

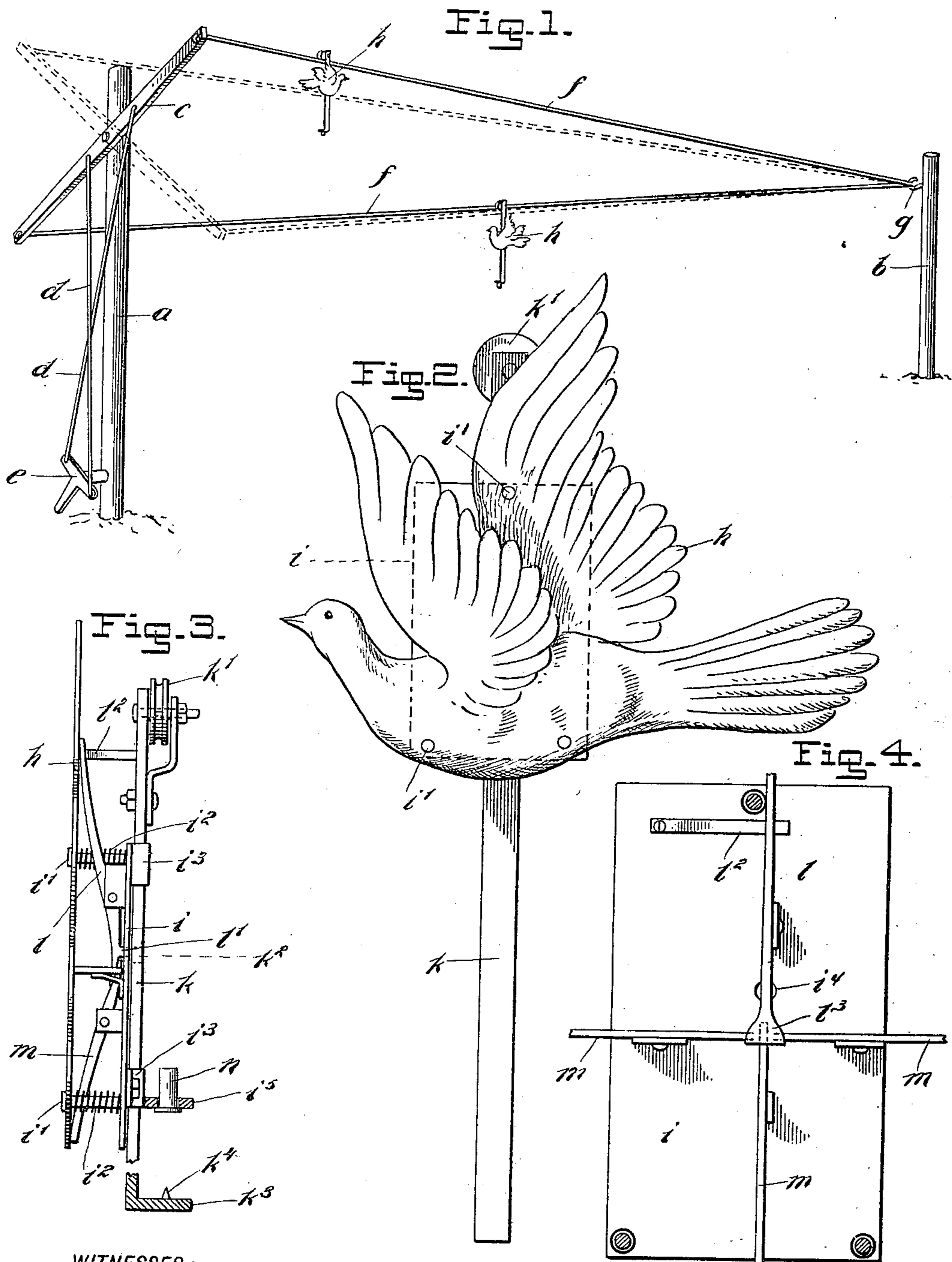
No. 667,592.

Patented Feb. 5, 1901.

W. G. SMITH.
TARGET.

(Application filed Oct. 11, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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TARGET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 667,592, dated February 5, 1901.

Application filed October 11, 1900. Serial No. 32,727. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM G. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, (Glendale,) borough of Queens, in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Target, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The purpose of this invention is to provide a target representing pigeons in flight and to take the place, therefore, of live pigeons usually employed by sportsmen in trials of marksmanship.

This specification is a specific description of one form of my invention, while the claims are definitions of the actual scope thereof.

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 views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the target proper. Fig. 3 is a side view thereof with parts in section; and Fig. 4 is a face view of the body plate of the target proper, showing the tripping-levers thereof.

