(No Model.)

V. ESTEPHE.

Billiard Table Chuck.

No. 235,861. Patented Dec. 28, 1880.

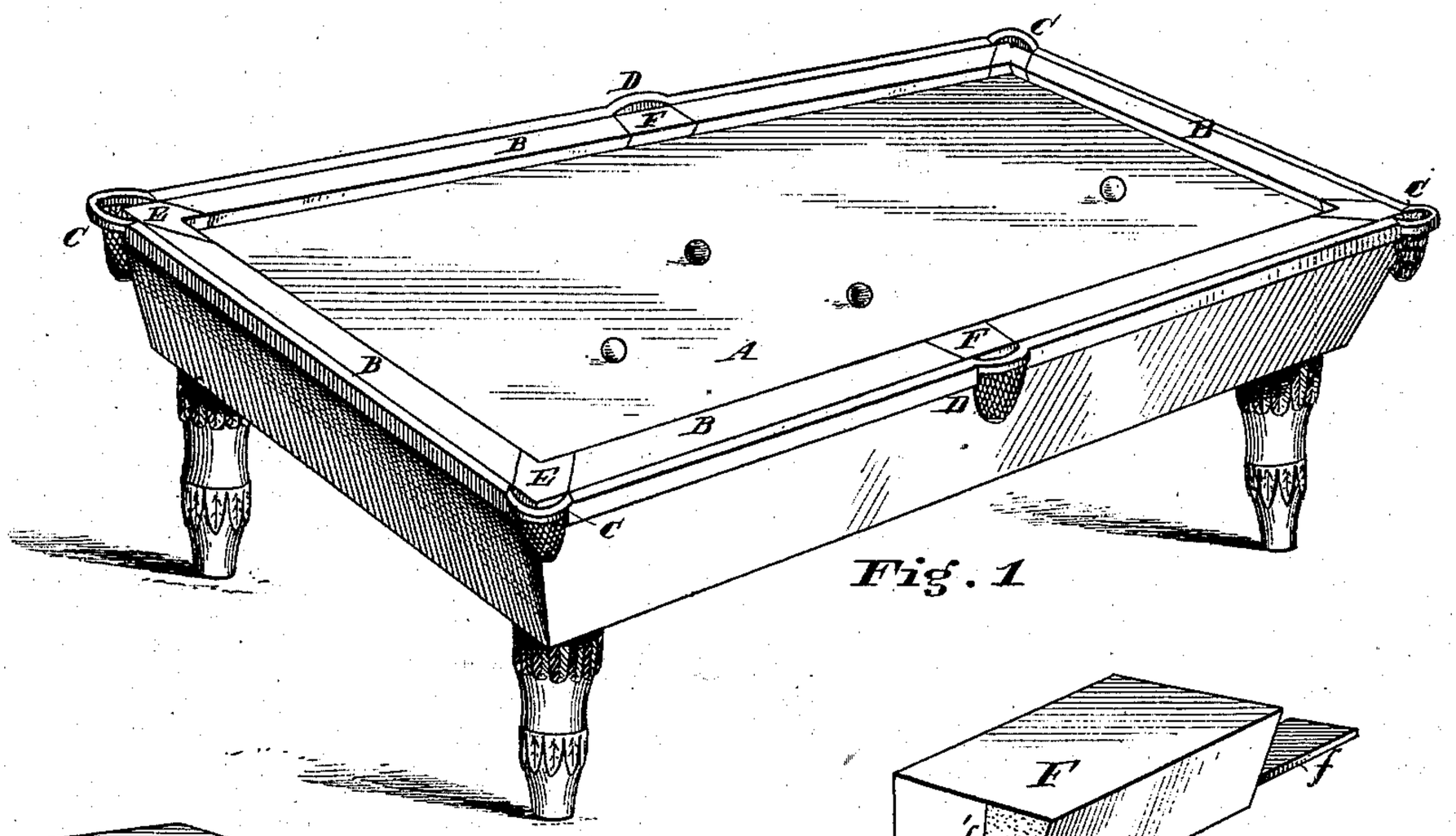

Fig. 1

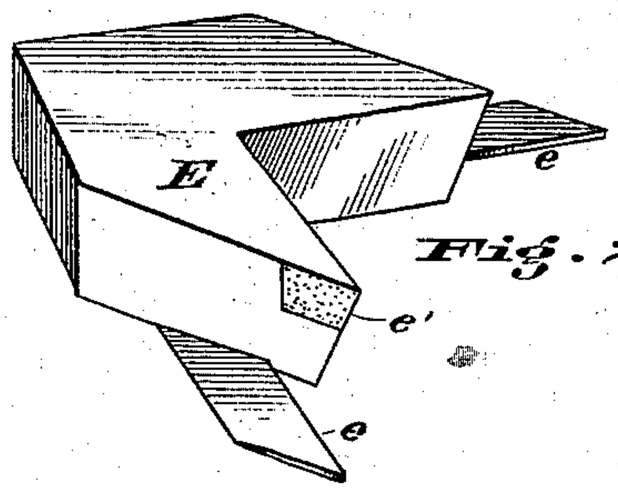

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

