

(No Model.)

C. S. THOMPSON.  
GAME APPARATUS.

No. 286,868.

Patented Oct. 16, 1883.

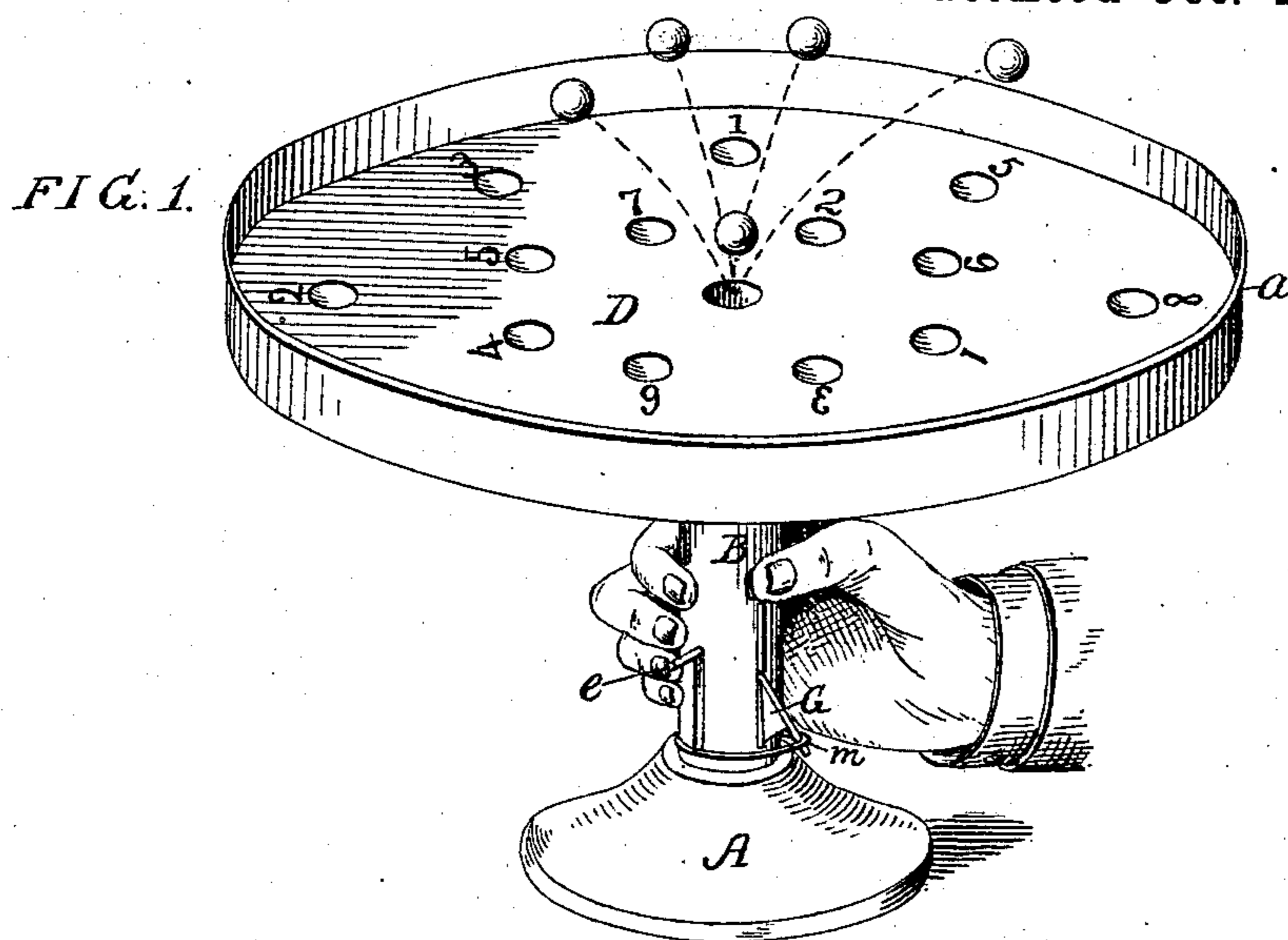
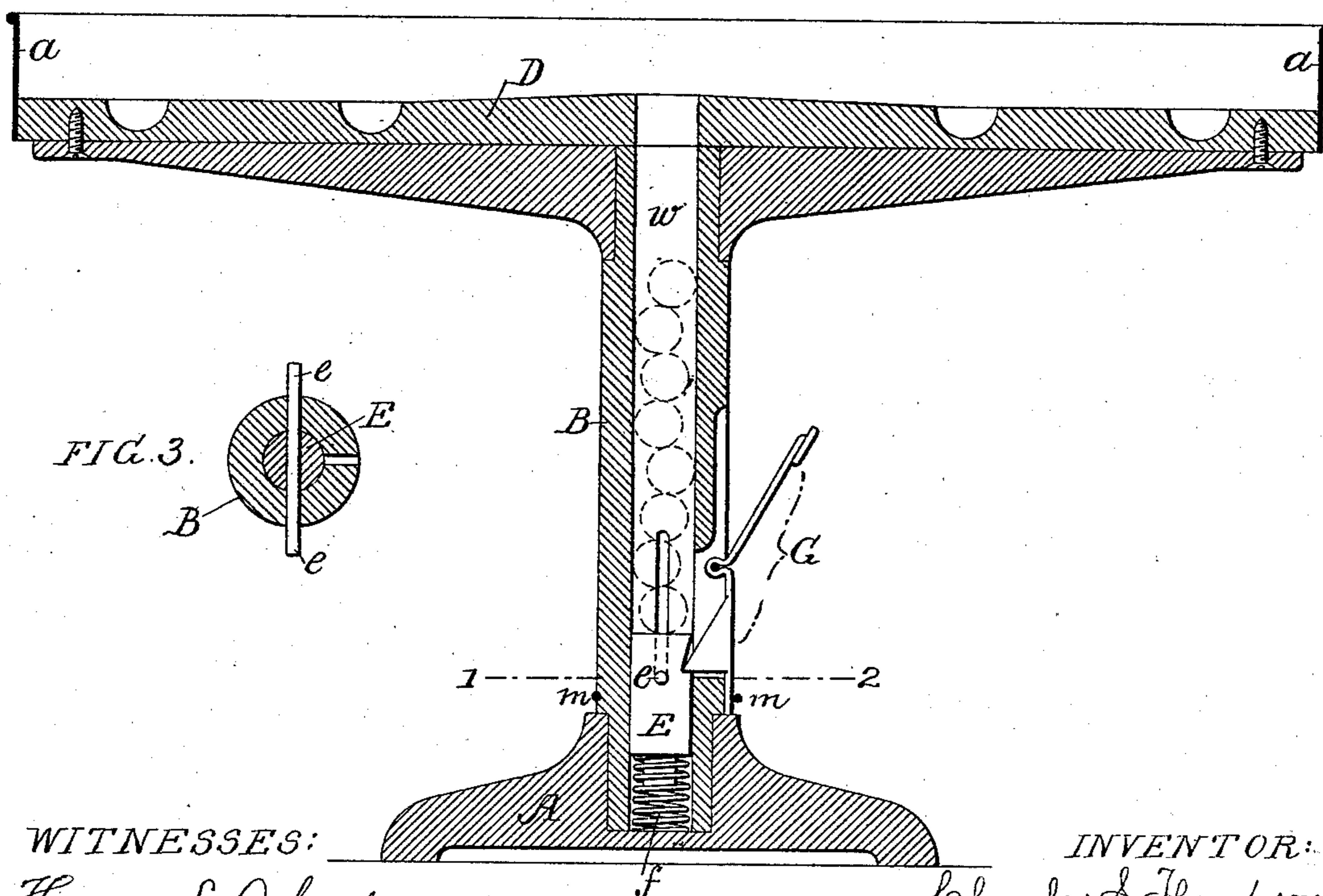


