

J. S. Griffith,

Toy,

N^o 85,087,

Patented Dec. 22, 1868

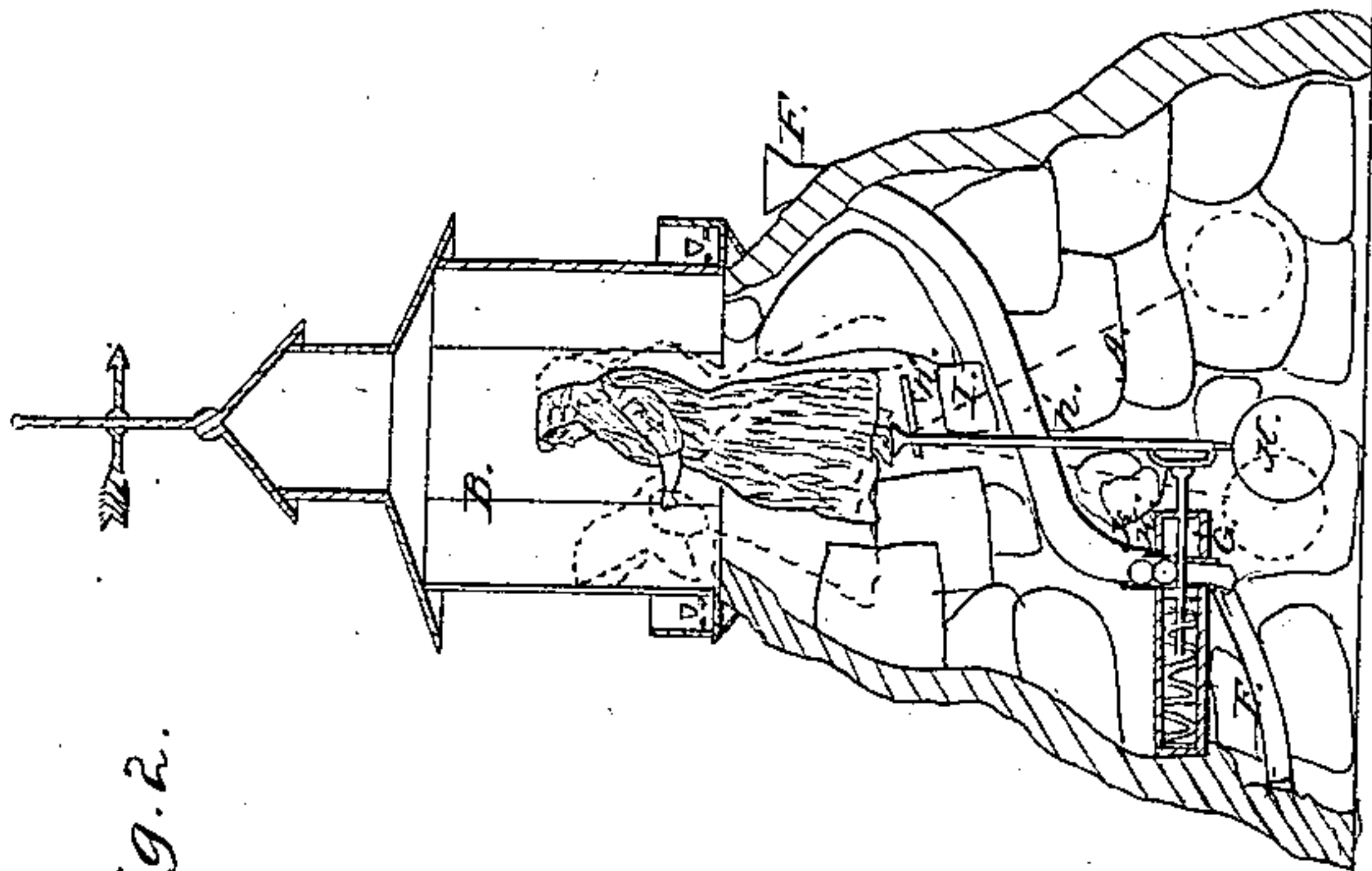


Fig. 2.

