

(No Model.)

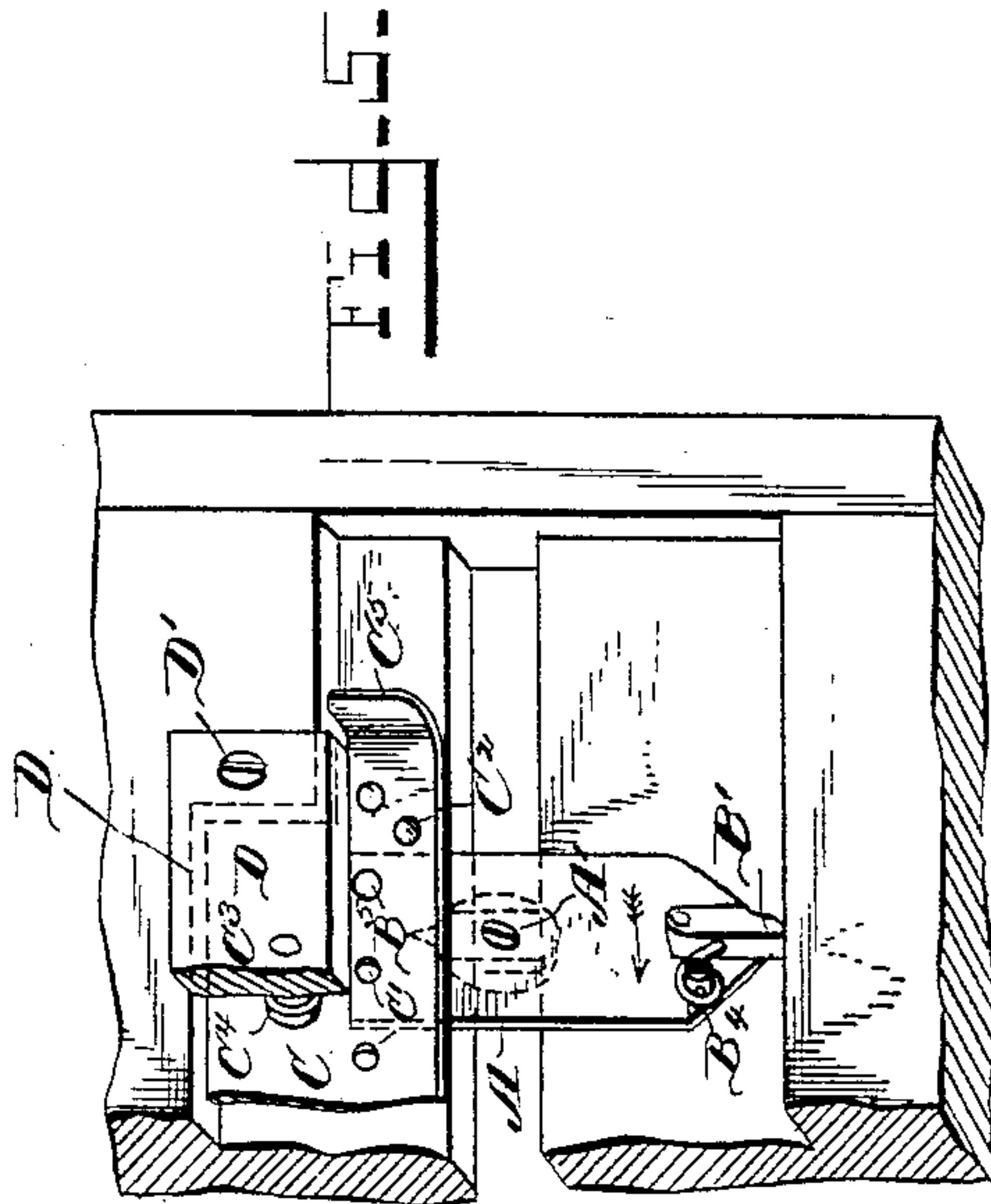
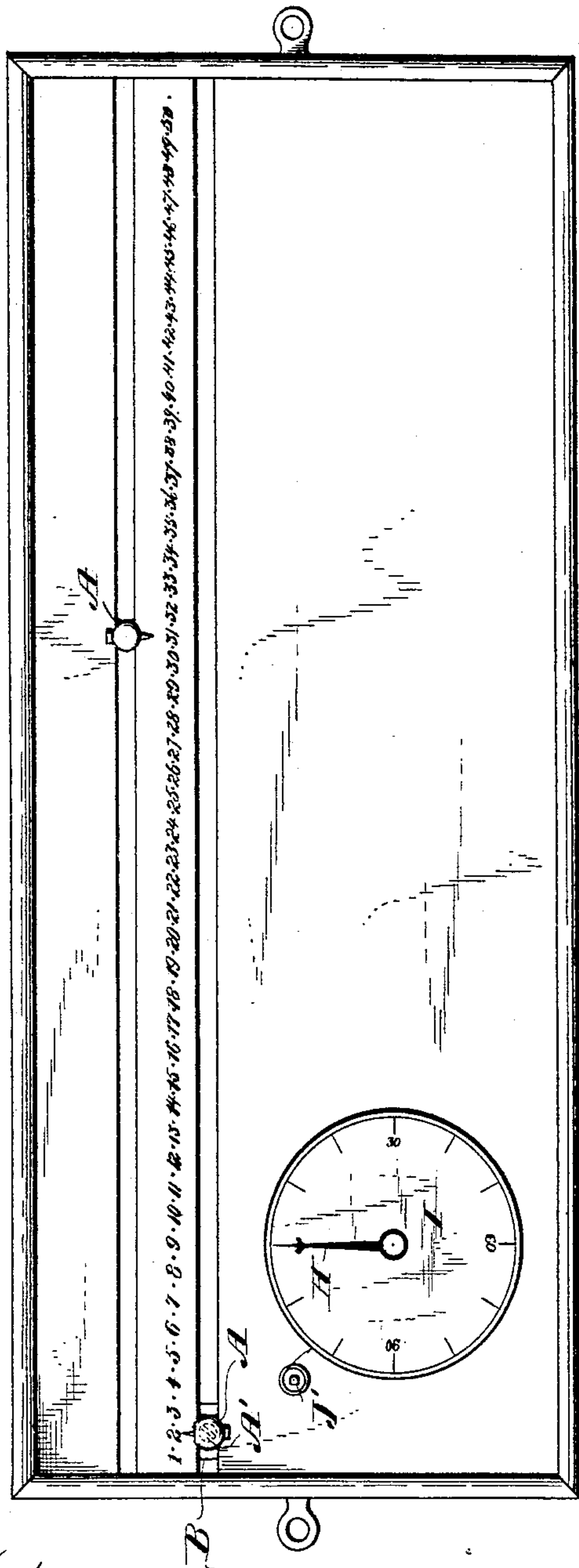
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

