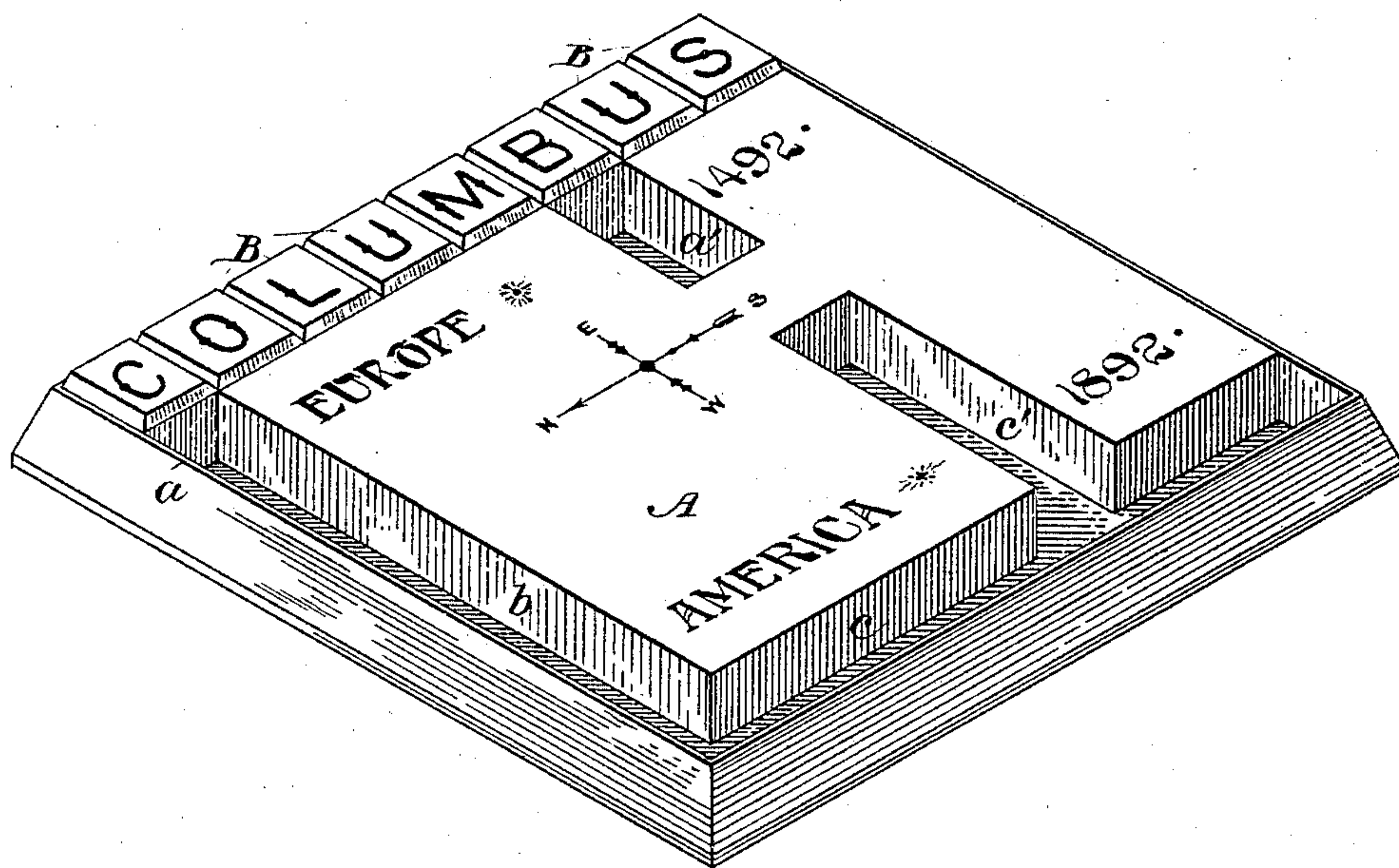


(No Model.)

W. TRUMBULL.  
PUZZLE.

No. 465,147.

Patented Dec. 15, 1891.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM TRUMBULL, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

## PUZZLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 465,147, dated December 15, 1891.

Application filed June 23, 1891. Serial No. 397,209. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM TRUMBULL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Puzzles; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to puzzles; and it consists of a board having two main grooves united by a transverse groove, a short lateral groove communicating with each main groove, and a set of blocks bearing letters or figures sufficient in number to fill either of the main grooves, the puzzle being to so move the blocks as to transfer them from one main groove to the other and have them arranged in the same order in the second groove as they occupy in the first.

The drawing illustrates such a board A, the blocks B being eight in number and bearing the letters C O L U M B U S. These suffice to fill the eight spaces in the upper groove *a*, each block filling one space. The transverse groove *b* also has eight spaces, and so likewise has the lower groove *c*. The transverse groove *b* connects the first space in the upper groove with the first space in the lower groove. From the sixth space in each main groove leads off a lateral groove *a' c'*, the former containing two spaces and the latter three.

The board may be suitably ornamented, preferably by having the word "Europe" and the date "1492" near the upper groove and the word "America" and the date "1892" near the lower groove. The points of the compass may be represented near the middle of the board.

The puzzle may be called "Columbus Discovering America," the object being to transfer the blocks B to the groove *c* by sliding them along the groove *b* and in and out of the lateral grooves *a' c'*, so that they may spell the word "Columbus" in the groove *c*. The

object of making these lateral grooves of the length stated is that there may be altogether at both ends of the puzzle a clear working space sufficient to hold nine blocks--i. e., four in the upper right-hand corner and five in the lower, with room for egress at each place.

In solving the puzzle the first two blocks C O are slid down to the lower end of the groove *c* and the next two L U into the groove *c'*, leaving four blocks above. The letters are to be transposed. Therefore the first one to be manipulated is the S. Drop U into groove *a'*, then S. Then slide M B to the right, leaving S free to come down into the vacant space in groove *c'*. O and C are then slid to the left, permitting S to be moved to the end of groove *c*, its ultimate position. O is then moved into groove *c'*, and C is thus free to be brought up to the upper right-hand part of the board. By thus keeping only four blocks at this point it is easy to manipulate them, so as to free any one and allow it to be brought down. Having brought down S, U, and B, the critical point in the puzzle is reached. Move L U out of groove *c'* and run U S up into it, the S being uppermost. Then run U L to the right and place B in the groove *c'*. Take the U of U L back to the top of the board and bring down M. To get it past L, run B temporarily to the left and put L in its place. Then slide M B to the end of groove *c* and L is free to go and join C O U up above. Now put M B U S in order in groove *c*. The other four letters are then easily brought down in proper order and the transposition is accomplished.

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

1. A puzzle consisting of a board containing two main grooves, each adapted to hold the same number of blocks, a transverse groove uniting the corresponding ends of said main grooves, lateral grooves leading off from near the unconnected ends of the main grooves and adapted to contain less than the whole number of blocks, and a set of movable blocks adapted to fill one of said main grooves, substantially as described.

2. The board A, having the grooves *a c*, each

containing eight spaces, the groove *b*, connect-  
ing the first space in the groove *a* with the  
first space in the groove *c*, the lateral groove  
*a'*, leading off from the sixth space in the  
5 groove *a* and containing two spaces, and the  
lateral groove *c'*, leading off from the sixth  
space in the groove *c* and containing three  
spaces, and the eight blocks *B*, bearing, re-

spectively, the letters C O L U M B U S, sub-  
stantially as set forth. 10

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in  
presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM TRUMBULL.

Witnesses:

TALCOTT H. RUSSELL,  
ISAAC WOLFE.