

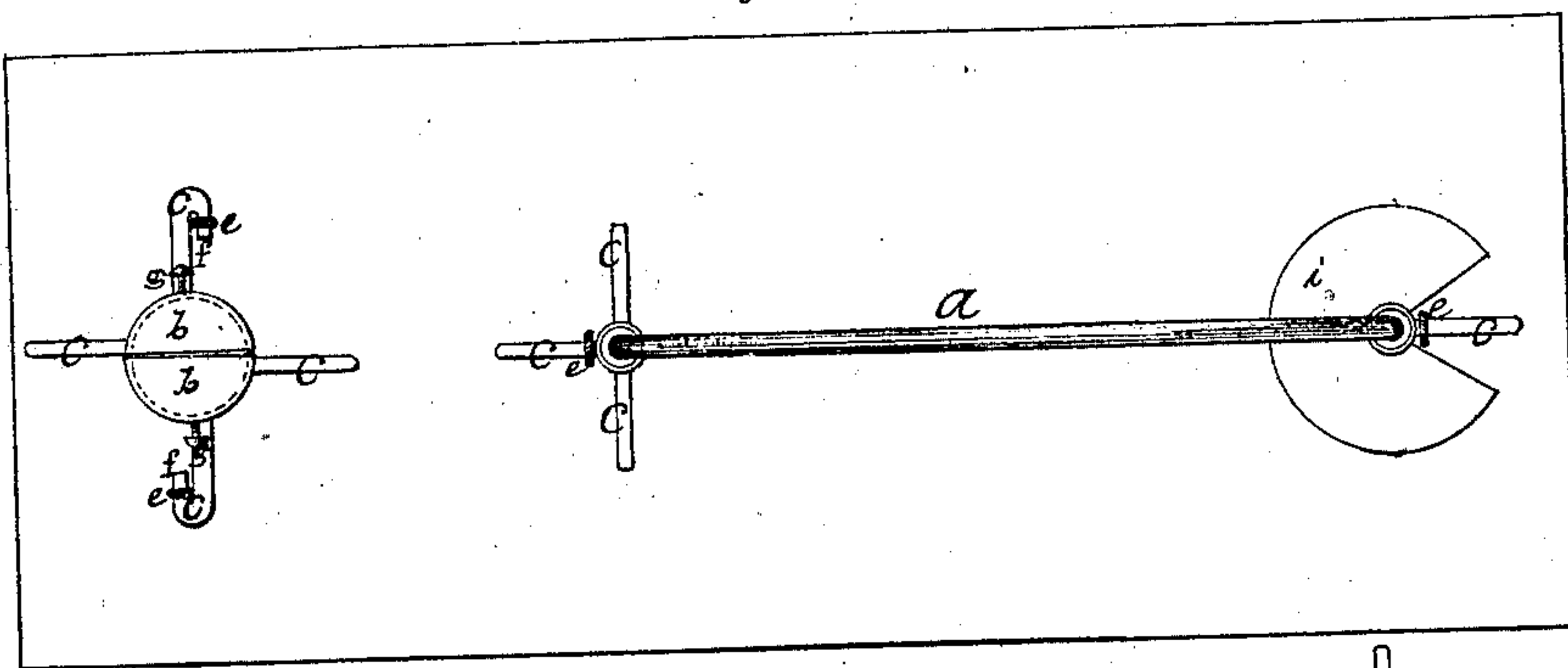
*A. P. Eastman,*

*Croquet.*

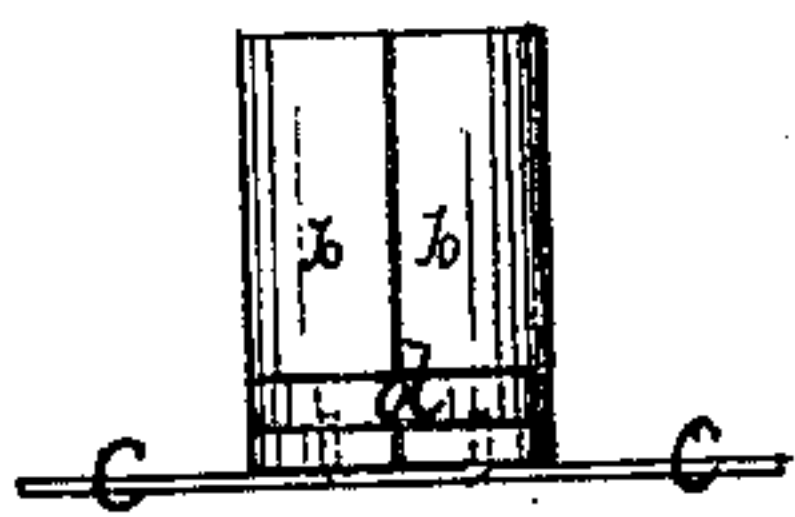
*No. 109120.*

*Patented Nov. 8. 1870.*

