(No Model.)

J. H. SUNDERMAN.

TOP.

No. 282,129. Patented July 31, 1883.

Fig. 1.

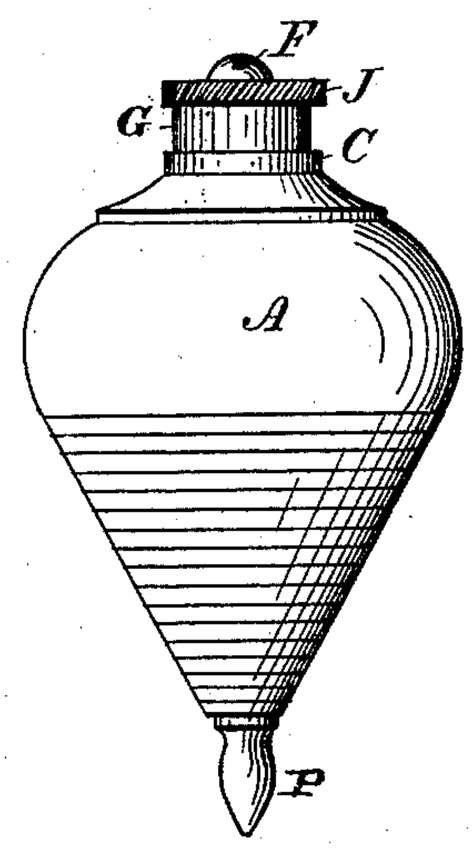
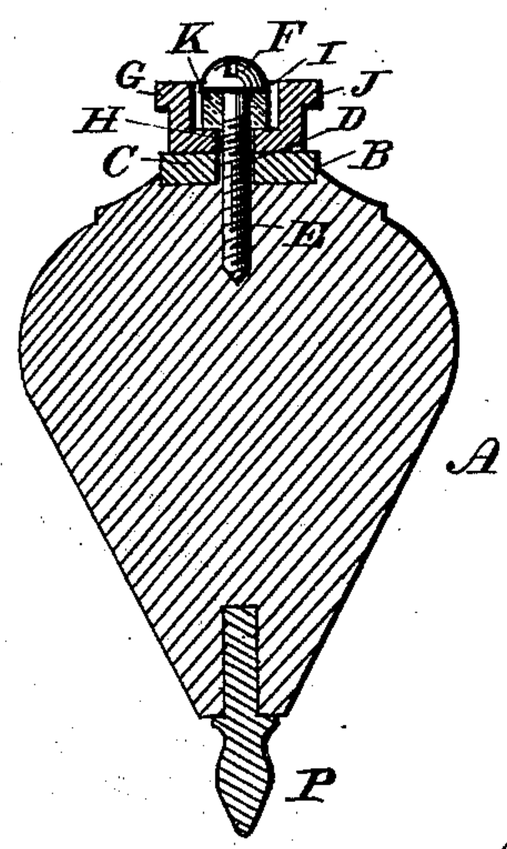


Fig. 2.



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JOHN H. SUNDERMAN, OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 282,129, dated July 31, 1883.

Application filed March 31, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. SUNDERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Quincy, in the county of Adams and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Top, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to that class of spinning-tops which are provided with means for exploding a percussion-cap when thrown forcibly upon the ground in the act of spinning; and it consists in the improved construction, to be hereinafter described, of the said tops, whereby they are provided with stationary and permanent points upon which they may be spun, the explosion of the cap being effected by the concussion of a plate or head sliding upon a stem or shank at the upper end of the body of the top, with a plate seated in an annular recess in the top-body, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a top equipped with my improvements, and Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same.

The same letters refer to the same parts in both figures.

A in the drawings represents the body of the top, which is of the ordinary well-known shape and general construction, and provided at its lower end with a permanent spinning-point, P. The upper end of the body A has a shallow circular recess, B, in which is seated a plate, C, having a central perforation, D, through which a stem, E, projects upwardly, as shown. The said stem E, which is provided with a head, F, at its upper end, may be an ordinary wood-screw screwed into the upper end of the top.

G is a cap, which may be cast or otherwise formed of any suitable metal. Said cap is provided with a vertical perforation, H, and it has in its upper side a recess, I, surrounding the said perforation. The upper edge of the said cap is also provided with an annular milled rim or flange, J, by which it may be readily manipulated, as will be hereinafter described. The cap G is connected to the body of the top by means of the screw or stem E, the head of which fits in the recess I.

K is a rubber spring or cushion placed in the recess I, under the head F of the screw or stem E, thereby serving to force the cap G in a downward direction against the plate C. The spring or cushion K may consist of a small piece of ordinary rubber tubing; or an ordinary small coiled spring may be used in lieu thereof without departing from the spirit of my invention. It will be seen that by tightening the screw E the tension of the spring K may be regulated, and the cap G may be forced down against the plate C with any desired degree of force.

The operation of my invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed. By pulling the cap G out against the tension of the spring, an ordinary paper cap may be interposed between the said cap G and the plate C, where it is held by the tension of the spring. In the act of being "spun" the top is thrown upon the floor with considerable violence, and the cap is thus exploded by the concussion of the plate C and cap G.

I am aware of the patent to Beneke, No. 262,354, August 8, 1882, and I claim nothing therein shown.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The combination, with a spinning-top, of a plate seated in a shallow recess in its upper end, an upwardly-projecting stem having a head, and a metal cap held by and sliding upon the said stem, as set forth.

2. The combination, with a spinning-top, of a plate at the upper end of the same, an upwardly-projecting stem having a head at its upper end, a cap sliding upon the said stem, and a spring interposed between the head of the latter and said cap, as set forth.

3. The combination of a spinning-top, a plate at the upper end of the same, an upwardly-projecting headed stem, a cap sliding upon the said stem and having a recess in its upper side and a milled flange at its upper edge, and a spring interposed between said cap and the head of the stem, as set forth.

4. The combination of a spinning-top, a per-

forated plate at the upper end of the same, a headed screw extending through said plate, a cap sliding upon the stem of said screw, and a spring interposed between the head of the screw and said cap, whereby the tension of said spring may be regulated by tightening said screw, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN H. SUNDERMAN.

Witnesses:
WILLIAM H. GOVERT,
WM. G. FERGENSPUN.