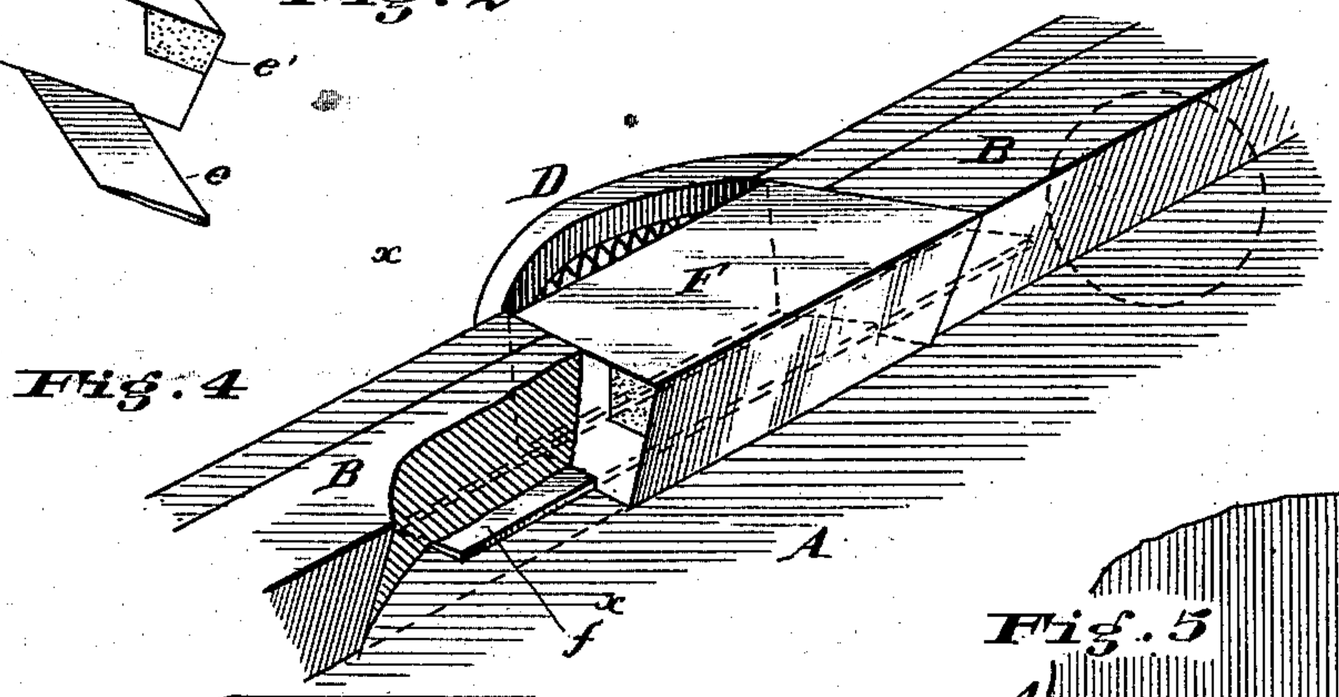

Fig. 4

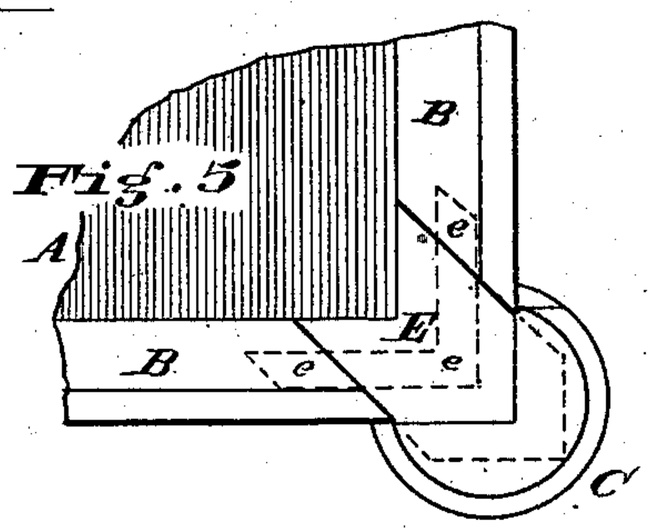

Fig. 5

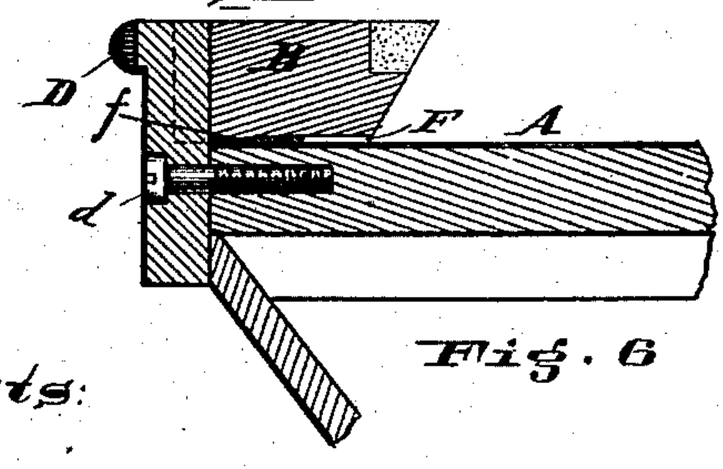

Fig. 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR ESTEPHE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