R. N. MONTGOMERY.

BILLIARD SCORING BOARD.

No. 397,019.

Patented Jan. 29, 1889.



Witnesses:

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RODERICK NICHOLSON MONTGOMERY, OF MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

BILLIARD-SCORING BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,019, dated January 29, 1889.

Application filed June 19, 1888. Serial No. 277,607. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RODERICK NICHOLSON MONTGOMERY, produce merchant, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Salisbury Buildings, Bourke Street West, in the city of Melbourne, and British Colony of Victoria, have invented new and useful Improvements in the Construction of Billiard-Scoring Boards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention of improvements in the construction of billiard-scoring boards has been designed for the purpose of enabling such a contrivance to automatically register the number of games played as well as the numbers scored by each player. I accomplish this by attaching to one of the pointers (and preferably the lower pointer of a scoring-board) a registering apparatus consisting of a train of wheels leading to an index-finger which travels around a circular dial in substantially the same manner as in ordinary gas-meters. The contrivances used for this purpose are so arranged as that when once the pointer has been moved forward, even to the extent of the first number scored, it cannot be replaced to the starting-point until it has traveled the whole length of the scoring-board, so that when once started it cannot be replaced until a game has been scored on the registering-dial. In order to prevent the apparatus being tampered with when the table is not being used, I provide a lock-catch, which prevents the movement of the scoring-pointers until said catch is removed out of its way. This I effect by means of a key somewhat like a clock-key.

In order, however, that my invention may be clearly understood, I will now refer to the drawings hereto attached, in which—

Figure 1 shows a face view of a billiard-scoring board constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a back view of so much of same as is necessary to illustrate my invention. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line *a a*, Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a vertical section on the line *b b*, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the right-hand end of the back of the apparatus shown in Fig. 2.

The invention consists, essentially, in structural features and combinations of parts sub-

stantially as hereinafter described, and set forth in the claims.

Referring to Figs. 1 to 5, A indicates the lower pointer secured by means of a screw, A', Figs. 2 and 5, to a plate, B, at the back of the scoring-board. Near the lower edge of this plate is pivoted a pawl, B', on a pivot-pin, B², the motion of which pawl in one direction is limited by a stop-pin, B³, and in the other direction by a yielding stop or spring, B⁴, Figs. 2 and 5.

Near the upper right-hand corner of the plate B, Figs. 2 and 5, is arranged a locking-stud, B⁵, that is beveled or provided with an inclined face, for purposes presently explained.

