

F. W. Smith.

Croquet Wicket.

N^o 88,335.

Patented Mar. 30, 1869.

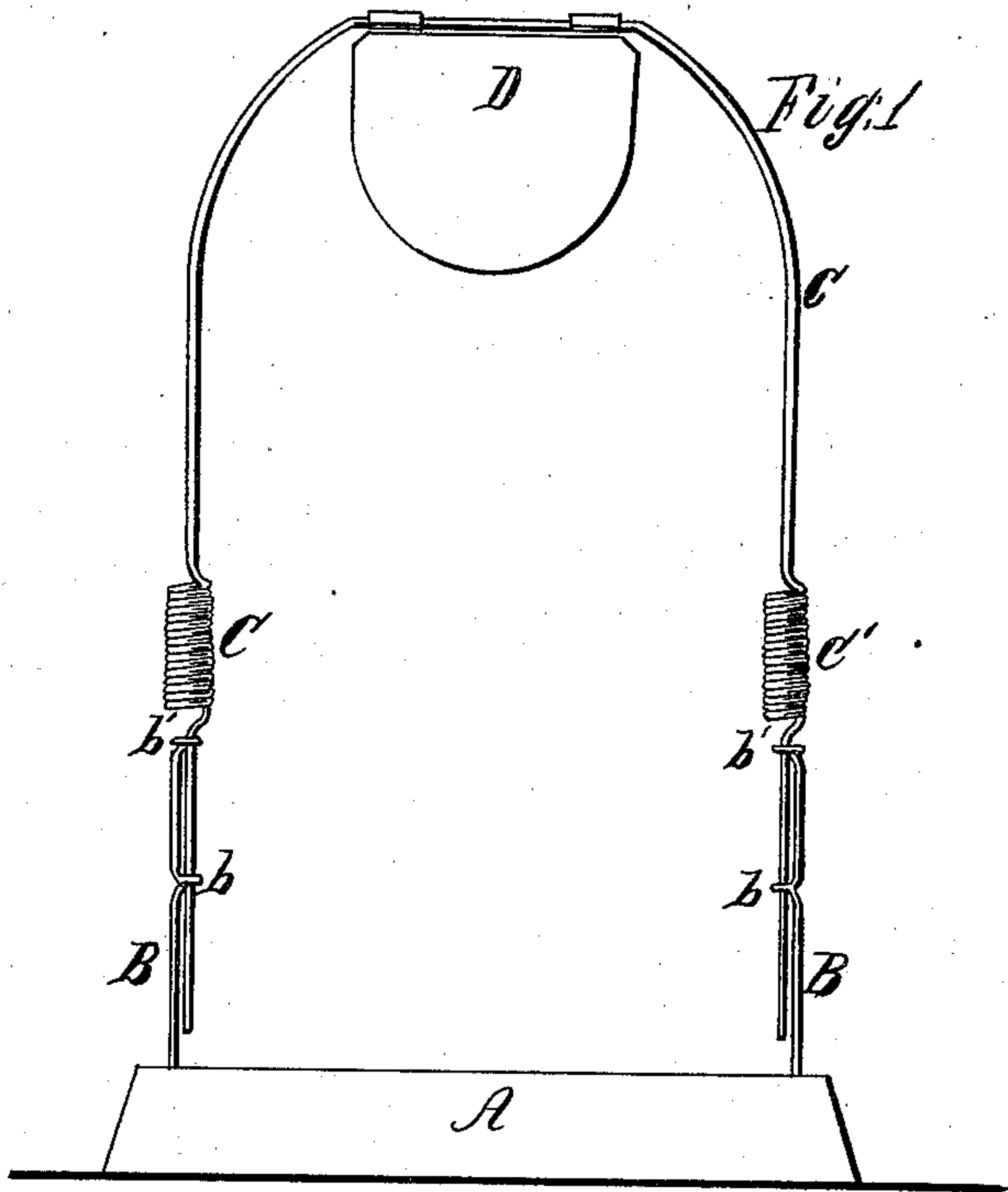
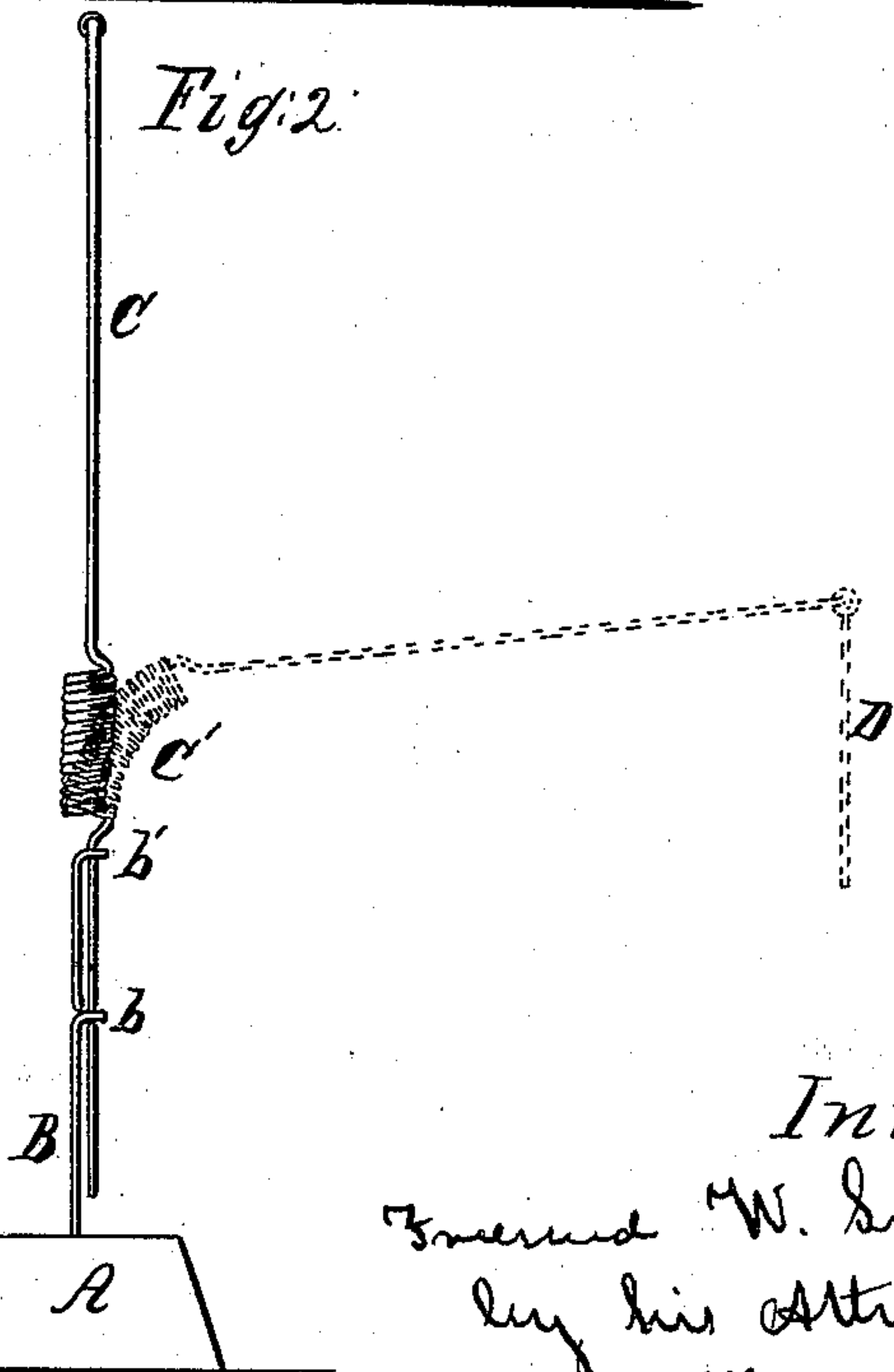


