

June 19, 1923.

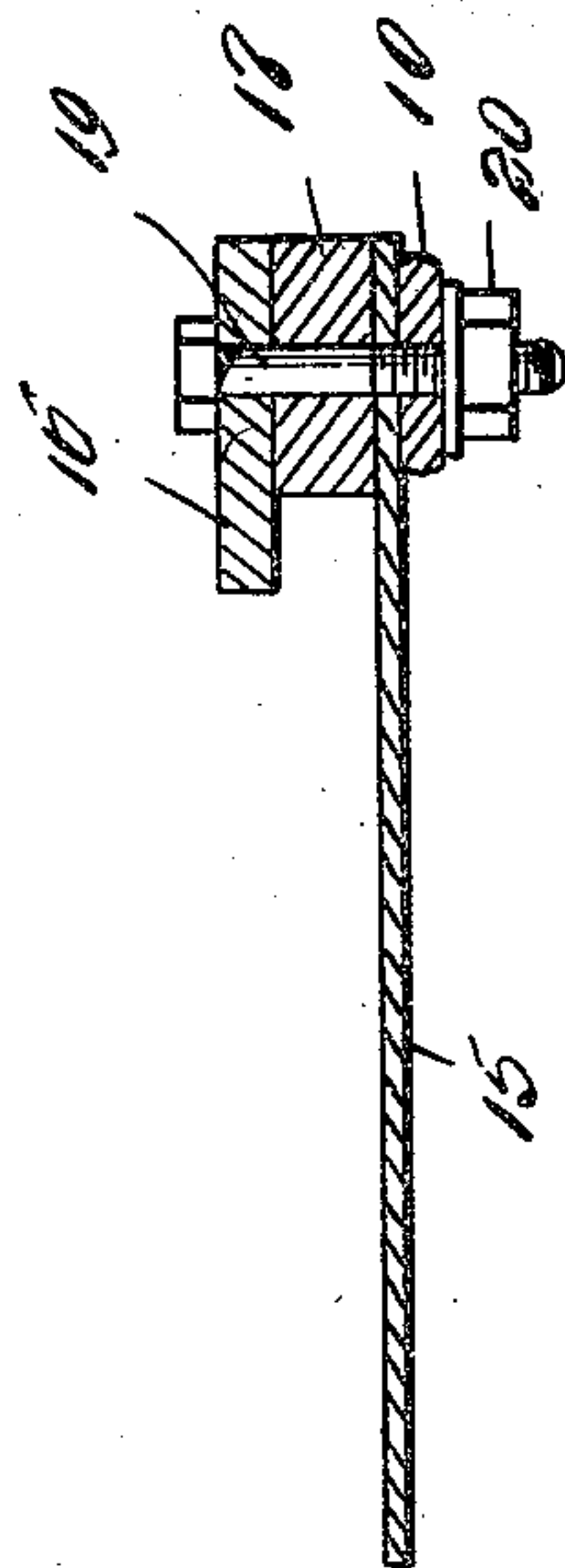
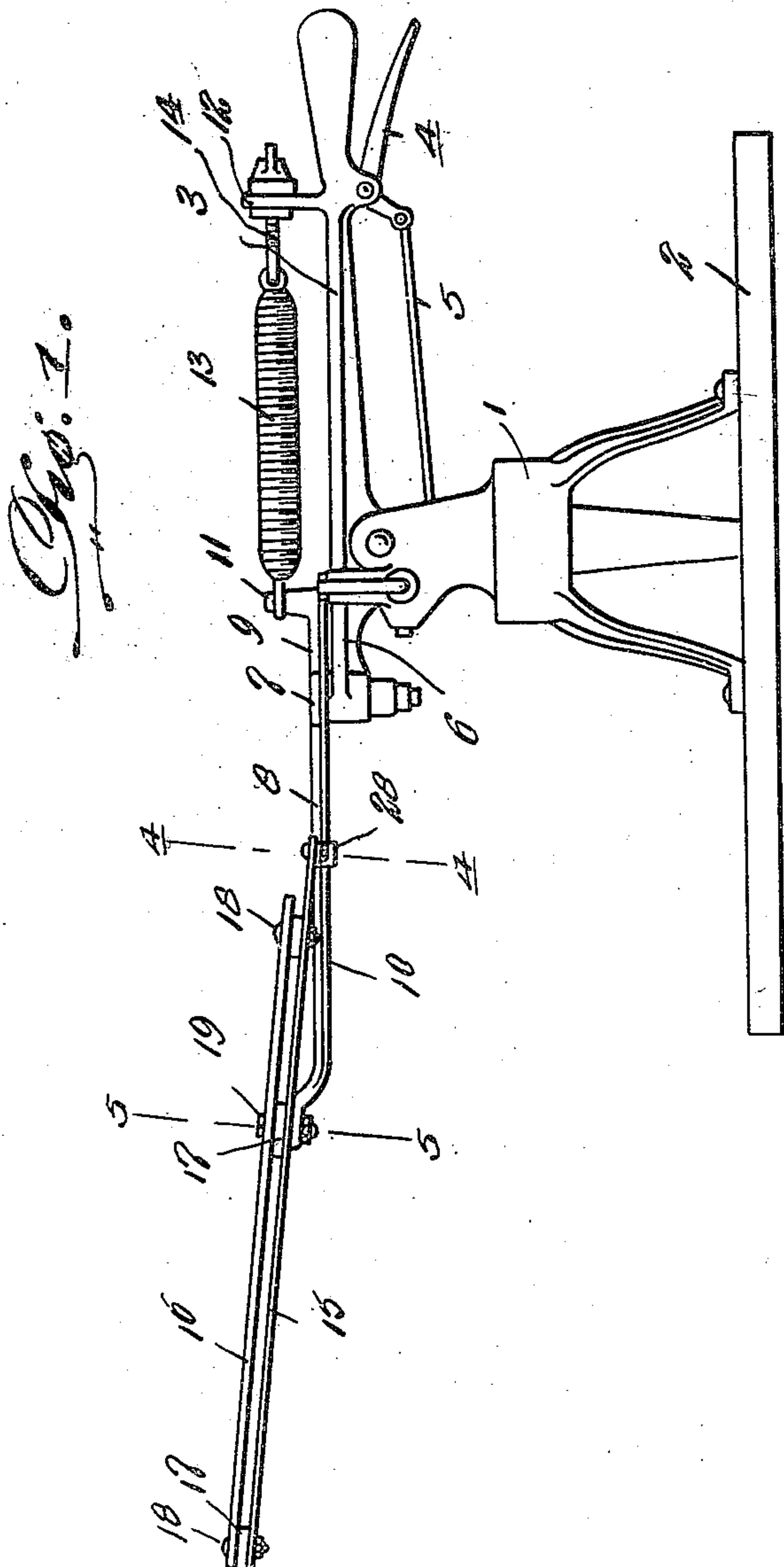
1,459,421