C is a steel plate having a row of holes therein marked C', and having beveled projections on its back face marked C², and having also three other holes in it, through which pass the studs C³, which just reach to the back of the scoring-board. Around each of these studs is a coiled spring, C⁴, for the purpose of giving an elastic pressure to the plate C. These studs also pass through an outer plate, D, which is screwed to the back of the board by screws D'. This plate acts as a resistance to the springs on the studs C³. The left end, C⁵, of plate C is turned outward, so as to facilitate the entrance of the plate B between it and the scoring-board when the pointer commences to score. E is a ratchet having ten teeth, which is kept in check by a spring-pawl, E'. On the spindle of this ratchet is a small pinion, E², having eight teeth which gear into a larger toothed wheel, F, having eighty teeth, on the spindle of which is another pinion, F', having thirty teeth, which drives another toothed wheel, G, having sixty teeth, on the spindle of which is the index-finger H on the dial I.

The operation of this scorer is as follows: When the game is about to be commenced, the pointers are of course at the left-hand end of the board. The action of the upper pointer does not affect my apparatus; but immediately the lower one commences to score it carries with it the plate B, which enters behind and presses out the plate C, overcoming the pressure of the springs C⁴. As the

pointer arrives at each successive number, the bevel stud or projection B^5 at its back enters one of the holes C' in the plate C, and while this stud affords no resistance to the onward travel of the pointer it presents an effective obstacle to its being moved backward, as the projecting edge of the stud comes against the edge of the hole and prevents its return. This plate C is continued, as shown, unto very nearly the end of the board, leaving only just sufficient room for the plate B to get free from it prior to its return. When it has become free and is returned, the springs C^1 press the plate C close to the back of the scoring-board and so prevent the plate B from traveling in front of it and compel it to travel outside, as is shown in Fig. 2, where it is supposed to be on its way back to its initial or starting point. The beveled studs C^2 prevent the return of the plate B with its attached pointer until it has reached its initial or starting point. As the plate B moves forward, its pawl B' comes into contact with one of the teeth of the ratchet E, which it moves round to the extent of one notch and then passes onward. The game, which has then been commenced, is thus scored, inasmuch as the motion of this ratchet is communicated by the train of wheels shown to the index-finger H, which is caused to move to the extent of scoring one on the dial I.

In order to prevent the apparatus being used when no games are being played, a catch is provided, which consists of a stop, J, formed on a pivot, J' , which can be opened and closed by means of a key—such as a clock-key—as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is—

1. In a billiard-scoring board, the combination, with a marker adapted to travel along one side of the board, a slide to which said marker is secured adapted to travel along the opposite side of the board, and a beveled locking-stud projecting rearwardly from said slide, of a spring-actuated lock-plate provided with perforations with which the locking-stud engages, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. In a billiard-scoring board, the combination, with a marker adapted to travel along one side of the board, a slide to which said marker is secured adapted to travel along the

opposite side of the board, and a beveled locking-stud projecting rearwardly from said slide, of a spring-actuated lock-plate provided with perforations with which the locking-stud engages and on its rear side with stops having an inclined or beveled face, said plate being shorter than the distance traveled by the slide and marker to enable the slide to move from in front of the lock-plate to the rear thereof, the locking-stud on the slide and the stops on the lock-plate being beveled in reverse directions, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

3. In a billiard-scoring board, the combination, with the marker adapted to travel along one side of the board, a slide to which said marker is secured adapted to travel along the opposite side of the board, a beveled locking-stud projecting rearwardly from and a pawl pivotally connected with said slide, of a spring-actuated lock-plate provided with perforations with which the locking-stud engages, and with beveled stops projecting from the rear face of such plate, the locking-stud on the slide and the stops on the plate being beveled in reverse directions, and said plate being shorter than the distance traveled by the slide and marker, and a registering mechanism adapted to be operated by the pawl on the slide when moved in the proper direction, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

4. The combination, with the slotted scoring-board, the marker A, the slide B thereof provided with the beveled locking-stud B^5 , of the spring-actuated lock-plate C, having perforations C' , beveled stops C^2 , and an inwardly-bent end, C^5 , said plate being shorter than the slot on the scoring-board, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

5. The combination, with slotted scoring-board, the marker A, the slide B thereof provided with beveled locking-stud B^5 , and the pawl B' , pivoted to said slide, of the spring-actuated lock-plate C, having perforations C' , beveled stops C^2 , and inwardly-bent end C^5 , said plate being shorter than the slot in the scoring-board, the ratchet-wheel E, arranged in the path of the pawl B' , and a train of registering gearing adapted to be operated by said ratchet, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

RODERICK NICHOLSON MONTGOMERY.

Witnesses:

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