BILLIARD-TABLE CHUCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 235,861, dated December 28, 1880.

Application filed May 12, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VICTOR ESTEPHE, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Billiard-Table Chucks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to billiard-table chucks for changing a pool-table into a regular billiard-table; and it consists in so constructing the chucks that no screws or clamps are required to hold them in place, and, further, that they can be quickly and firmly attached to the table.

Heretofore billiard-table chucks have been constructed to fit the openings in the cushion-rail of the table forming the entrance to the pockets, and have been held in place by clamps or screws from the back or other similar device. By these constructions it is found that it becomes difficult to hold said chucks from vertical movement when the balls strike them, which movement invariably spoils a good play. If the clamps are tightened and the chucks rigid at first, they will soon work loose without being perceived, and hence are not to be relied on.

The object of my invention is to overcome these difficulties, and at the same time produce a billiard-chuck more efficient in every way, and at a much less expense.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a billiard-table with my improved chuck in place. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the corner chucks. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the side chucks. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of part of the cushion-rail and one of the side chucks in place, showing the method of fastening. Fig. 5 is a plan view of one corner of the billiard-table, showing corner chuck in place. Fig. 6 is a cross-section of the cushion-rail of the billiard-table on the line *x x*, Fig. 4.

A is the bed of the billiard or pool table, and B B B B are the cushion-rails of same, which are attached to the bed by bolts *d*, as shown in Fig. 6, or other usual means. These cushion-rails B end on either side of the corner pockets, C C C C, and side pockets, D D, thereby forming an opening to same, as is necessary in pool-tables.

It being desired to change the pool-table into a regular billiard-table without pockets, the chucks E and F are placed in the openings to the pockets, as hereinafter set forth.

The corner chucks are shown in Figs. 2 and 5, in which the body E is preferably made of wood for cheapness, and is provided along the edge which the ball strikes with rubber *e'*.

Secured to the bottom of the body E, and projecting from either side of the same, and preferably set flush with the bottom of the same, is an angular piece of flat metal, *e*. As a rule, it is preferable to make this metal piece *e* approximately knife-edged, the thicker end being next to the center of the table.

The side chuck is shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and is similar in construction to that already described, except that it is straight and not right-angled or corner-shaped.

The body F is provided with the rubber *f'* and the metallic plate *f*.

The operation of changing the pool into a billiard table is very simple, as will be seen. The chucks are laid upon the table and shoved into their corresponding openings to the pockets, the plates attached to the bottom of said chucks passing under the cushion-rail, and being forced between said cushion-rail and bed, as shown in Figs. 4 and 6, the chucks are held firmly from all vertical movement, and as the body of the chuck is made to fit the opening exactly no lateral movement can be had, and finally the plates *f* and *e*, resting against the downward part of the cushion-rails, prevent the chucks from having any outward movement and keep the cushion-edge of the chuck always on a line with the cushion-edge of the cushion-rails. The cushion-rails B rest close to the bed A, but not too close to prevent the thin metallic plates attached to the bottom of the chucks being forced between them. The downward-springing action of the cushion-rails insures a strong hold upon the chucks and prevents any possibility of vertical movement or loosening of the chucks.

The object of beveling the plates *e* and *f* is

to allow the same an easy entrance between the cushion-rail and bed. When a ball strikes the chuck it only tends to fasten the same more securely, and in nowise tends to loosen it, as is the case when clamps and screws are used.

If desired, the body and bottom plate may be made entirely of metal and in one piece.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A chuck for billiard-tables, in combination with means wholly within the rail and table for securing the chuck to the table, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

2. In a chuck for billiard-tables, the combination of a body of wood or other suitable material and a flat metallic plate attached to the bottom and adapted to enter between the cushion-rail and the bed of the table, and extending over one or both sides of the body, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a chuck for billiard-tables, the combination of a body with a flat knife-edged plate attached to the bottom of the chuck and adapted to enter between the cushion-rail and the bed of the table, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. A chuck for billiard-tables, consisting of a body and flat projecting knife-edges on the under side thereof, the said knife-edges being adapted to enter between the cushion-rail and the bed of the table, all of metal and in one piece, substantially as set forth.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

VICTOR ESTEPHE.

Witnesses:

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ROBT. D. CAVIN.