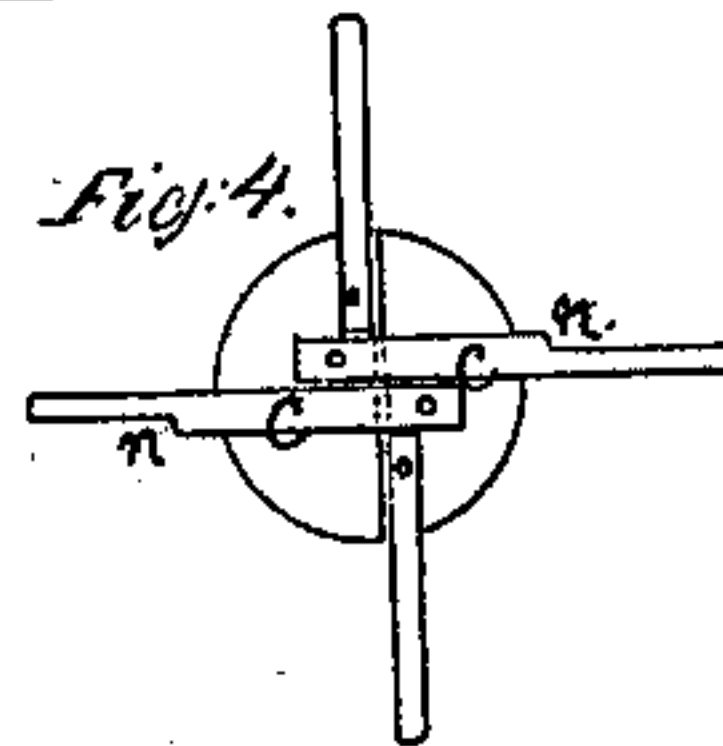
*Fig. 1.*



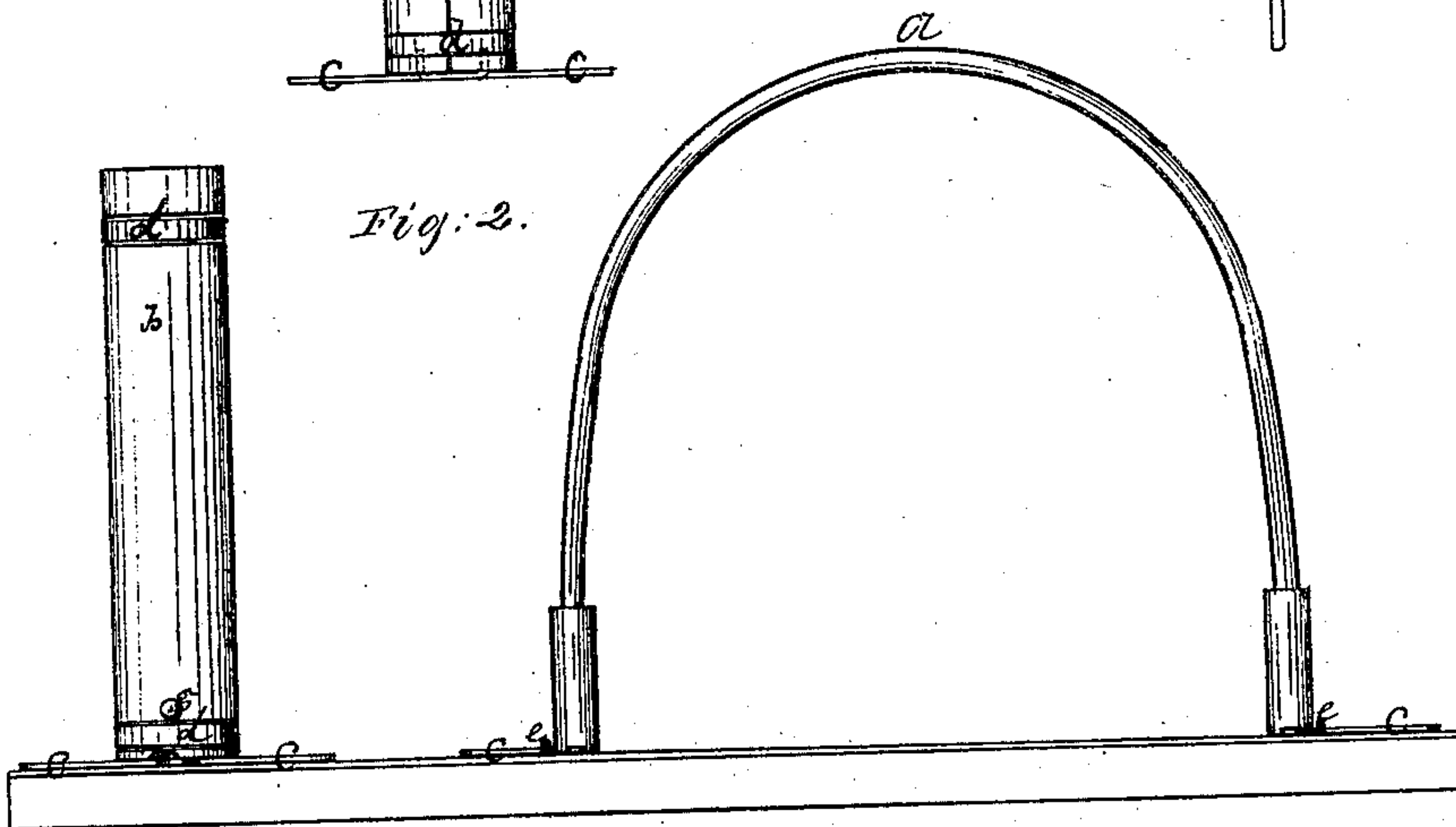
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses*

