E. REDMOND.

Flying Target.

No. 220,254. Patented Oct. 7, 1879.

Fig. 1

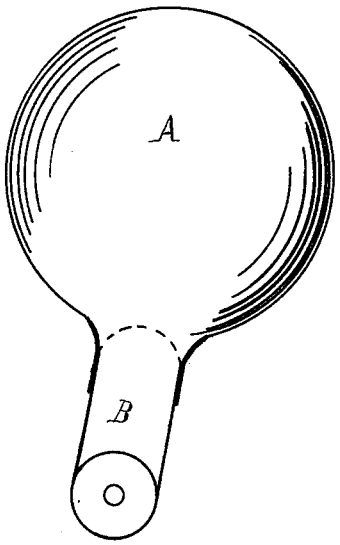

Fig 4

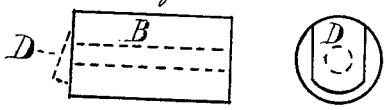

Fig 5

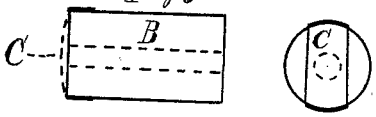

Fig 3

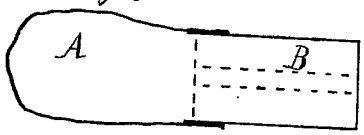

Fig. 2

Witnesses:
Owen Redmond
Edmund Redmond

Inventor:
Edmund Redmond.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMOND REDMOND, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLYING TARGETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,254**, dated October 7, 1879; application filed August 18, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDMOND REDMOND, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Flying or Ball Targets, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to supply a flying target, to be shot at with shot-guns, rifles, &c., that will be more convenient to use than any other existing, leaving, when broken, no dangerous fragments on the ground, showing instantly the effect of a shot by bursting with a report, being so portable that a hundred of them may easily be carried in a coat-pocket, and moving when projected in the air more in resemblance of a bird in flight than any other style of target in use.

The invention consists of a small elastic bag of rubber or other suitable material with a weight attached to it for maintaining momentum. The bag may be spherical, or of any desired shape, and should have an orifice or neck through which to introduce air for inflation. The weight may be inserted in this neck or orifice, and attached securely and air-tight to the bag. There should be a hole through the weight, through which to blow air into the bag, and on the end of the weight, inside the bag, there should be a valve, to prevent the air escaping when the bag is inflated until the latter is broken by shot.

The valve may consist of a strip of rubber tied over the orifice in the weight, C, Fig. 5, or of a flap of rubber, D, Fig. 4, one half of which is cemented to the weight, allowing the other half to rest over the orifice. Either of these valves is opened by blowing air into the bag, but closes when pressure outside ceases.

The target may be made by using the bag described and a valveless weight, F, Fig. 2, which weight is tied to the bag by a string, G. In this case the bag should be inflated through the wooden mouth-piece E, Fig. 2, which has a valve similar to C, and is inserted air-tight in the bag.

The weight F, which need not weigh over an ounce, is tied to the bag by a string of any desired length. When the weight is thrown it carries the bag behind. Two bags can be tied to one weight at different distances for double shooting.

The target could be made to consist of two distinct bags, oblong in shape, each air-tight and independent of the other, but closely attached and inflatable at a common orifice. If one of these bags alone was hit by shot, the other would wabble like a wounded bird.

In the drawings, A represents the bag, B and F the weights, and C and D the valves.

When the bag is not inflated, A, Fig. 3, it occupies little space, but when one wants to shoot at it he blows in air by his mouth until it is inflated to any desired extent. The target is then ready for use and may be thrown by hand or by any of the various traps used for throwing glass balls, &c. It may be collapsed without breaking by pushing in the valve with a piece of wood, &c.

I am aware that collapsible rubber balls containing material inside to impart momentum have been used as targets, and I do not claim such a target.

The use of a flexible link between the weight and rubber bag imparts to the latter a vibratory motion unknown in other targets, but very desirable.

I claim—

In a flying target, the combination of an elastic collapsible bag, a valved mouth-piece, a flexible link, and weight, Fig. 2, for the purpose and substantially as described.

EDMOND REDMOND.

Witnesses:

OWEN REDMOND,

EDWARD M. REDMOND.