

Horace B. Ames. Toy Ball and Spring Gun.

74479

PATENTED  
FEB 18 1868

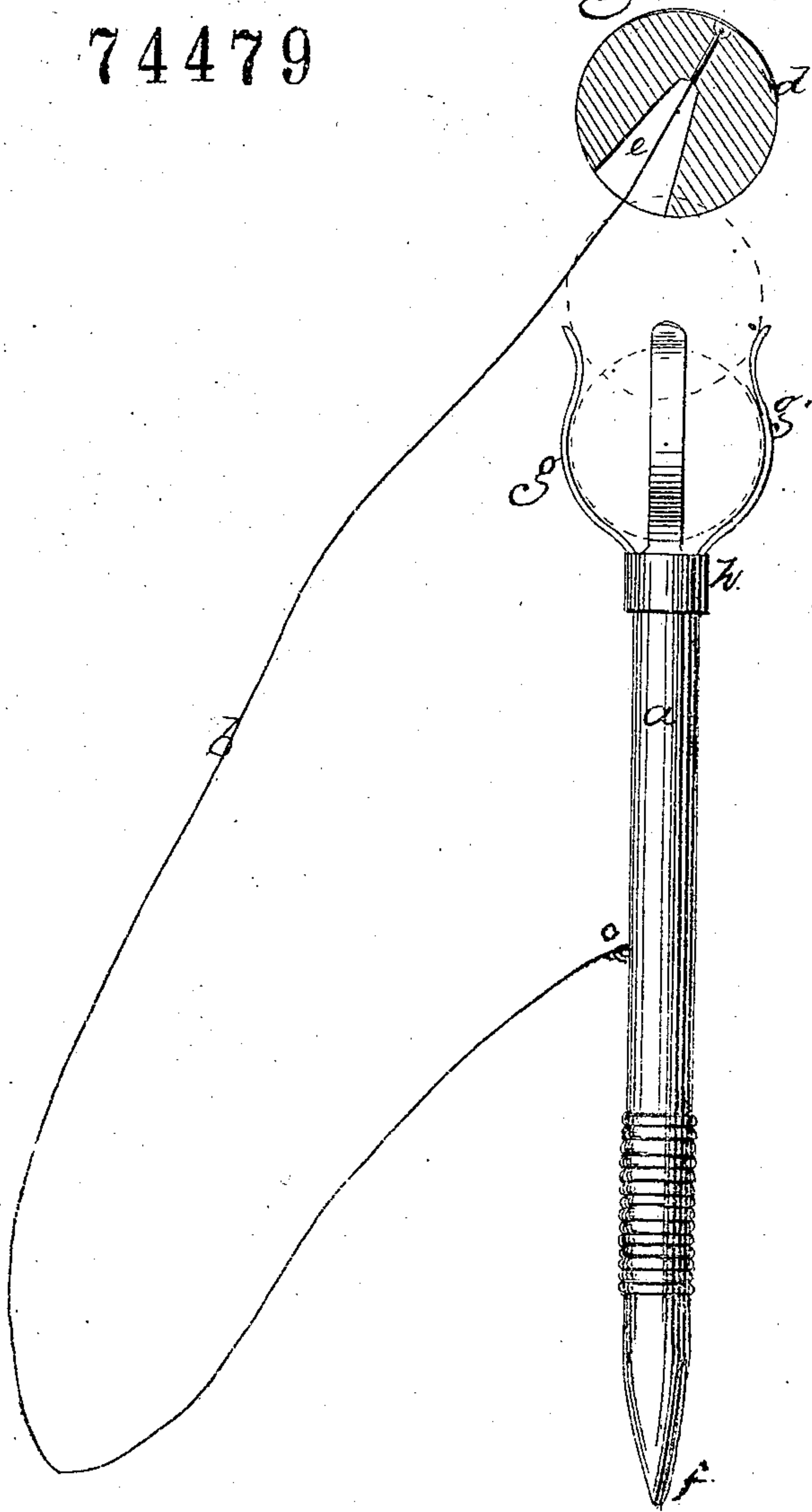


Fig. 1.

