

(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. LECHNER.

GAME TABLE.

No. 248,933.

Patented Nov. 1, 1881.

FIG. 1

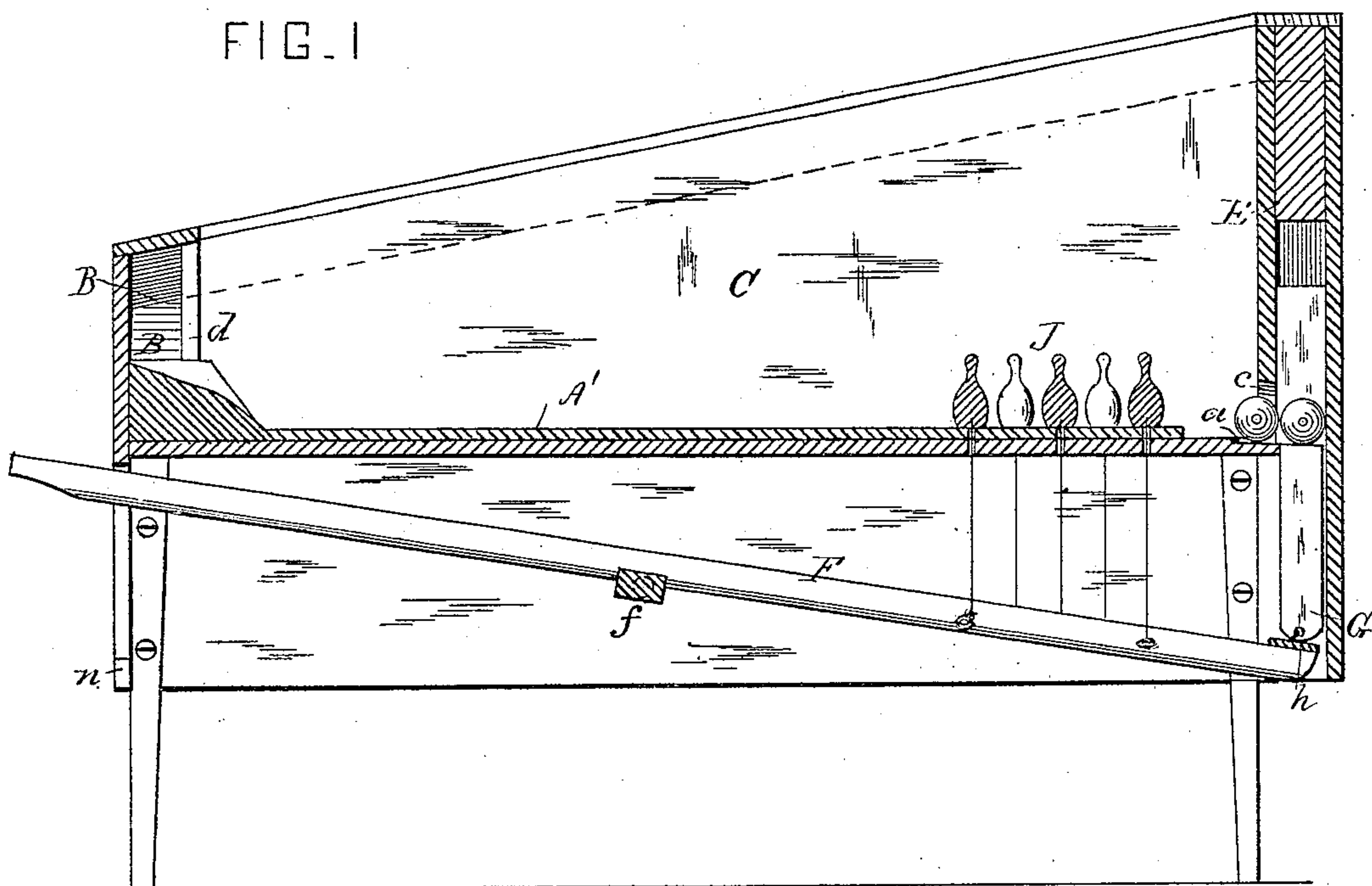
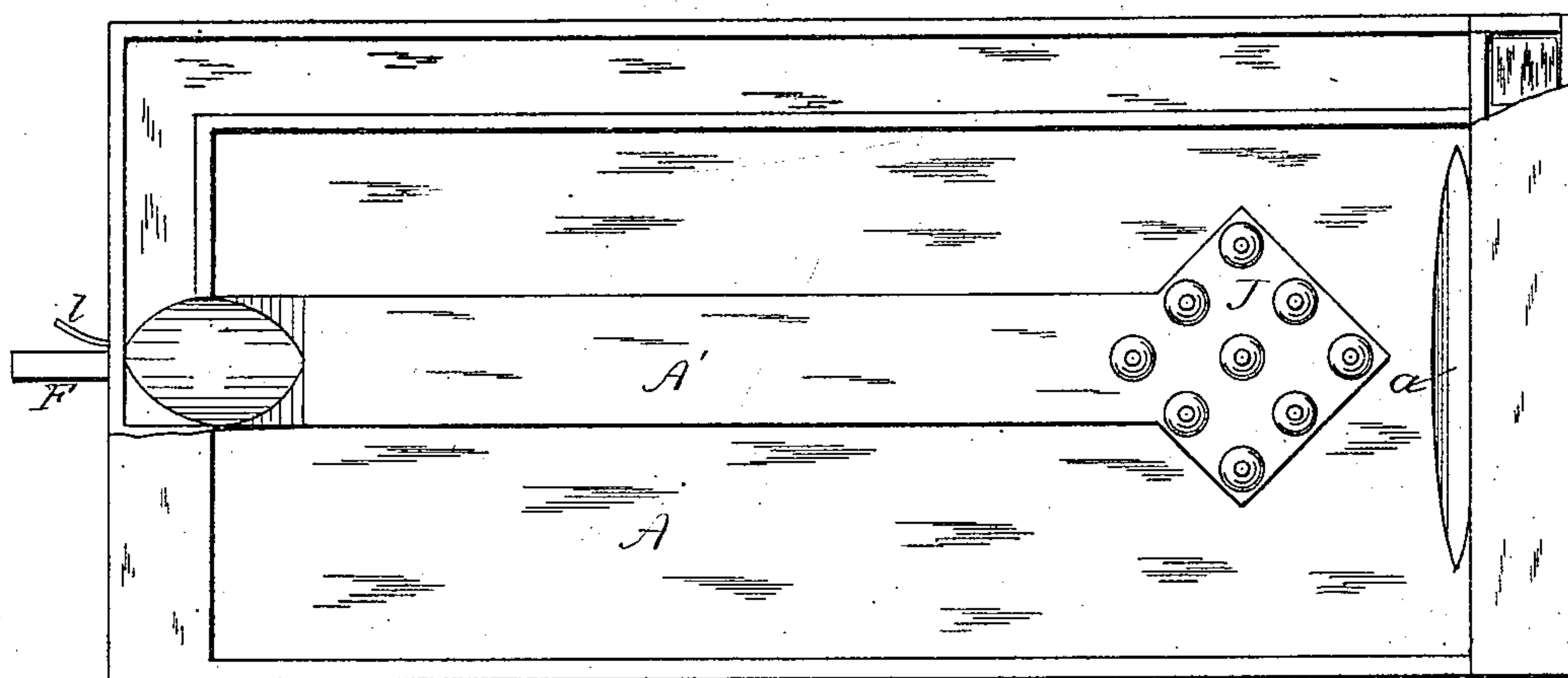


