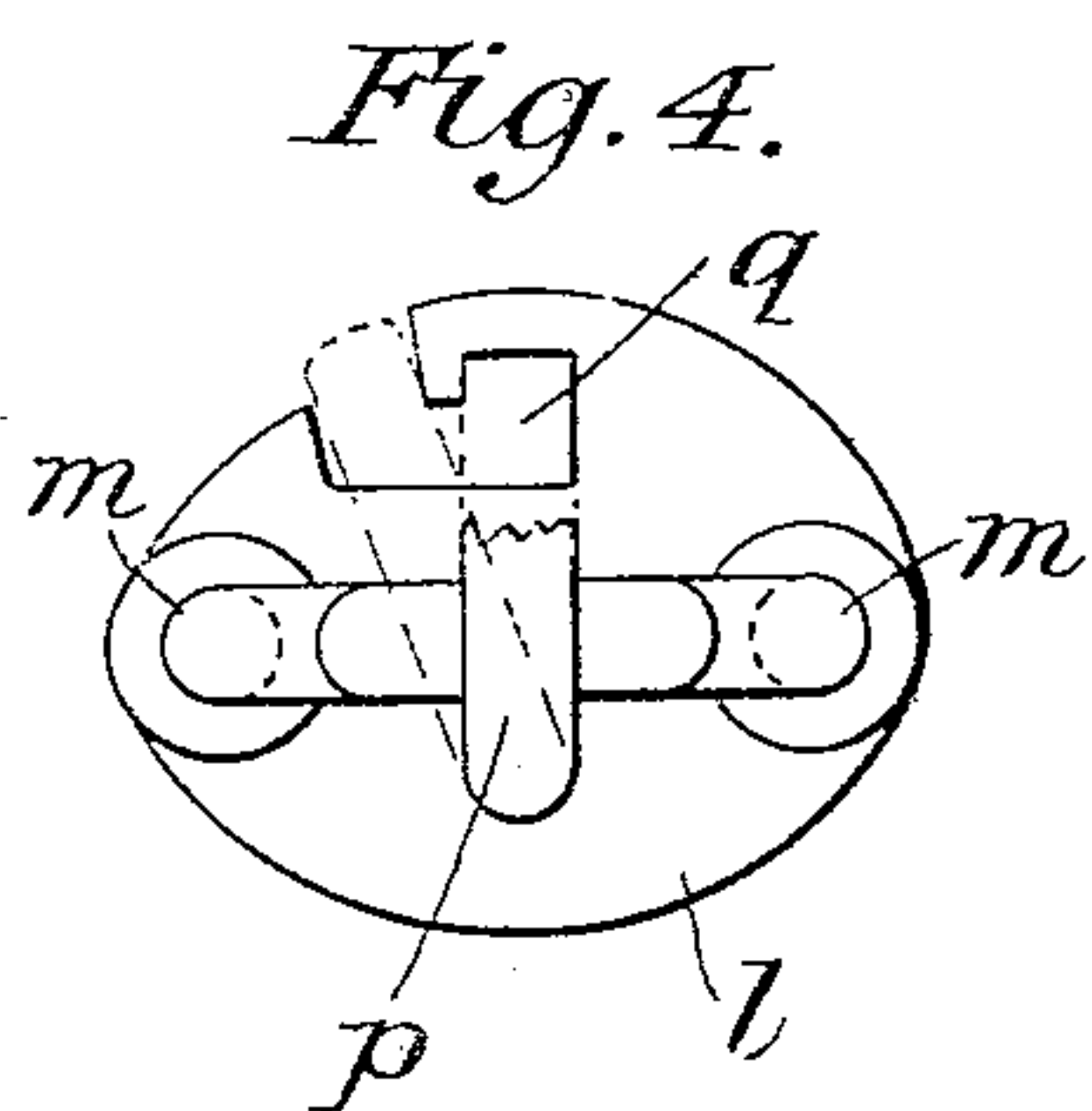
