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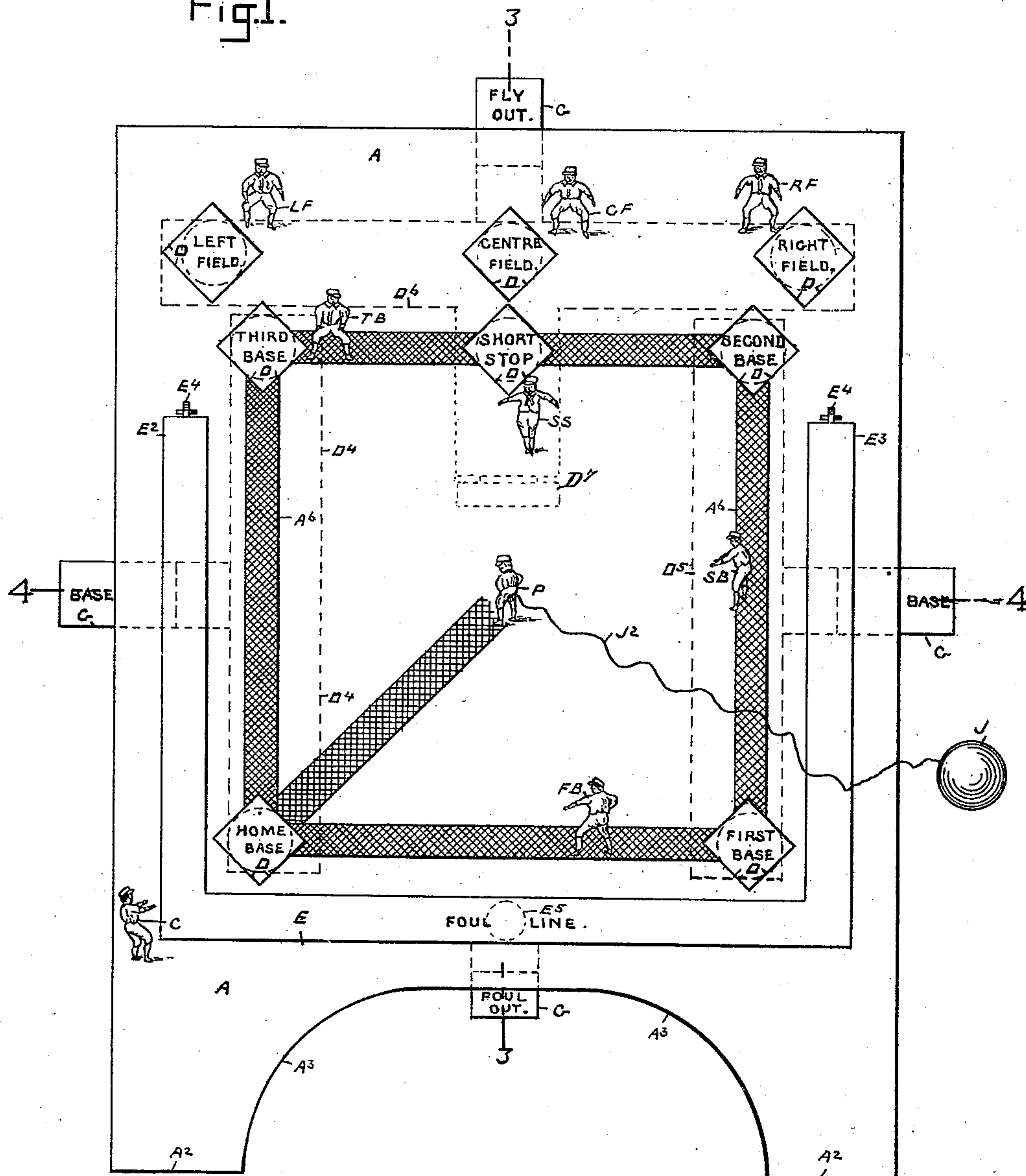
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A. G. BROWN & J. P. CROSBY.
GAME BOARD.