C. H. SLUSHER

TARGET THROWING DEVICE FOR TRAP SHOOTING

Filed Aug. 10, 1922

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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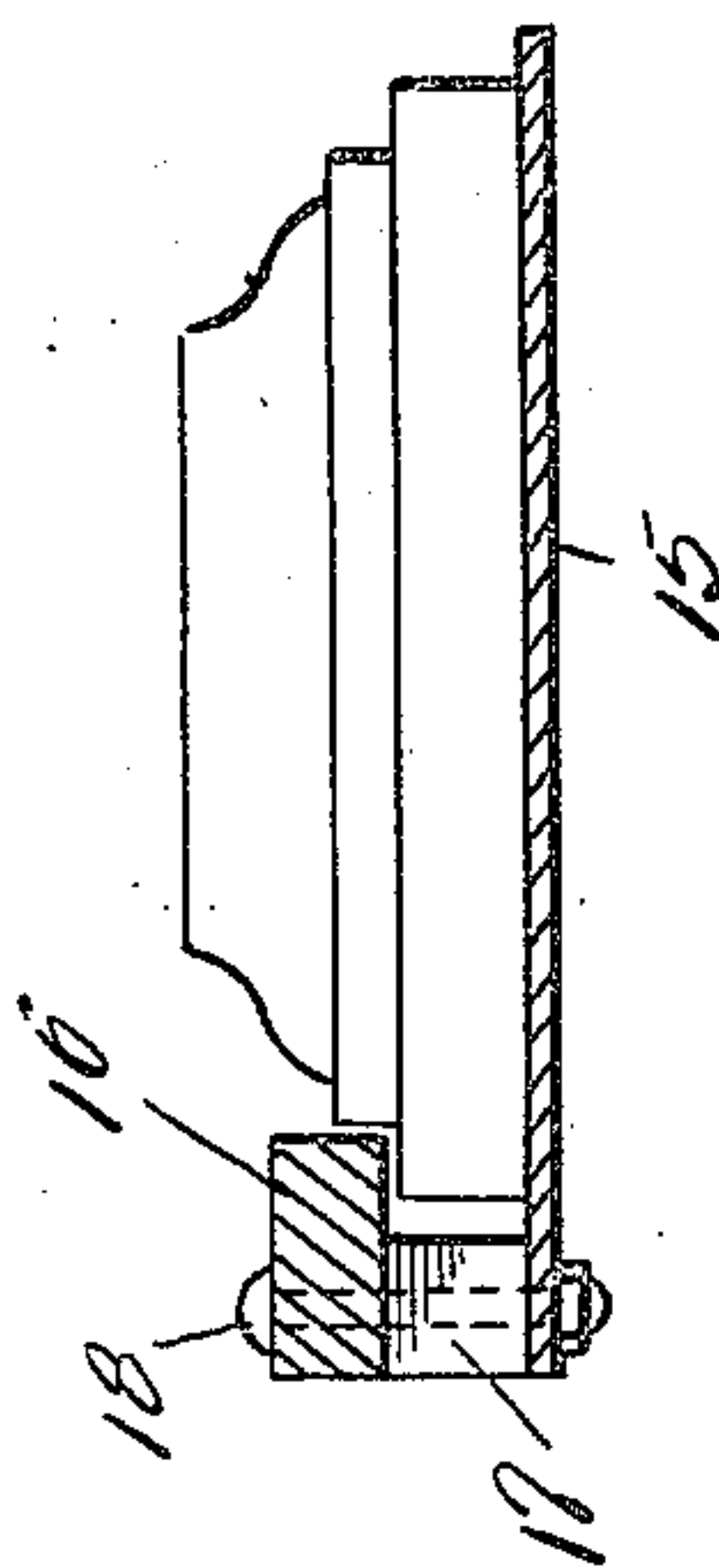
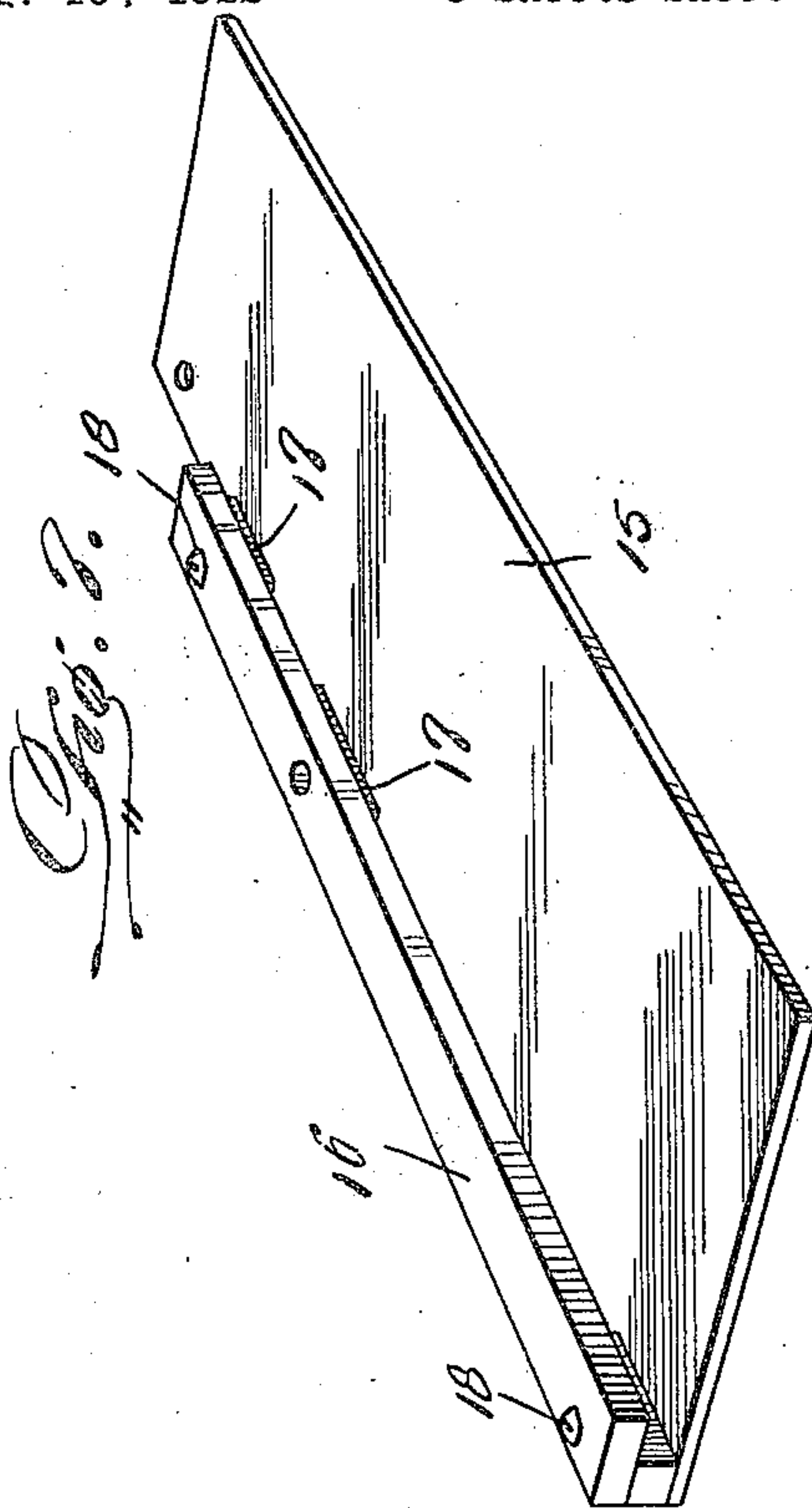
