

(No Model.)

C. J. WILEY.

BILLIARD CUE.

No. 268,065.

Patented Nov. 28, 1882.

Fig. 1.

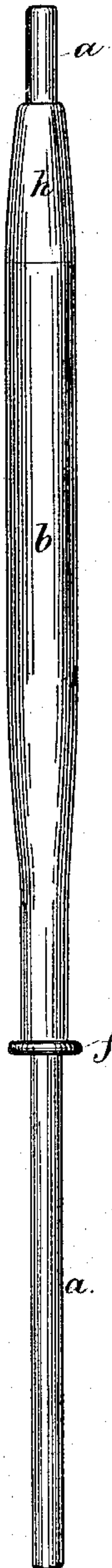


Fig. 2.

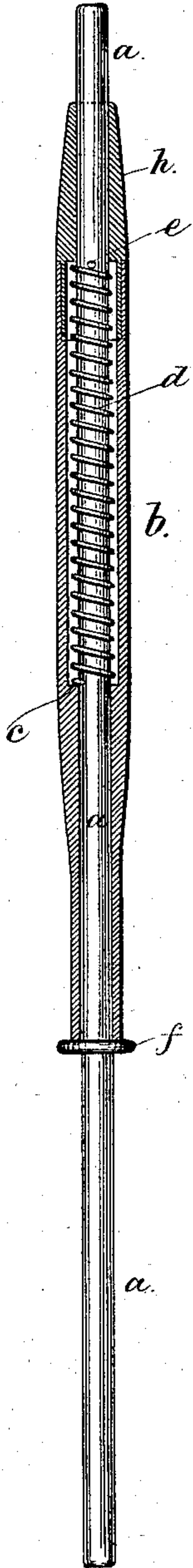


Fig. 3.