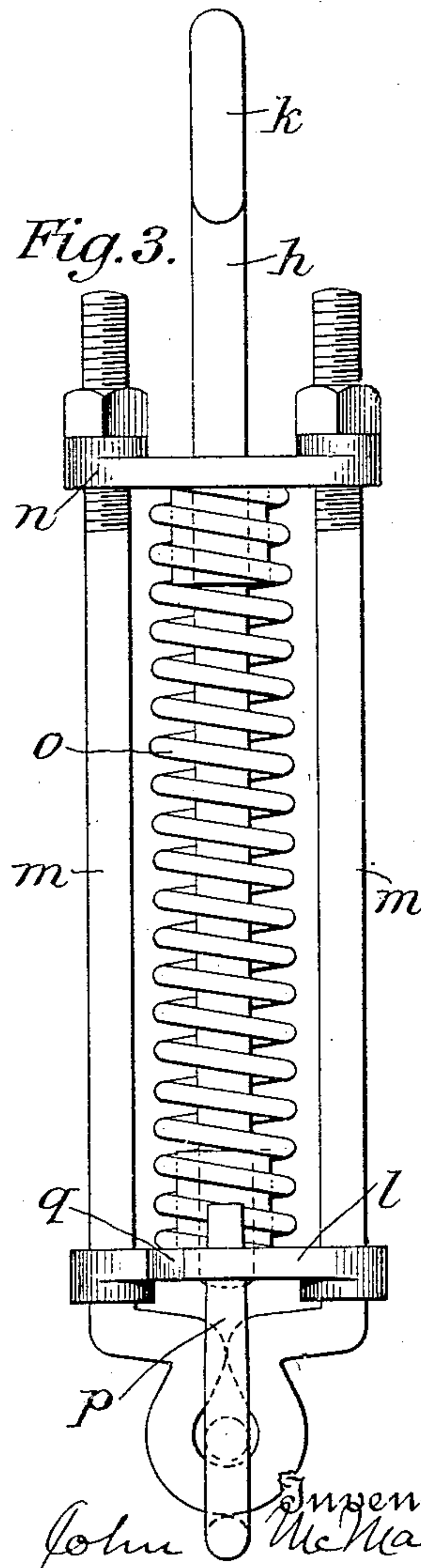
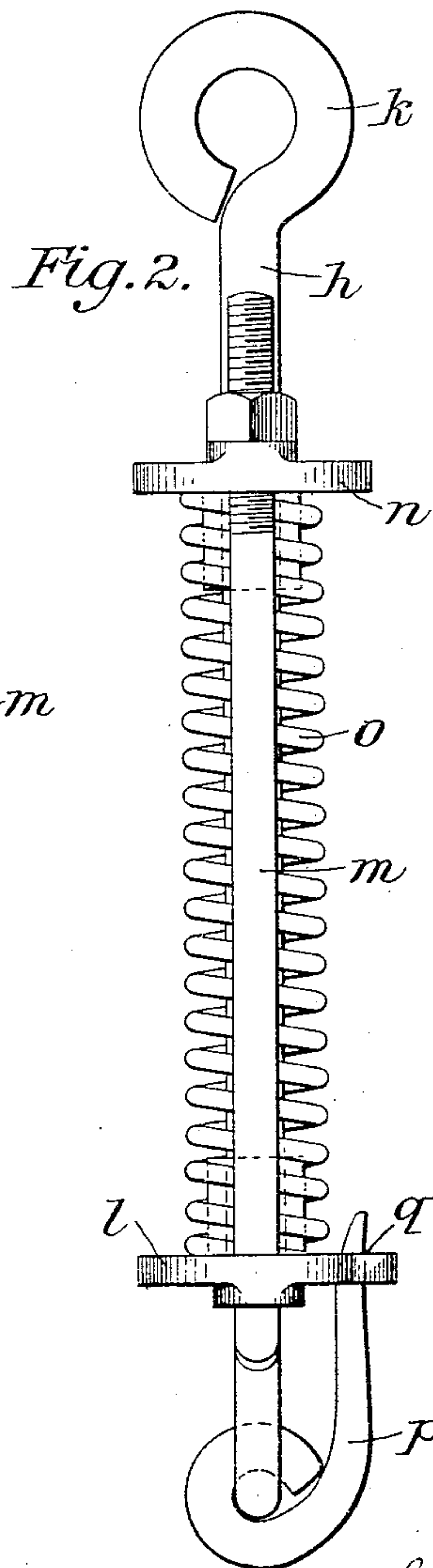