No. 446,320.

Patented Feb. 10, 1891.

Fig. 1.



WITNESSES:

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by their Attorneys
Brown Bros

(No Model.)

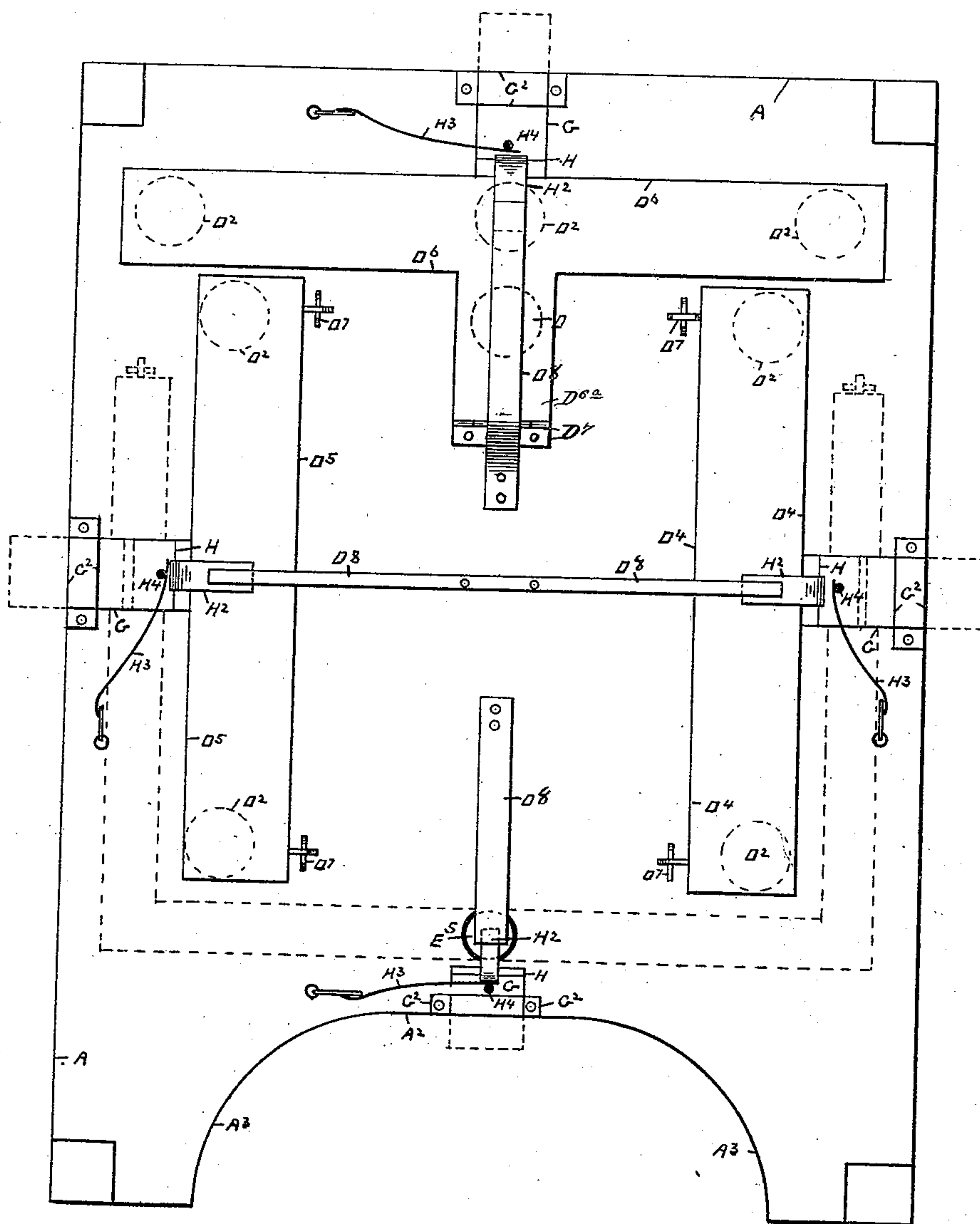
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A. G. BROWN & J. P. CROSBY.
GAME BOARD.

