

(No Model.)

T. H. BRADLEY.
Game of Pin Pool.

No. 236,537.

Patented Jan. 11, 1881.

Fig. 1.

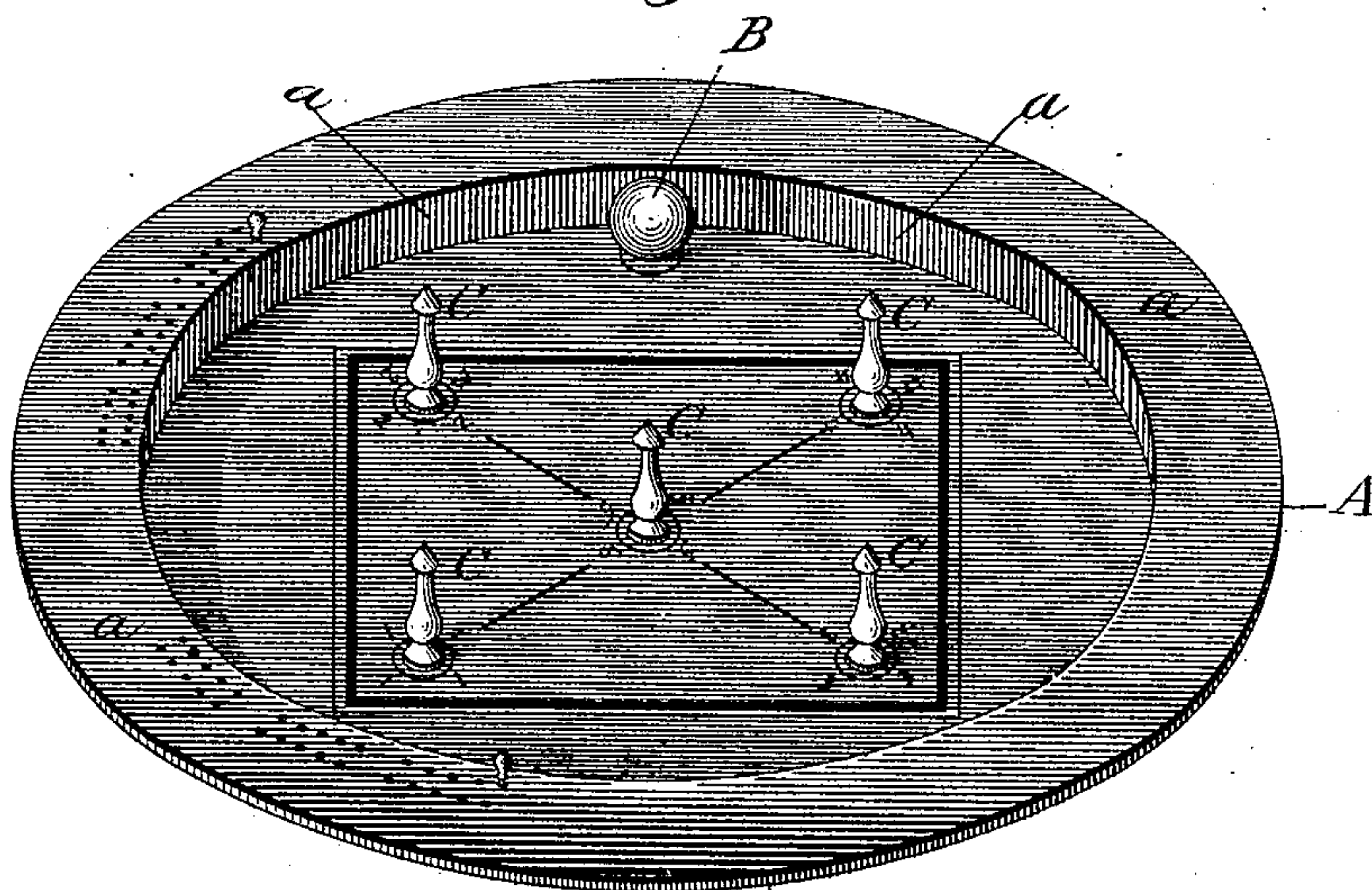
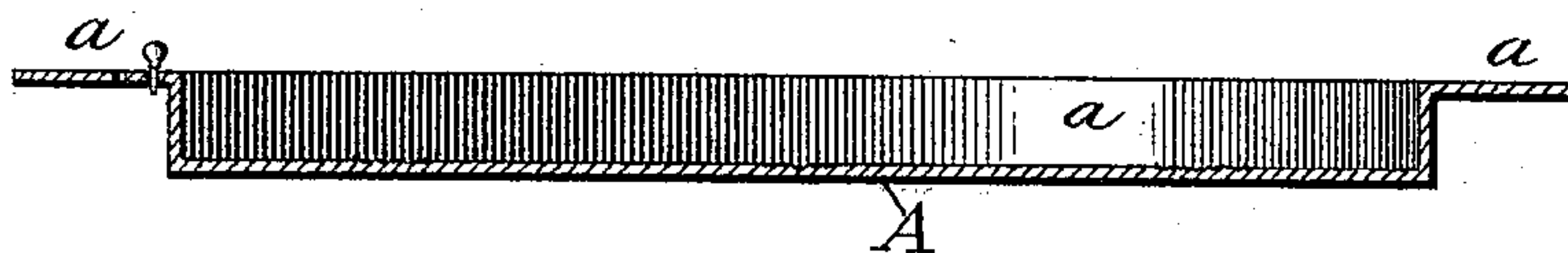


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

Wardner
Alex Scott

Inventor.