FIG. 2



WITNESSES

Fred F. Clunich.
W. Bernhard.

INVENTOR

John Lechner,
By Will & Church
His atty

(Model.)

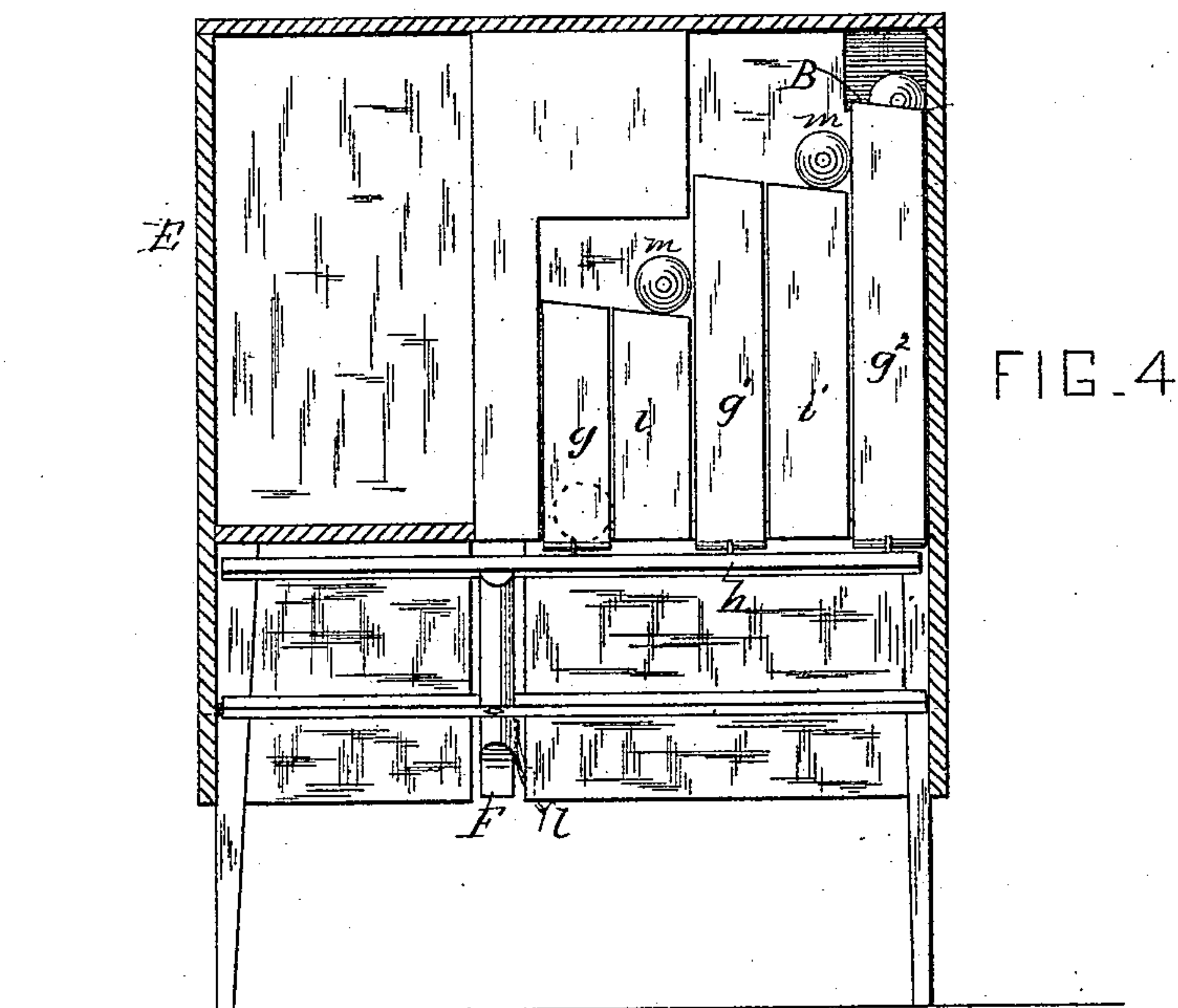