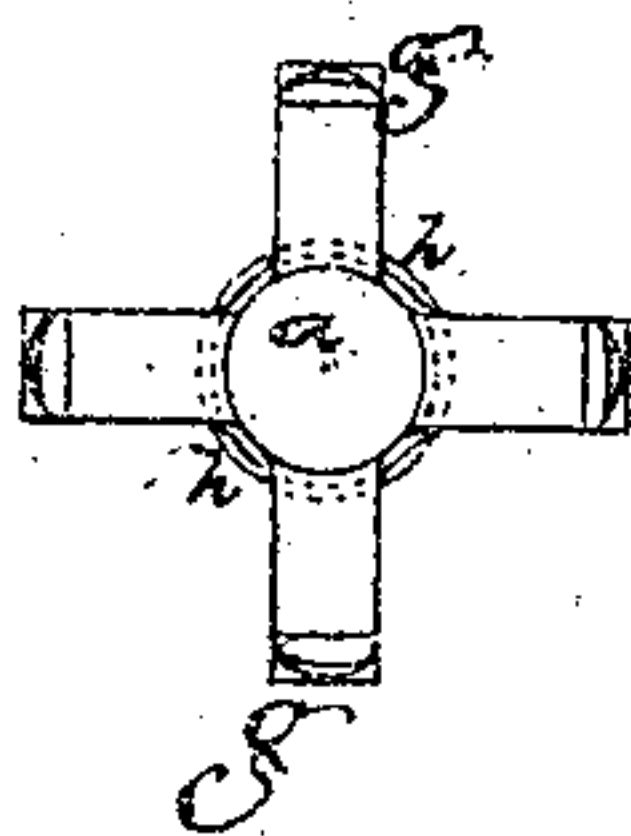


Fig. 2.

Witness,

Chas. H. Smith

Geo. D. Mace

Horace B. Ames.

# United States Patent Office.

HORACE B. AMES, OF GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR  
TO JOHN S. STONE, OF HOUSATONIC, MASSACHUSETTS.

*Letters Patent No. 74,479, dated February 18, 1868.*

## SPRING-CUP TOY.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, HORACE B. AMES, of Great Barrington, in the county of Berkshire, and State of Massachusetts, have invented and made an Improved Toy Ball and Spring-Cup; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is an elevation of said toy, the ball being in section, and

Figure 2 is a plan of the spring-cup.

Similar marks of reference denote the same parts.

Heretofore a toy cup and ball has been made with a rigid cup at one end of a stem, and the ball attached by a non-elastic string. This toy, when in use, did not afford the amusement that might otherwise be derived therefrom, in consequence of the sudden pull of the falling ball on the non-elastic string, giving an unpleasant movement to the stem in the hand, and soon causing the string to break; and besides this, when the ball was caught in the cup, it frequently jumped out of the same.

The nature of my said invention consists in a spring-cup that grasps the ball as it falls into the same, and in an elastic cord applied to and combined with the cup and ball, whereby the movement of the ball is much more easy and agreeable to the person using the same, and there is little or no risk of such cord breaking by a sudden concussion of the ball.

In the drawing, *a* is the stem or handle, of convenient length, and of any desired ornamental shape; *b* is an India-rubber cord, attached at *c* to the stem *a*, and at the other end passing into and through the ball *d*, and secured by a knot. The tapering hole *e* is made in the ball *d* for the end *f* of the stem *a* as usual. The spring cup is made with three or more curved springs *g*, bent to about the form shown. I cut these out of a piece of sheet metal in a manner similar to comb-teeth, and roll up the portion of said sheet that joins the butts of the springs, so as to form a cylinder corresponding to the size of the end of the stem *a*, and I drive over this the ring or thimble *h* so as to secure the springs firmly in their places. The springs may be bent to shape after they are secured to the stem *a*, and their curvature is to be such as to correspond with that of the ball *d*, and to slightly grasp the ball when in place, (see the red and dotted red lines in fig. 1.)

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The toy ball and elastic spring-cup, formed as specified, as a new article of manufacture.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my signature, this ninth day of November, A. D. 1867.

HORACE B. AMES.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. SMITH,  
GEO. D. WALKER.