No. 446,320.

Patented Feb. 10, 1891.

Fig-2-



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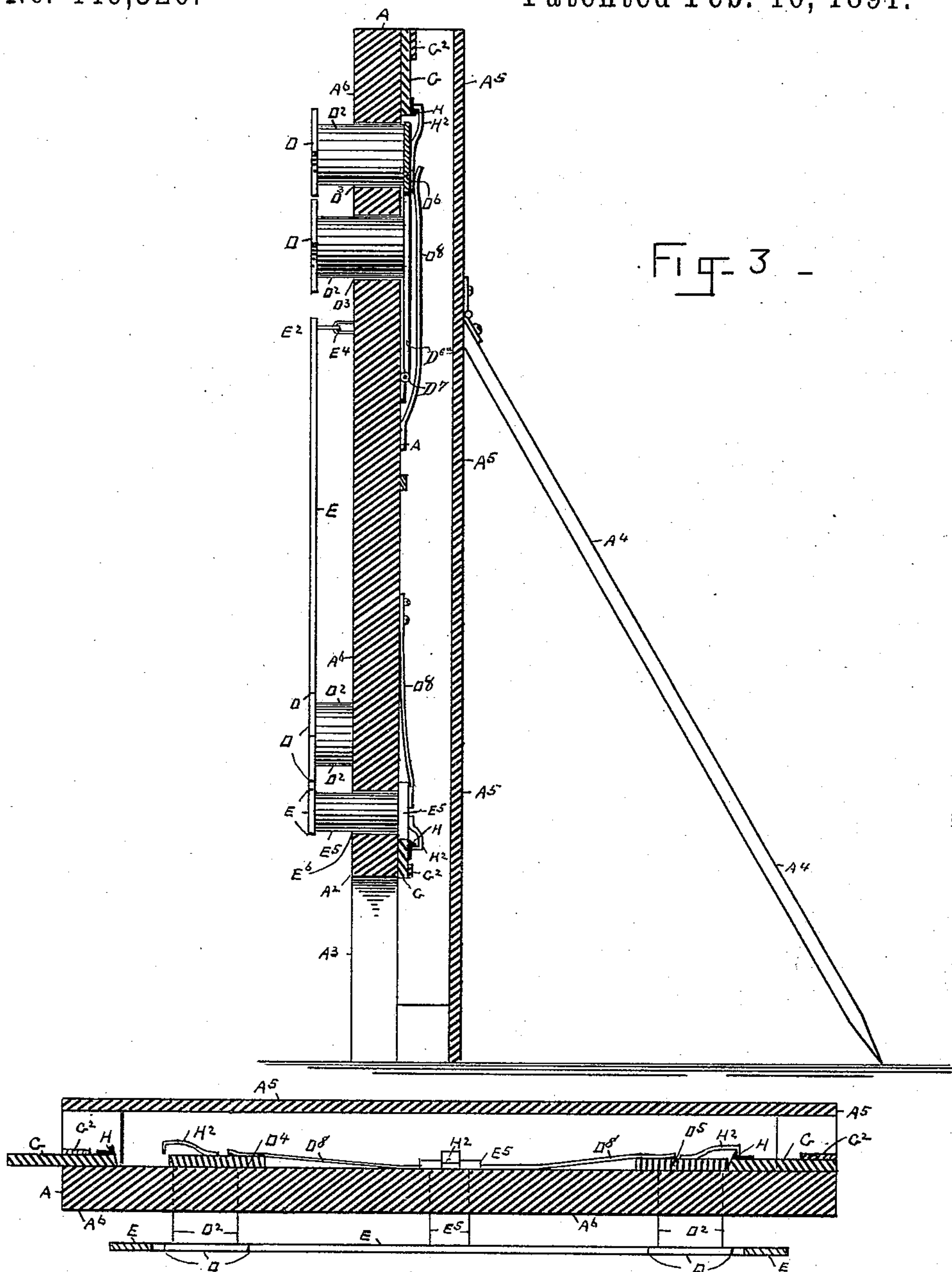
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3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