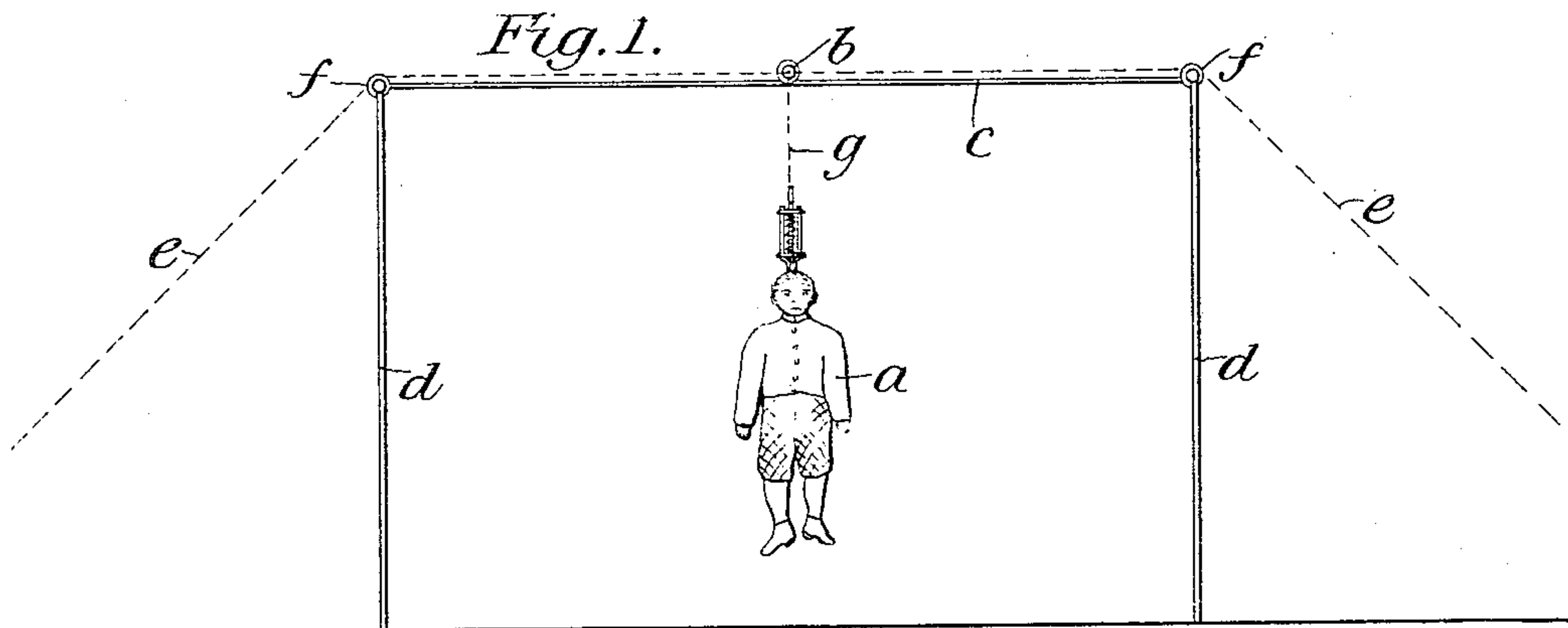