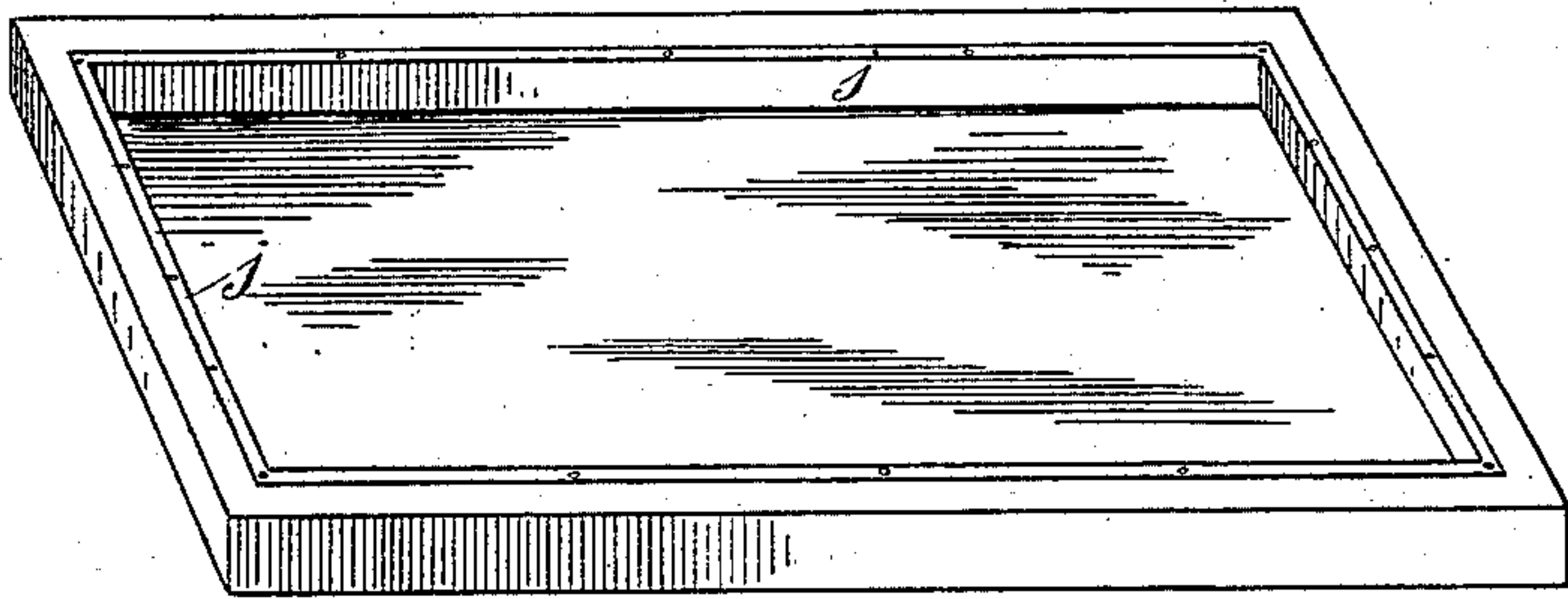
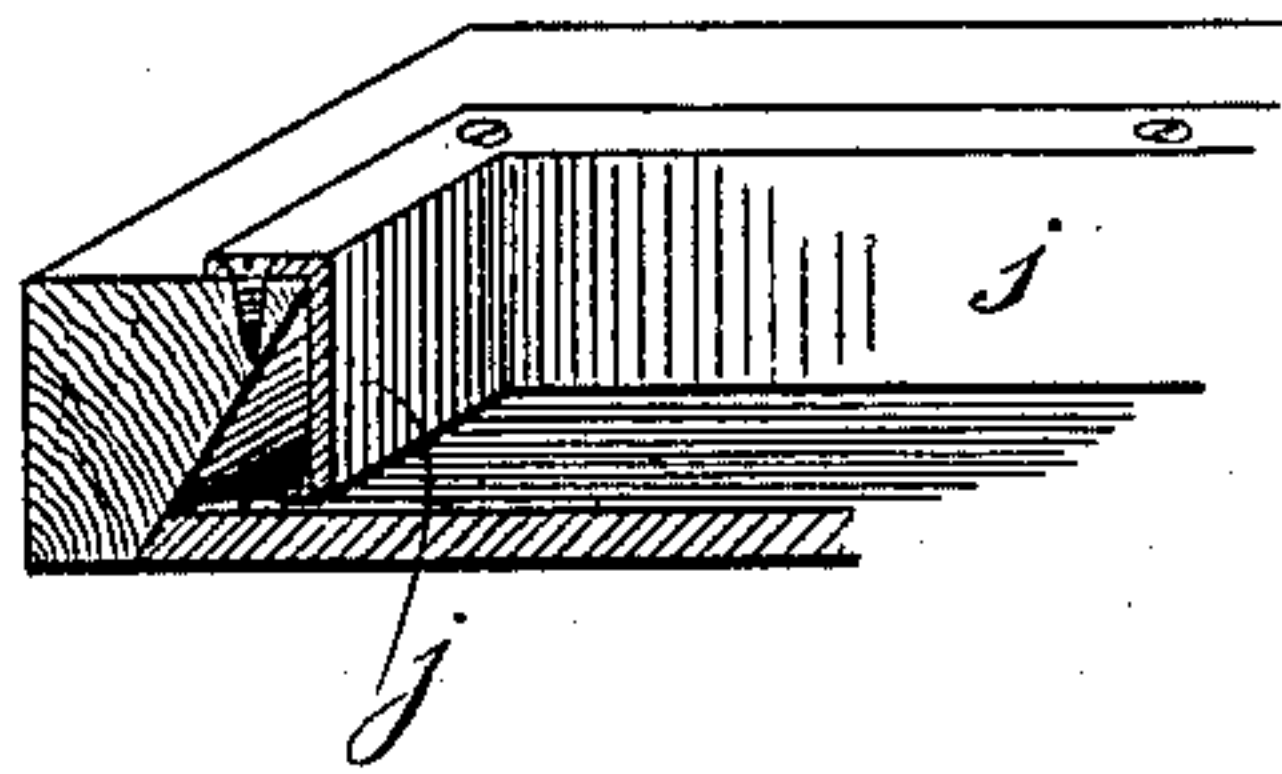


Fig. 4.



Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BILLIARD-CUE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 268,065, dated November 28, 1882.

Application filed September 14, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. WILEY, of Brooklyn, Kings county, New York, have made a new and useful Improvement in Billiard-Cues, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a toy cue that can be used upon a small billiard-table with the accuracy attainable with the cue used upon larger tables. Experience has shown that in the game of billiards the cue must be free to move backward and forward in the hand of the player in the process of adjusting the tip of the cue to the ball preparatory to the stroke, and that for the purpose of obtaining regularity of motion and delicacy of angles the cue must have some resting-place in the nature of a fulcrum, and that this fulcrum shall be placed as near as possible to the tip of the cue, and as far as possible from the controlling end. In practice one hand of the player—usually the left hand—is used as such a fulcrum at a place as near the tip of the cue as possible, the thumb and first finger expanded, forming a crotch, upon which the cue rests, or sometimes the second finger is used as such a fulcrum or rest, while the first finger is used to steady the cue, this crotch or rest being placed in close proximity to the ball to be struck by the cue, while the other hand grasps the cue, operating and controlling it, and giving the moving power or blow. The result of this adjustment of the cue is to reduce to a minimum the irregularity which the moving hand imparts to the cue in giving the blow, and also enables the player to effect a delicate adjustment of the angles of the cue in its application to the ball, on the well-known principle that the lateral movement of the short end of the lever is in proportion to its nearness to the fulcrum. These essential qualities of the ordinary cue are of increased importance in the toy cue, since the tables, balls, and cue are more sensitive to irregularities and require a more delicate manipulation in proportion to their reduced size, and are secured by my invention in a very reliable and satisfactory manner; and it consists in applying to the cue, near the tip, a cylindrical case or tube acting as a false cue or handle for the use of the

player, and operating as a fulcrum, upon which a regular to-and-fro motion can be given to the cue. A spring attached to or bearing upon the tube or false cue and acting upon the cue proper imparts the final blow to the ball, according to the position of the balls and judgment of the player.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved cue; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section; Fig. 3, a perspective view of a table on which my cue may be used; Fig. 4, a section in full of the frame of the table.

Referring to Fig. 1, *a* is the striking or working part of the cue; *b*, the case or tube, wholly or partially encircling the cue near the tip, and carrying the spring which actuates the cue, (shown in Fig. 2;) *h*, a section of the tube, made removable for the insertion of the spring. Fig. 2 is for reference in a description of the parts and operation of the cue. For the convenience of the spring *d*, a shoulder is formed at *c*. Into the larger cavity of the tube is placed the spring *d*, encircling the rod *a*. One end of this spring rests upon the shoulder *c*. The other end presses upon the pin *e*, which is inserted in the rod *a*, near the tip. The collar *f* is rigidly secured to the rod *a*, operating to prevent it from passing out of the tube. The same office could be performed by the pin *e* (if long enough) coming against the removable section *h*, as the smaller cavities at each end of the tube admit only the passage of the cue in the to-and-fro motion.

The operation of the cue is as follows: With one hand the player grasps the handle or tube at its removable section, as near the tip of the cue as possible. With the other hand he grasps the butt of the cue. Then, adjusting the tip of the cue to the appropriate angle with the balls, he operates the cue at its butt, drawing back the spring and adapting its tension to the blow to be given to the ball at the will of the player. Then, releasing the cue, the retractile power of the spring forces the tip against the ball. By this means the steadying effect of the fulcrum in the ordinary cue is secured, and at the same time the irregularities of the actuating-power are reduced to a minimum.

I am aware that prior to my invention toy cues have been made in which a spring in-

closed in a barrel has been used as the actuating-power to the cue, operating in conjunction with a catch and trigger. I therefore do not claim such a spring, broadly.

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

A toy cue partially or wholly encircled near its tip by a case or sheath, acting as a fulcrum, such cue having its butt exposed so that

it can be operated and controlled by both hands, 10 applied one to the case near the tip and the other at the butt of the cue, in combination with an actuating-spring, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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