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Fig-4 -

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLPH G. BROWN, OF NEW YORK, AND JAMES PARKMAN CROSBY, OF
FLATBUSH, NEW YORK.

GAME-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 446,320, dated February 10, 1891.

Application filed March 15, 1890. Serial No. 344,028. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ADOLPH G. BROWN and JAMES PARKMAN CROSBY, citizens of the United States of America, residing, respectively, at the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, and at the town of Flatbush, in the county of Kings, State aforesaid, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Parlor Base-Ball Game-Boards, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The parlor base-ball game-board of this invention in substance is composed, first, of a board to be suitably supported in a more or less upright position, and which has painted or otherwise suitably represented on its surface utilized for the game to be played a base-ball field and the field players in their proper places; second, of target-blocks which are located on the base-ball field, one at each of its several bases, first, second, third, and fourth, or home, and of its several fields, center, right, and left, and one at short-stop, and preferably severally marked in accordance with their respective locations, and also severally projected from the playing-surface and entered into separate suitable holes of the game-board, and either separately or in pairs, or in any other suitable series, backed by spring or other suitable elastic pressure, and adapted otherwise to be moved in and out relatively to the thickness of the game-board, in one direction against and in the other with their elastic pressure; third, of a rail-target which begins at and crosses from target at third base to target at home or fourth base, thence continues to target at first base, and thence passes on to target at second base, terminating at its opposite ends at targets of third and second bases, and preferably projects from the playing-face, and has a projection that is entered into a suitable hole of the game-board, and is backed by spring or other suitable elastic pressure and adapted otherwise to be moved in and out relatively to the thickness of the game-board in one direction against and in the other with its elastic pressure; fourth, of tablets which are held on and are adapted to be covered and uncovered as to the game-board, and at their uncovered

portions preferably suitably designated, as will hereinafter appear, and, fifth, of connections for and between each of said tablets and the targets at the bases, fields, and short-stop and the foul-line, severally composed of means adapted for the tablets separately to be engaged with and disengaged from their respective targets, and engaged to be covered and disengaged to be uncovered as to the game-board, and again for the tablets and targets to be disengaged by an inward movement of the targets, and on disengagement to secure their automatic uncovering as to the game-board, to be re-engaged and thus again covered, as before, all substantially as herein-after described.

In the drawings forming part of this specification a parlor base-ball game-board of this invention is illustrated. Figure 1 is a view of the front face or side of the board and the one utilized for playing the game, and in this figure the several tablets are shown as uncovered. Fig. 2 is a view of the rear side of the board, and showing the tablets as covered. Fig. 3 is a vertical section, line 3 3, and Fig. 4 is a horizontal section, line 4 4, Fig. 1.

In the drawings, A represents a board of square outline and which may be made of wood or other suitable material. This board A for use is placed in a more or less upright position, resting at its lower edge A², cut out along its central portion A³, on a table or other suitable support, and at its rear side supported by a prop-stick A⁴, which at its upper end is hinged on a board A⁵, that covers and is held on the rear side of board A, and at its lower end rests on the table or other support for the game-board.

The front side A⁶ of the game-board A is painted or otherwise suitably prepared in representation of a base-ball field, with its bases—first, second, third, and fourth or home—and its players—pitcher, P; catcher, C; first, second, and third basemen, short-stop, center, right, and left fielders, respectively, FB, SB, TB, SS, CF, RF, and LF.