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

John J. Chew
Balthus DeLong

Inventor

Frederic W. Smith
by his Atty
Wm. D. Baldwin



FRIEND W. SMITH, JR., OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 88,335, dated March 30, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN CROQUET-WICKETS.

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, FRIEND W. SMITH, Jr., of Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield, and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Croquet-Wickets, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the first part of my invention is to render the wickets elastic laterally, to prevent their being thrown down by the players coming in contact with them, and also to prevent injury to the players or their clothing; to which end,

My improvement consists in a novel method of combining helical springs with the arches, or wickets, substantially as hereinafter set forth.

My invention further consists in so hinging a label to the wicket, to receive a number, that the label may yield when struck by the ball or mallet.

The object of the next part of my invention is to enable the wickets easily to be removed; and

My improvement consists in a novel method of combining, with spring-wickets, vertical rods, bent to form eyes, into which the wickets are inserted as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a front, and

Figure 2, a side view of my improved wicket, the red lines showing the wicket bent.

A bed-piece, A, is inserted in the ground, and supports two side-posts B, formed of stout wire, and bent into eyes *b b'*.

The wicket is formed of a single wire, C, bent in its middle in the usual shape, but having helical springs C' near each end.

The ends of the wire are straight, so that they can be inserted in the eyes *b b'*, and the wickets can thus be readily set up or removed.

A label, D, may be attached to each wicket, to receive a number or mark.

I prefer helical springs, as they allow a large range of motion, and yet support the wicket properly.

The side-posts B may, if preferred, be inserted directly into the ground.

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

1. The combination, substantially as set forth, with a croquet-wicket, of spiral springs, which allow the wicket to yield laterally.

2. The combination, substantially as set forth, of vertical supports, provided with eyes, and spring-wickets, for the purposes specified.

3. The combination, with the yielding spring-wicket, of the numbered hinged label, arranged and operating as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name.

FRIEND W. SMITH, JR.

Witnesses:

CURTIS THOMPSON,
D. F. HOLLISTER.