S. CARPENTER.