As the base-ball field and its bases and players are particularly shown, the home or fourth and first bases are in a horizontal line at the

lower end portion of the game-board, the second and third bases are in a horizontal line at the upper end portion of the game-board, and the fielders are in a horizontal line above and parallel with the line of second and third bases and also with the line of fourth and first bases, and severally parallel with the table or other support for the game-board,

D are target-blocks, one located at each base, at short-stop, and at each field, and each target, preferably and as shown, is marked in accordance with its location. Again, each target D has a shank portion D^2 , which extends loosely through a hole D^3 , and at the back of the game-board and between it and the back cover-board A^5 . The targets for third base and fourth or home base are held on a flap D^4 , and the targets for first and second bases are held on a flap D^5 , each of which said flaps D^4 and D^5 is hung by hinges D^7 to the rear face of the game-board. The targets for the fields and short-stop are held, respectively, on the flap D^6 and an extension thereof D^{6a} , which extension is hinged, as at D^7 , to the rear face of the game-board. Each of said flaps D^4 , D^5 , and D^6 is normally held against the rear face of the game-board, where it is held by the pressure of the bent springs D^8 , that at their free ends rest thereon, and at their other ends are fastened on said board, and in this position of either flap its target or targets project beyond the front or base-ball field.

E is a flat rail-target, which is located outside of the base-targets and begins and extends from near the target at third base to and around the target at home or fourth base and thence to and around the target at first base, and terminates at or near the target at second base. The rail-target E at its opposite end portions E^2 E^3 is hung by hinges E^4 to the game-board, and midway of its portion lying between the home and first base it has a plug or shank extension E^5 , which passes loosely through a hole E^6 of and at the rear side of the game-board it is shouldered.

E^7 is a bent spring at its free end bearing against the rear end of the plug E^5 of rail-target E and at its other end held on the game-board, all so as normally to keep the shouldered end of the plug E^5 against the rear side and the rail-target away from the front side of the game-board.

The rail-target E represents the foul-line, and is so marked.

G are tablets, which are severally located, one at the upper, one at the lower, and one at each of the upright edges, and all at the rear side of and between the game-board A and its rear covering-board A^5 . Each tablet is a rectangular block or strip of wood or other suitable material, and it is arranged to slide through a suitable guideway or loop G^2 , one for each tablet, and severally held on the rear side of the game-board A, those for the side tablets in a common horizontal line and those for the upper and lower tablets in a

common vertical line. Each side tablet and the upper tablet has its inner end presented toward the unhinged edge of the flaps D^4 , D^5 , and D^6 , respectively, at the corresponding parts of the game-board, and the lower tablet has its inner end presented toward the lower side of the shouldered shank or plug E^5 of the foul-line target E, and the several inner ends of the tablets and said unhinged edges of the flaps, as also the lower side of said rail-target plug, are respectively provided with spring catch-arms H H^2 , one H held on each tablet and the other H^2 on each flap and on said plug.

Each pair of spring-arms H H^2 is adapted to be engaged with and to be disengaged from each other and engaged to hold the tablets against movement on and covered lengthwise by the board A and disengaged to leave the tablets free to be moved on the board for the outer end portion of each to be projected beyond the edge of the game-board at which it is located, and thereby uncovered and exposed, and all automatically and by the action of bent springs H^3 , one for each tablet, at one end held on the game-board and at their other ends each at a bearing against a rest-pin H^4 of the tablet, which pins also act as stops to limit by their abutment against the inner ends of the guideways for the tablets the extent of the projection and exposure of the tablets, as stated. The front face of the exposed end portion of each tablet is marked, the tablets belonging to the base-targets with the word "Base" and that to the field and to the short-stop targets with the words "Fly out" and that to the foul-line target with the words "Foul out."