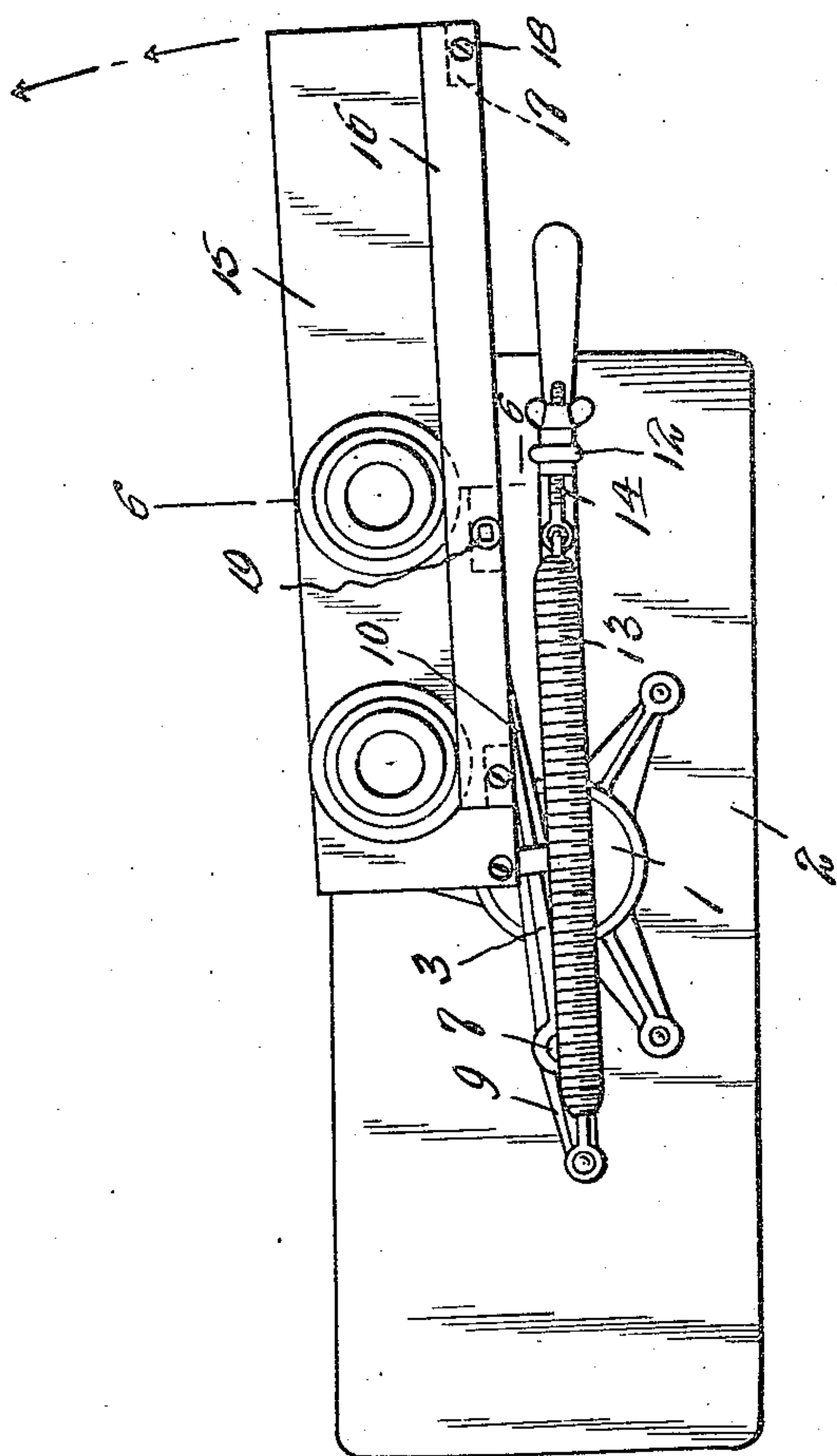
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TARGET THROWING DEVICE FOR TRAP SHOOTING