Referring to Fig. 1, *a* and *b* represent two posts planted upright in the ground. To the post *a* is fulcrumed at its middle a lever *c*, connected by rods *d* with a hand bell-crank lever *e*, fulcrumed at the base of the post *a*, so that by manually operating the lever *e* the lever *c* may be rocked, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 1. Stout wires or rods *f* are attached, respectively, to the ends of the lever *c* and extend to the post *b*, the wires or rods converging toward each other and being joined to the post by a swivel *g*. These wires or rods form tracks on which run the targets proper, (indicated at *h* in Fig. 1.) These targets are arranged to run on the tracks *f* by gravity. Assuming that the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 1, it will be seen that one of the tracks *f* is inclined downward from the lever *c* and the other track is inclined upward therefrom. Accordingly one of the targets will be in motion downward toward the post *b* and the other target in motion downward toward the post *a*. When one target reaches the post *b* and the other the post *a*, by reversing the position of the lever *c* the respective targets may be returned to their

previous positions, and by keeping up the motion of the lever *c* the targets may be caused to travel back and forth continuously, thus offering a fair shot to the marksman, since the movements of the targets usually simulate the flight of a bird. The targets *h* are here shown in the figure of a bird and are preferably constructed of stout metal, so as to stand the impact of the shot. These targets are mounted on a back or body plate *i* by means of pins *i'*, which project forwardly from the plate and pass through openings in the target *h*, the heads of the pins engaging the front of the target to prevent the displacement of the target. Expansive springs *i''* are interposed between the target *h* and plate *i* and surround the pins *i'*, so as to hold the target pressed outward, as shown in Fig. 3. The plate *i* is provided with guides *i'''*, which slide on a rod *k*. The rod is provided with a trolley-wheel *k'* at its top, which runs on the track *f*. The body-plate *i*, carrying the target *h*, is freely movable on the rod *k* and is held by a stud *l'* of the lever *l*, which lever is fulcrumed to the body-plate, the stud projecting through an opening *i''''* in the body-plate (see Fig. 4) and engaging with a corresponding opening *k''* in the rod *k*. (See the dotted lines in Fig. 3.) A spring *l''* bears against the lever *l* to press the stud *l'* through the opening *i''''* and into the opening *k''*. By this means the target *h* and the attached parts are held against the upper end of the rod *k* against the force of gravity. The free end of the lever *l* bears against the back of the target *h*, and when the target is pushed inward by a shot the stud *l'* of the lever *l* is moved out of the opening *k''* in the rod *k*, and then the target, with the parts attached, drop down on the rod *k*, thus representing the fall of a bird when it is shot.

For the purpose of communicating to the lever *l* the force of a shot striking at any point on the target *h* I provide a number, preferably three, of auxiliary levers *m*, which are fulcrumed to the back-plate *i*, and all of which engage the target *h* at one end and at the other end engage under the broad extension *l'''* of the lever *l*. These levers *m* project in diverse directions and engage the target at different points, so that no matter at what point the target is struck the force of the

shot is communicated effectually to the lever l , and the stud l' is withdrawn from the opening k^2 and the target drops to the lower end of the rod k , its fall being arrested by the
5 laterally-turned lower end k^3 of the rod.

For the purpose of further increasing the realistic effect of the target and assisting in denoting that the target has been struck I provide the lower one of the guides i^3 of the
10 plate i with a projection i^5 , which is placed just over the end k^3 of the rod k and which serves to carry a cartridge n or the like. As the target drops the cartridge n is carried
15 down and its cap engages with a firing-pin k^4 on the end k^3 of the rod k , thus exploding the powder within the cartridge. This cartridge should be loaded with the feathers of a bird or with some material representing bird-feath-
20 ers, and when the powder is exploded the feathers are blown into the air. This gives the target the appearance of an actual bird struck by a shot, the bird not only dropping as in death, but the feathers falling from the bird as it falls.

25 Various changes in the form, proportions, and minor details of my invention may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. Hence I consider myself entitled to all such variations as may
30 lie within the scope of my claims.

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

1. A target, comprising a supporting-bar,

a target proper carried to move thereon, and 35 devices for releasably holding the target stationary on the bar.

2. The combination of a target, means on which the target is mounted to move, and de- 40 vices controlled by the impact of a shot on the target to releasably hold the target stationary on said means.

3. The combination of a vertically-disposed bar, a body sliding thereon, a target yield- 45 ingly carried on the body, and a lever mounted on the body, one end of the lever engaging the target, and the other end of the lever having a device to releasably hold the body stationary on the bar.

4. The combination of a bar, a target 50 mounted to move thereon, a cartridge-holder connected with the target to move therewith, and a firing device for the cartridge, such device being carried by the bar.

5. In a target, the combination of two parts 55 connected to move relatively upon being struck by a shot, a cartridge-holder carried on one member, and a firing device carried on the other member, for the purpose specified. 60

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM G. SMITH.

Witnesses:

FRANK BURROWS,
CHAS. FISHER.