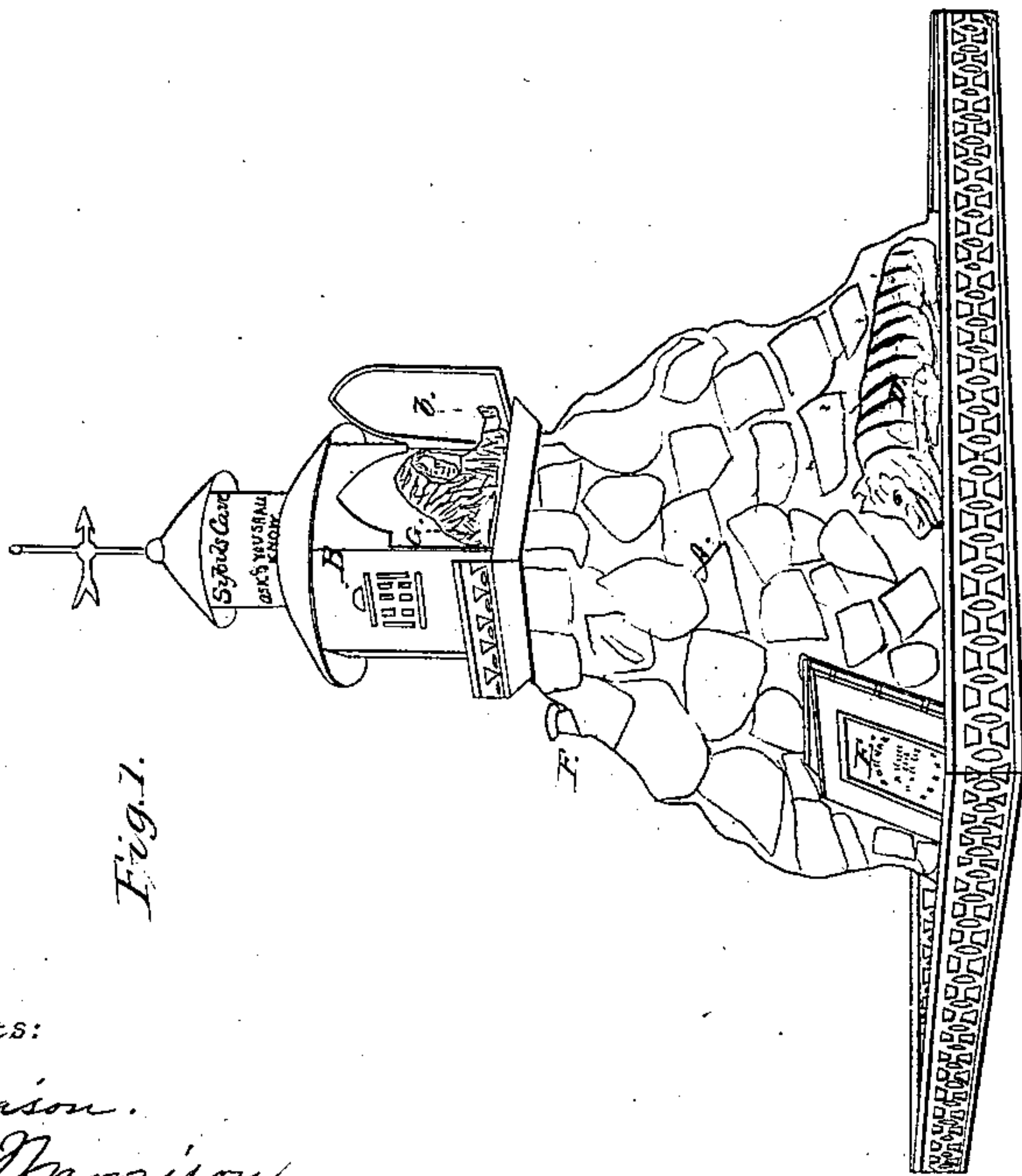


Fig. 1.

Witnesses:

Bay Morrison.

Wm. H. Morrison.

Inventor:

J. S. Griffith.

United States Patent Office.