Thos. H. Bradley

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS H. BRADLEY, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

GAME OF PIN-POOL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 236,537, dated January 11, 1881.

Application filed December 15, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. BRADLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington city, in the District of Columbia, have
5 invented new and useful Improvements in the Game of Pin-Pool, of which the following is a specification.

My improvements furnish a cheap substitute for a billiard-table, and dispense with all the
10 table-balls save one, and with all billiard-cues.

With five pins, one ball, and an edge-guarded plate, which may be inclined in any direction to set a ball thereon in motion and to guide the ball according to the law of gravitation, I
15 furnish improvements which afford a new game of pin-pool.

The improved game is novel in itself considered, renders amusement to adult persons as well as to children, cultivates quickness of
20 thought and action, and affords various combinations for practical exercise in two or more arithmetical principles.

I use a plate or disk, A, surrounded at the outer part with a raised surface, *a, aa*, sufficient to keep within the bounds of the rim *a, aa* a ball or marble, B, which moves by gravitation when the plate A is inclined or moved from a horizontal position. This plane A, with rim *a, aa* complete, is all in one piece, so that
30 a person holding its outer edge, *aa*, with one or both hands, may incline the plate at pleasure, and cause a ball, B, resting on the plane A, to move by gravitation and to operate with its own weight of force according to the will
35 of the holder of the plate A, who aims the ball B to strike and overturn one or more of the adjustable pins *c c c c c*, which are set up on or about the center of the plane A. I also use a package of numbered cards. The
40 cards used in playing this game are blank in every respect except that one number appears on each card. They are substitutes for small ivory balls, which are each numbered and used by being thrown or dealt from a bottle in playing the old game of pin-pool on a billiard-table.
45 I do not claim any material novelty in the use of the cards; but do claim the right to use them, or the old style of pool-balls, or any other substance that will accomplish the purpose of
50 distributing a secret number to each player in playing this game.

The material used for the purpose of manufacturing these improvements may be, for example, lead in sheet for the plate or disk A, and in bar for pins *c c c c c*, and the ball B
55 may be of lead, ivory, glass, rubber, stone, or any other convenient substance.

The rules of the game, further descriptive of the use of the improvements, are substantially
60 as follows:

I. The pins being set upon spots numbered 1 to 5, and the ball being spotted, the cards are shuffled and distributed, one to each player, to determine the order of playing, the lowest
65 number to play first, next lowest second, and so on.

II. The cards are all returned to the pack and reshuffled and redelivered, one to each player, to be reserved by him, its face showing a secret number, which counts on his score
70 of points and prevents opponents from discovering each other's game until a call is made.

III. Thirty-one points is a game.

IV. The ball is played by tilting the disk.

V. Every player must send the ball around
75 all the pins at least once before striking a pin.

VI. When the player aims the ball at one or more pins he must deliver it across the disk to the outer edge of the circle, and without
80 further play bring it to a stop and place it on the spot.

VII. The ball being stopped, the points made by pins knocked down by delivery across the disk are announced and scored, and the pins being reset, the next player in order takes his
85 turn, observing rules V and VI.

VIII. If the ball is brought to a dead-stop before a play is completed, the player loses his shot, and the ball must be spotted for the next
90 player.

IX. When a player has control of the disk, and causes one or more pins to fall without being struck by the ball or another pin, he shall forfeit three points, to be deducted from
95 whatever he has made, and shall lose his play.

X. When a player obtains the number of points he requires to make thirty-one, (including the secret number,) and has brought the ball to a stop, he calls "pool," and thereupon becomes winner. If he allows his successor
100 to play before he calls pool, he forfeits three points, and plays in turn again.

XI. When a player obtains a number of points which, with the secret number on his card, makes him more than thirty-one, he calls "busted," and thereupon surrenders the numbered card to the pack. He may, by paying a penalty, if any is required, or by common consent, draw another card and proceed again in turn until "pool" is declared.

XII. If the ball is brought to a dead-stop after striking a pin and before passing out of the square, the player shall not count the points down, but shall forfeit three, as in rule IX.

XIII. If the ball crosses the line into the interior of the square, it is a shot, and shall be treated under rules VI, VIII, and XII.

XIV. Any number of persons, not to exceed the highest secret number on the cards, may play in the game.

XV. The score made in play, independent of the secret number, is to be pegged in the marginal spaces made for the purpose, if there are no more players than there are sets of spaces.

XVI. The game may be varied by special agreements, viz: first, the number of points shall be greater or less than thirty-one; second, that only one hand, say the left, shall be used in holding the board; third, that a penalty shall be imposed or waived, and so on *ad infinitum*.

The improvements are further described in the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 a sectional view, of same.

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

1. The ball B, operating against the adjustable pins *c c c c c* by force of gravitation obtained by inclining the plate A, which supports the ball B and the pins *c c c c c* on its surface, substantially as described.

2. The game board or plate A, affording immediate changes of level by inclination in any direction to set the ball B in motion, and at will to guide the ball B toward or against the pins *c c c c c*, all as substantially set forth.

3. The combination of the plate A with the ball B, operating on the pins *c c c c c* without any stroke, touch, or concussion to propel the ball B, all substantially as described.

4. The game of pin-pool herein specified, when played in the manner and with the appliances herein set forth.

THOS. H. BRADLEY.

Witnesses:

M. GARDNER,
A. BELL.