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*Fig. 3.*

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Patented June 19, 1923.

1,459,421

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLYDE HAROLD SLUSHER, OF LEXINGTON, MISSOURI.

TARGET-THROWING DEVICE FOR TRAP SHOOTING.

Application filed August 10, 1922. Serial No. 581,024.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CLYDE HAROLD SLUSHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lexington, in the county of Lafayette and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Target-Throwing Devices for Trap Shooting, of which the following is a specification.

In carrying out the present invention it is my purpose to provide a device whereby single, double and triple blue rock targets may be thrown in the sport of trap shooting without the necessity of adjusting the base of the trap and which will permit the target to be thrown at various angles without changing the base of the trap.

It is also my purpose to provide a device of the class described which will embrace the desired features of simplicity, efficiency and durability, which may be manufactured and marketed at small cost and which may be applied to any target throwing device now in use without the necessity of making any material changes or alterations in such target throwing device.

With the above recited objects in view, and others of a similar nature, the invention resides in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts set forth in and falling within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in elevation of a device constructed in accordance with my invention.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the same, showing the target carrier in position after it has been operated.

Figure 3 is a similar view showing the target carrier in position to be swung to throw the targets.

Figure 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a similar view on the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a like view on the line 6—6 of Figure 3.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the carrier.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, 1 designates a target stand of any suitable or preferred construction. This stand 1 is mounted upon and appropriately secured to a suitable platform 2. On the upper end of the stand 1 is a horizontal lever 3 secured to the stand in the usual well known manner, and pivoted to the lever 3 adjacent to the

outer end thereof is a hand grip 4 that is connected through the medium of a rod 5 with the usual releasing mechanism that is carried by the stand 1.