J. S. GRIFFITH, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 85,087, dated December 22, 1868; antedated December 8, 1868.

TOY, ENTITLED SIBYL'S CAVE.

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, J. S. GRIFFITH, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Toy; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and mode of operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and

Figure 2, a vertical section of the same.

Like letters of reference indicate the same parts when in both figures.

My invention relates to that class of toys which are of the "fortune-telling" character, intended for the amusement and pleasure of children; and

My invention consists of a miniature cave, covered by a hollow rock, or built-up stones, surmounted by a temple, and containing a sibyl or gipsy, who is caused, by means of certain mechanical devices hereinafter described, and to be operated by the applicant, to throw open and appear at a door of the temple, and, on retreating and closing the said door, to discharge one of a series of numbered balls (previously deposited in a conducting-tube by the attendant, for the purpose,) from the mouth of an animal lying at the foot of the rock. On the applicant's referring to the corresponding number of the said ball in a little printed book which accompanies the toy, he or she finds the sibyl's answer.

Referring to the drawing—

A is the cave-rock; and

B, the surmounting temple, containing the sibyl, C;

D, the animal at the foot of the rock;

E, the book;

F, the conducting-tube;

G, a sliding spring-valve in the tube F;

H, a pendulum, which supports the sibyl C, and also opens the valve G;

I, a lever for operating a pendulum; and

K K, the balls.

The sibyl C is supported upon the upper or extended end of the rod *h'* of the pendulum H, the said pendulum and rod swinging on a horizontal bar, *h''*, which passes through the rod *h'* at a point a little below the sibyl, so that, as the pendulum oscillates, the sibyl inclines forward and backward alternately. (See fig. 2.)

In front of the sibyl there is an opening in the temple B, provided with a swinging door, *b'*, to the inner side of which latter the hand or arm of the said sibyl is articulated or applied in such a manner, that, as the pendulum H is oscillated, the sibyl alternately opens the door, appears at the opening, and then withdraws, closing it again.

The conducting-tube F has its receiving-end on the outside of the rock A, and extends down spirally or

slopingly through the hollow space therein, and its lower end forms a part of the throat and mouth of the reposing animal D, so that, when a metallic ball of the series is dropped into the upper end, it will, if unobstructed by the valve, roll down the tube and be discharged from the animal's mouth.

Near the lower part of the cavity in the rock A, the tube F is cut across and separated by the sliding plate of the valve G, which is so placed and supported as to be alternately closed by its spring, *f'*, and opened by a blow from the pendulum H, when the latter is operated for the purpose.

The valve G consists of a horizontal plate, which slides across the division in the tube F, and has a hole through one end of it which corresponds with the bore of the tube, and is so arranged that, when at rest, it closes the tube F, and thus prevents the balls above from passing down, and when the pendulum strikes its projecting end, it is driven inward so as to let one ball pass, and then, by the reaction of the spring, it is immediately closed again, the passed ball rolling out from the mouth of the animal D.

The pendulum is drawn or pushed back, and held in that position, by means of the lever I, which projects through an opening in the side of the rock A, and thus the sibyl is caused, by the inquirer, to open the door *b'*, and appear (as on request) at the opening, as shown in fig. 1, but, as soon as the applicant's finger releases the lever I, the pendulum swings downward and drives in the slide, so as to open the valve, and discharge the ball which is in contact with it, and then swing back, so as to allow the spring *f'* to instantly close the valve again, by forcing it outward, the sibyl at the same time retreating, and closing the door *b'*.

The series of balls is numbered to correspond with the numbers of the printed answers, respectively, in the book E, say from one to forty.

The inquirer picks up the discharged ball, and, ascertaining its number, finds the answer under the corresponding number in the book E.

This is a very pretty, amusing, and pleasure-giving toy for children, and is, therefore, useful.

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

The toy, consisting of the elevated rock and temple A B, sibyl C, pendulum H, tube F, valve *f'*, and the numbered balls K K, the said parts being constructed and arranged to operate, substantially as and for the purpose described.

J. S. GRIFFITH.

Witnesses:

BENJ. MORISON,

WM. H. MORISON.