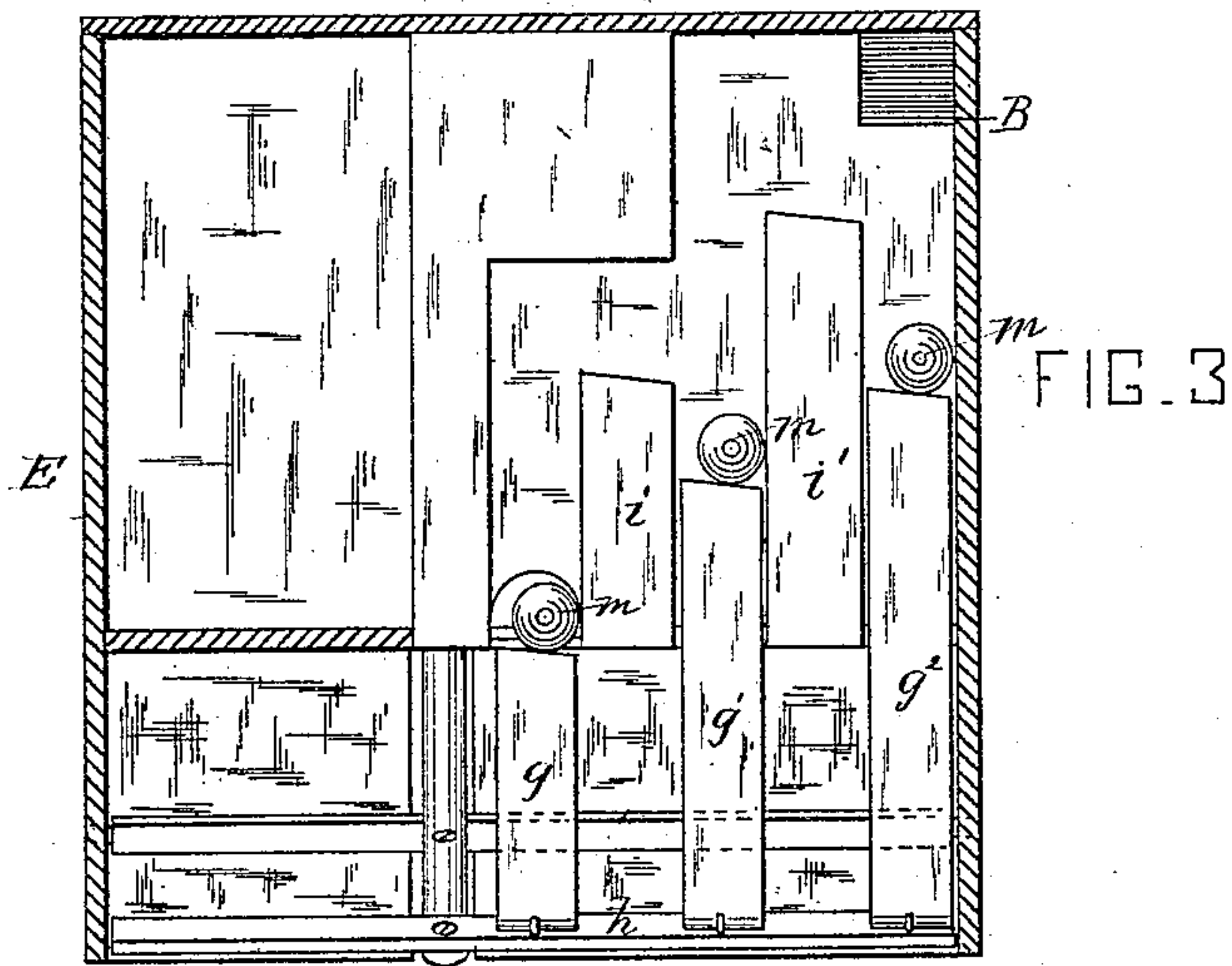
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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GAME TABLE.