No. 704,265.

Patented July 8, 1902.

**J. McMASTER.**  
**TRAINING APPARATUS.**  
(Application filed Apr. 29, 1902.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## TRAINING APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 704,265, dated July 8, 1902.

Application filed April 29, 1902. Serial No. 105,154. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN McMASTER, a citizen of the United States, residing in Cambridge, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Training Apparatus, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

10 This invention relates particularly to apparatus for the training of foot-ball players in what is known as "tackling," and has for its object to produce an apparatus in which a dummy figure shall closely simulate the movements and the actions of a foot-ball player when tackled, thereby developing the skill of the tackling player under conditions closely resembling those of actual practice. In accordance with the invention the dummy figure is so supported that when it is properly tackled by a player it will be released and will fall with the tackling player substantially in the same manner as an opponent when properly tackled.

25 The invention will be more fully described hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which it is illustrated and in which—

30 Figure 1 is a general view representing a dummy figure suspended from a suitable support. Figs. 2 and 3 are views in elevation, from points at right angles, of the device by which the dummy figure is suspended from its support. Fig. 4 is an end view of the same as seen from the lower end, the hook being partly broken away and also shown in a different position by dotted lines.

40 The dummy figure, which may be made in any convenient manner, is indicated at *a* and is shown as suspended from a trolley *b*, which is adapted to travel on a horizontal bar *c*, supported by suitable standards *d*. Ropes (represented by dotted lines at *e*) are connected to the trolley *b* and are led over suitable guides *f*, so that the dummy figure may be drawn rapidly from side to side to simulate the movements of a running player. From the trolley *b* depends a rope *g* of such length as to support the dummy figure at the proper height, the rope *g* being connected to the

dummy figure by a device which will yield when the dummy figure is properly tackled and release the dummy figure, permitting it to be thrown violently to the ground. This device may be conveniently constructed as 55 represented in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, in which is shown a rod *h*, having an eye *k*, by which it may be secured to the rope *g*. At its lower end it carries a cross-head *l* to receive and guide in their movement rods *m*, which may 60 be the two parts of a single rod bent to form a yoke. The upper ends of the rods *m* support adjustably a cross-head *n*, arranged to slide on the rod *h*, and a stiff coiled spring *o* is interposed between the two cross-heads *l* and *n* to sustain the rods *m* normally in their highest position. A hook or latch 65 *p* is carried by the rods *m*, being conveniently hung upon the loop at the bottom, as clearly shown in the drawings. This latch 70 normally engages the cross-head *l*, in which may be formed an L-shaped notch *q*, into which the tongue of the latch *p* may be introduced easily, as represented in Figs. 2, 3, and 4. The dummy figure may be conveniently 75 secured to the releasing device by a ring or loop attached to its head and engaged directly with the latch *p*.

It will now be apparent that when the dummy figure is properly tackled and the weight 80 of the player is thrown suddenly upon the dummy figure the spring *o* will be compressed between the cross-heads *l* and *n*, permitting the rods *m* to move downward far enough to release the latch *e* from the cross-head *l*, 85 thereby releasing the dummy figure and permitting it to be thrown violently to the ground.

It will be evident that the construction of the releasing device may be varied from that shown and described herein without departing 90 from the spirit of the invention.

I claim as my invention—

1. A training apparatus for foot-ball players, comprising a dummy figure, a support therefor, and a releasing device interposed 95 between the dummy figure and its support, whereby the dummy figure is released from its support when properly tackled, substantially as described.

2. A training apparatus for foot-ball play- 100

ers, comprising a dummy figure, a support therefor, and a releasing device interposed between the dummy figure and its support, said releasing device comprising a spring and  
5 a latch engaged by the dummy figure and held normally in its closed position by said spring, substantially as described.

3. A training apparatus for foot-ball players, comprising a dummy figure, a support  
10 therefor, and a releasing device interposed between the dummy figure and its support, said releasing device comprising a rod secured

to the support and having a cross-head, a second rod also having a cross-head, a spring interposed between said cross-head, and a latch engaged by the dummy figure and normally held by said spring in engagement with one of said cross-heads, substantially as described.

This specification signed and witnessed this 25th day of April, A. D. 1902.

JOHN McMASTER.

In presence of—

JOHN AMEE,

ELLA H. JONES.