The lever 3 extends from one side of the stand 1 and fastened upon the top of the stand and extending therefrom in the opposite direction is a relatively short arm 6. Pivoted upon a vertical bolt 7 carried by the outer end of the arm 6 is a horizontal throwing arm 8 having a short end 9 and a long end 10, the short end 9 overlying the arm 6 when the arm 10 is in operative position, as shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings. The short end 9 of the arm 10 is equipped with an upstanding lug 11, while uprising from the lever 3 adjacent to the outer end thereof is a lug 12 and fastened to the lug 11 is one end of a coiled retractile spring 13. The other end of the spring 13 is connected with the lug 12 by means of an adjustable link 14 by which the tension of the spring 13 may be varied.

In accordance with my invention I secure to the outer end 10 of the arm 8 a target carrier. In the present instance this target carrier embodies a plate 15 of substantially rectangular shape and having its longest dimension extending in the same plane as the arm 10. Mounted upon the plate 15 at the rear edge thereof is a longitudinal bar 16 of a length nearly equal to that of the plate. This bar 16 is spaced apart from the plate and is mounted upon spacing blocks 17 that rest upon the plate at the rear edge thereof. These blocks 17 are, in the present instance, three in number and passed through the bar 16 and the two end blocks and the plate are securing bolts 18 that hold the bar 16 in position.

In order to secure the carrier to the outer end of the arm 10 I employ, in the present form of my invention, a bolt 19 that extends through the outer end 10 of the arm 8, the bar 16 and the center block 17, as clearly illustrated in Figure 5 of the drawings. A nut 20 is threaded onto the lower end of the bolt 19, while the head of the bolt engages the top of the bar 16.

In practice, the plate 15 and bar 16, together with the associated parts, constitute the carrier, and when it is desired to throw the targets from the carrier, the carrier and arm 8 are swung from operated position, as in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings, to throwing position, as in Figure 3 of the



drawings, and in this movement of the carrier and arm 8 the spring 13 is placed under tension incident to the increasing of the distance between the lugs 11 and 12 by reason of the swinging of the arm 8. As the arm 8 reaches throwing position, as in Figure 3, the releasing mechanism in the stand 1 engages the arm to hold the same against throwing movement under the action of the spring 13. The targets 27 which may be in singles, doubles or triplets, are placed upon the carrier, as clearly illustrated in Figure 3 of the drawings, and owing to the distance between the bar 16 and plate 15 the second stepped portion of the target engages against the bar as in Figure 6, so that friction between the target and bar is minimized. To throw the carrier the hand grip 4 is operated, thereby actuating the releasing mechanism to release the arm 8, and as the arm 8 is released the spring 13 reacts and swings the arm 8 and the carrier, as illustrated by the arrows in Figure 3 of the drawings, and in the movement of the carrier to its operated or forward position the targets are thrown out through the outer end of the carrier, so as to be fired at by the trap shooters.

The inner end of the carrier is preferably equipped with a two-part clamp 28, as illustrated in Figure 4 of the drawings, and this two-part clamp extends rearwardly from the plate 15 and engages over the adjacent portion of the arm 8, so as to cooperate with the bolt 19 in order to hold the carrier securely upon the arm.

The bar 16, as will be apparent, constitutes a means to direct the targets out of the carrier through the outer end thereof. and owing to its position upon the plate 15

reduces the friction between the bar and targets as the latter are thrown from the carrier.

I have entered into a detailed description of the construction and relative arrangement of parts embraced in the present and preferred embodiment of my invention with a view to imparting a full, clear and exact understanding of the said embodiment. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to the said specific construction and relative arrangement of parts, inasmuch as in the future practice of my invention such changes or modifications may be made as fairly fall within the scope of my invention as defined by my appended claim.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

The combination with a target throwing machine for trap shooters, including a throwing arm, of a target carrier adapted to hold targets in singles, doubles or triples, and including a substantially rectangular plate having spaced blocks upon the inner edge thereof, a longitudinal bar rigidly supported upon the blocks, and being of a width slightly greater than the width of the blocks, the said throwing arm being rigidly secured at its outer end to the target carrier by a bolt and nut connection carried by the target carrier and the said bar and securing one of the blocks, and the throwing arm being further secured to the target carrier by a two-piece clamp secured to the inner end of the carrier and adjacent portion of the throwing arm.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CLYDE HAROLD SLUSHER.