The release of each tablet for its marked end portion to be uncovered and exposed, as has been explained, is secured by forcing either of the targets belonging to it toward the board—as, for illustration, each tablet marked "Base" by forcing a base-target toward the game-board, and the tablet marked "Fly out" by forcing either field or short-stop target toward the game-board and the tablet marked "Foul out" by forcing the foul-line target toward the board.

In the play of the game of base-ball with the game-board described the targets may be and preferably are forced toward the game-board with a ball J, suspended by an elastic cord J^2 , held on the board at the center of its base-ball field, and which for that purpose is forced by the player against the target, either by the reaction of the elastic cord previously drawn back sufficiently therefor, or otherwise, as will hereinafter appear.

The game is played (the several tablets of the game-board being covered) as follows: A player in his proper turn and at a distance from the game-board of some three or four feet first forces as stated, or otherwise suitably, the ball toward the board in a direction to hit the target at first base, and if in three throws he succeeds in hitting that target he

continues and proceeds, as at target at first base to the target at second base, thence to the target at third base, and thence to the target at fourth or home base, and if successful in hitting each target with three throws for a target the player scores a run. The player next in turn then proceeds to play in a similar manner, and so on for the whole number of players for that side and again in same succession until of course a sufficient number, previously fixed upon, of the players of that side have been put out in the manner hereinafter provided. A successful hitting, as described, of the targets at the bases, one after another, by any player counts in every instance a run for that player and the side on which he plays; and a failure to hit the base-target to be hit in three successive throws of the ball thereat, or a hitting of either field or short stop or foul-line targets puts the player out and otherwise is tallied against him, and so, finally, when players to the number fixed upon are out the side to which they belong is out and the other side has its inning, and so on until the stated number of innings of each side have been had, on which the side that has the greater number of runs tallied in its favor is the winner. On a hitting of a target at either a base, a field, a short-stop, or the foul-line by the ball, as described, the tablet belonging thereto is uncovered, and is to be again covered before the next play by pushing it in sufficiently to engage it, as explained.

The ball may be made of wood, india-rubber, or other suitable material.

As has been particularly explained and shown, there is one tablet for two base-targets, one tablet for the several field and short-stop targets, and one for the foul-line target. Obviously, however, there may be a separate tablet for each base-target, for each field-target, and for the short-stop target by simply providing and arranging them, as also providing separate flaps and catches, all as has been described for the particular combination of flaps, targets, and tablets explained and shown.

The game may be played in combinations of runs and outs differing from those particularly explained, and this invention, which is simply as to the game-board and its appliances, is not to be limited in that regard.

Again, an elastic cord, and as described, under tension, may be used for the throw of the ball, or the ball may be thrown independently of it; but in any event it is preferable to tie the ball to the game-board, using an elastic string, all as explained, for the reason that the ball then will always be convenient for use.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The improved parlor base-ball game-board herein described, the same consisting of a game-board A in representation of a base-ball field, target-blocks D, one at each base and at other determined positions of said field and severally adapted for movement toward and away from the board, in one direction against and in the other with elastic pressure, tablets G, severally held on the board and adapted to be covered and uncovered, and connections of tablets and targets severally adapted for the engagement and disengagement of its tablet and target and for the automatic uncovering of the tablets from a movement of the blocks against the elastic pressure thereon, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

2. The improved parlor base-ball game-board herein described, the same consisting of a game-board A in representation of a base-ball field, target-blocks D, one at each base and at other determined positions of said field and severally extending through the thickness of the board, flaps severally carrying a target block or blocks and hinged on and held with an elastic pressure against the game-board at its rear side, tablets G, severally held on the board and adapted to be covered and uncovered, and connections of tablets and flaps severally consisting of guideways G² for the tablets, engaging and disengaging arms H H² on each tablet and each flap, and springs adapted to act on the tablets, all substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ADOLPH G. BROWN.
J. PARKMAN CROSBY.

Witnesses:

E. P. ALLEN,
G. E. MOORE.