*Geo. E. Brown*  
*C. O. Brown*

*Inventor*

*Albert P. Eastman*

# United States Patent Office.

ALBERT P. EASTMAN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Letters Patent No. 109,120, dated November 8, 1870

## IMPROVEMENT IN APPARATUS FOR PARLOR-CROQUET.

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

I, ALBERT P. EASTMAN, of Washington, Washington county and District of Columbia, have invented certain improvements in House-Croquet Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a plan view;

Figure 2 is a side elevation;

Figure 3, a side elevation of a turning-stake, showing a second method of attaching the prongs; and

Figure 4 is a plan view of the bottom of the stake, showing the shoulders on the prongs.

This invention consists of a croquet-wicket, or a socket to receive the end of a croquet-wicket, or a croquet turning-stake, when provided with prongs extending horizontally from the lower end of the socket or stake, or the extremities of the wicket, in such manner as to hold the wicket-socket or stake stationary upon the carpet or floor of a room in a dwelling-house, by the aid of loops attached to the carpet, in which the prongs are inserted.

The invention also consists of a croquet turning-stake, made in sections, running lengthwise of the stake and connected by springs, the object of such construction being to admit of the spreading apart of the sections far enough to enable the player to insert the hooks on the ends of the prongs into the loops of the carpet, after which the springs draw the sections of the stake together again, thus confining the hooks in the loops.

The invention also consists in a wicket, socket, or stake, when provided with the aforesaid prongs, and with a disk attached horizontally at the lower end of the stake, or at the extremities of the wicket, the function of the disk being to prevent the wicket or stake from falling laterally.

Referring to the drawing—

*a* is a croquet-wicket.

*b*, a turning-stake.

*c*, prongs secured in any suitable manner to the lower end of the stake, and to the extremities of the wicket, and extending horizontally therefrom when the stake and wicket are placed vertically upon a carpet.

*e* are loops attached to the carpet or floor, through which to insert the prongs.

*i* are disks, attached to the extremities of the wicket, and extending in an opposite direction from the prongs, for the purpose of preventing the wicket from falling.

*d* are elastic bands, which connect the sections *b* of the stake.

*f*, hooks on the ends of the prongs of the stake, and

*g*, knobs, which may be taken hold of to spread the sections *b* apart.

The loops *e* may be made of thread of the same color as the carpet, and need not be large enough to be noticed, when the instruments are not in use.

In fig. 3 is shown a turning-stake, having straight prongs *c*, without hooks, each prong extending under and outside of the opposite section *b* from that to which it is attached. The object of this arrangement is to do away with the necessity of using the hooks.

The length of the prongs and the radius of the disk should be less than the radius of the balls, in order that the balls may not strike the prongs or disk.

In fig. 4 is seen a set of prongs, arranged, with respect to the stake, on the plan shown in fig. 3, and provided with shoulders *n*, either at the periphery of the stake or outside the same.

The function of the shoulders is, after one prong has been inserted into its loop as far as the shoulder, to hold the section *b* to which said prong is attached, by the pressure of the shoulder against the loop, while the player draws back the other section toward the loop against which the shoulder is pressing, far enough to enable him to insert the other prong into its loop.

A groove, *m*, may be made above the prong *c* in the bottom of each section *b*, opposite the loop, in order that the section may clear the loop as it is drawn over it.

I am aware that plates provided with vertical tubes to receive the wickets and stakes are no new thing; but I consider my invention superior to these, for the reason that the prongs may be placed on the upper side of the carpet, while the plates have to be placed beneath a piece of carpeting, and holes have to be made in the carpet for the tubes to project through, and a frame has to be provided to inclose and stretch the carpet.

I dispense with the frame and carpeting entirely, thus enabling the instruments to be set to the full size of the floor.

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

1. A croquet-wicket or turning-stake, provided with prongs, as and for the purpose specified.

2. A croquet turning-stake made in separable sections, which are connected by springs, substantially as described.

3. The arrangement of the wicket or stake with the prongs *c* and disks *i*, as specified.

Witnesses:

ALBERT P. EASTMAN.

GEO. E. BROWN,

C. O. BROWN.