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WITNESSES:

Fred F. Church.
H. Bernhard.

INVENTOR:

John Lechner,
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His atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN LECHNER, OF FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA.

GAME-TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 248,933, dated November 1, 1881.

Application filed July 18, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, JOHN LECHNER, of Faribault, in the county of Rice and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Game-Tables; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

10 Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section of the invention. Fig. 2 is a top-plan view of the same. Figs. 3 and 4 are end elevations, with the casing removed, showing the means for elevating the balls to the incline.

15 Similar letters of reference in the several figures denote the same parts.

This invention consists of an improved game-table constructed and operated substantially as I will now proceed to describe.

20 Referring to the drawings, A represents the table proper, having an inclosed inclined way, B, extending from the rear end, E, along the side C and around to the middle of the front end, D, where it leads through an opening, d, in the inclosing-wall, to the top of the table,
25 as shown. The rear portion, E, has an opening, c, in its inner wall, also leading to the top of the table. Below the table is arranged a vibratory lever or operating-arm, F, hung upon
30 an axis or pivot, f, at or near its middle. The front end of this lever projects through a slot in the end casing and constitutes an operating-handle, while its rear end is connected to an elevator, G, operating within the inclosed end
35 portion, E. The elevator consists of a series of vertical fingers, g g' g^2 , mounted at their lower ends upon a cross-bar, h, secured to the end of the lever, as shown. Between the fingers g g' is located a stationary partition, i, and
40 between the fingers g' and g^2 there is a similar longer partition, i' .

J are a series of pins, nine (more or less) in number, placed upon the top of the table, or, preferably, upon a part, A', slightly elevated above
45 the general surface of the table, and having connected to them cords k, which pass down through perforations in the table and part A', and are fastened at their lower ends to the vibratory lever, as shown. When the lever is
50 vibrated in one direction all the cords are drawn taut, and the pins are made to stand up;

but when in the other direction said pins are left standing, but unsupported save by their weight, and can be knocked down by a ball or balls striking against them. 55

In playing the game, a number of small balls, m, are employed, and before starting they are all placed at the rear end of the table in a groove, a, which inclines from both directions toward the opening c. Upon the handle of the lever 60 being raised the pins J are all made to stand up in an upright position, as shown in Fig. 1. At the same time one of the balls m rolls into the opening c and onto the upper end of the first vertical lifting-finger, g. The handle of 65 the arm then being depressed, the said ball is raised until it rolls off onto the top of the first stationary partition, i, and against the side of the second lifting-finger, g' . Upon the raising of the handle a second time another ball rolls 70 in on top of the first lifting-finger, g, while at the same time the first ball rolls from the top of the first partition to the top of the second lifting-finger g' . The handle being then again depressed, the first ball is lifted to the top of 75 the second partition, i' , and the ball number two to the top of the first partition. Another raising of the handle causes the third ball to roll in onto the first lifting-finger, the second ball to roll onto the second finger, and the first 80 ball to roll onto the third finger. The handle is then depressed once more, and the first ball rolls off its supporting-finger onto the incline B, down which it travels, and is discharged through the opening d onto the top of the ta- 85 ble, or rather the raised part A', and along the same against the pins, some or all of which it knocks down. It then runs down back into the groove from whence it started. All the other balls in the elevator are at the same 90 time advanced one step. At the next vibration of the lever all the pins are again reset, while another ball is liberated and rolls down as before.

To insure the transfer of the balls from the 95 tops of the lifting-fingers to the tops of the stationary partitions, and from thence to the succeeding lifting-fingers, and so on, the tops of both fingers and partitions are inclined slightly in the direction of the advance of the 100 balls, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The handle is preferably provided with a

spring-catch, *l*, on its side, which, when the handle is lowered, is adapted to engage with a locking-shoulder, *n*, in the side of the slot in which the handle plays. This catch is for the purpose of preventing the accidental displacement of the lever when the ball is rolling down the incline, which the weight of the elevator and the balls in it might otherwise occasion.

By raising the part A' above the general level of the table-top the balls, if they rebound, strike against the edge of said raised portion, and do not disturb any remaining pins not knocked down by the direct impact of the balls.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the table having the inclined groove for directing the balls to the elevator-opening, of the elevator consisting of the vertically-sliding lifting-fingers and the stationary partitions, and the incline for directing the balls from the elevator back to the front of the table, substantially as described.

2. The vertically-sliding lifting-fingers and the stationary partitions having their upper

ends inclined, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The combination, with the table, of the vibratory operating-lever, the pins connected by strings to the lever, the lifting-fingers, the stationary portion, and the inclined way for directing the balls back to the front end of the table, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with the table and the pins, of the part on which the pins are mounted, raised above the general surface of the table, whereby the balls after rolling off said raised portion are prevented from rebounding and knocking down any pins that may remain standing, substantially as described.

5. The combination, with the vibratory lever, of the spring-catch mounted thereon and adapted to lock the lever while the ball is rolling down the incline, substantially as described.

JOHN LECHNER.

Witnesses:

JOHN L. TOWNLEY,
JOHN MULLIN.