FIG. 2



WITNESSES:

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by his Attorneys  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES S. THOMPSON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF  
ONE-HALF TO JOHN WANAMAKER, OF SAME PLACE.

## GAME APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,868, dated October 16, 1883.

Application filed September 3, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES S. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists, mainly, of a game apparatus in which a table having a number of pockets is combined with a reservoir for containing a number of balls, and with devices for forcibly expelling the same from the reservoir to a distance above the table, onto which they will fall, each ball in rolling over the table either entering one of the pockets or rolling clear of the same. The pockets are numbered, so that each player who operates the expelling devices may, by noting the balls which have found their way into the pockets, determine the count to be charged to him.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the game apparatus; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the same, and Fig. 3 sectional plan on the line 1 2.

To a suitable base, A, is secured the lower end of a tubular post, B, and to the upper end of the latter is attached the table D, which is edged with a rim, a, and which is preferably of the circular form shown.

In the upper surface of the table are a number of pockets, in which balls rolling over the said surface may find a lodgment. The interior of the post forms the chamber w, for containing the balls.

The table and chambered post are combined with a device by which the balls (they may be ordinary marbles) may be expelled forcibly upward, as shown in Fig. 1, the device consisting in the present instance of a block, E, fitting freely in the chamber w; and connected to a spiral spring, f, lodged in the bottom of the chamber, the block having pins e, projecting through slots in the post, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

A trigger, G, contained partly within a vertical slot in the post, has one arm pivoted within an angular projection adapted to a notch in the block, the other arm projecting outward and being in a convenient position to be pressed toward the post when the block has to be released.

A spring, which in the present instance is a rubber band, m, embracing the post, maintains the angular projection on the lower

arm of the trigger in the notch of the block. On depressing the block E by applying the finger and thumb to the projecting pins e, the projection on the trigger will enter the notch in the said block, and a number of balls may be deposited in the chamber w, as shown in Fig. 2. On releasing the block E by operating the trigger, the compressed spring will recoil, and through the medium of the block will forcibly expel the balls, which will fall onto the surface of the table, each ball either entering one of the pockets or remaining clear of the same on the table.

Devices other than those described for projecting the balls from the chamber w will readily suggest themselves to expert mechanics; but the devices shown are simple and effective.

The pockets in the table should be numbered, for the reason above given, and to increase the interest of the game differently-colored balls may be used, and differently-colored pockets, so that if a ball should accidentally roll into a pocket of its own color it may increase or diminish the count, as the players may determine.

It is best to make the surface of the table rather higher in the center than elsewhere, so as to prevent the balls from rolling into the tubular post.

I claim as my invention—

1. A game apparatus in which the following elements are combined, namely: first, a table in the surface of which are a number of pockets; second, a chamber below the table for containing a number of balls; and, third, devices whereby the said balls may be expelled from the reservoir and thrown upward above the table, so as to fall thereon, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the table D, tubular post E, and base A with a block, E, and spring F, and a device for retaining and releasing the block, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the tubular post and spring F with the block E, having pins projecting through slots in the said post, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

Witnesses: CHARLES S. THOMPSON.  
HARRY L. ASHENFELTER,  
HENRY HOWSON, Jr.