

Bilbo Catcher

A bilbo catcher is very similar to the ball and cup. The following instructions and image are taken from *Every Boy's Book: A Complete Encyclopedia of Sports and Amusements* edited by Edmund Routledge (1869) and *The American Boy's Book of Sports and Games* (1864).

“Cup and Ball

A ball of ivory or hard wood is attached to a stem of the same substance, having a shallow cup at one end and a point at the other. The player holds the stem in his right hand, as shown in the figure, and having caused the ball to revolve by twirling it between the finger and thumb of his left, he jerks it up and catches it either in the cup, or upon the spike, to receive which a hole is made in the ball. We need scarcely say that the latter feat can only be performed by a skillful player. Cup and Ball was the favorite pastime at the court of Henry III of France.”

