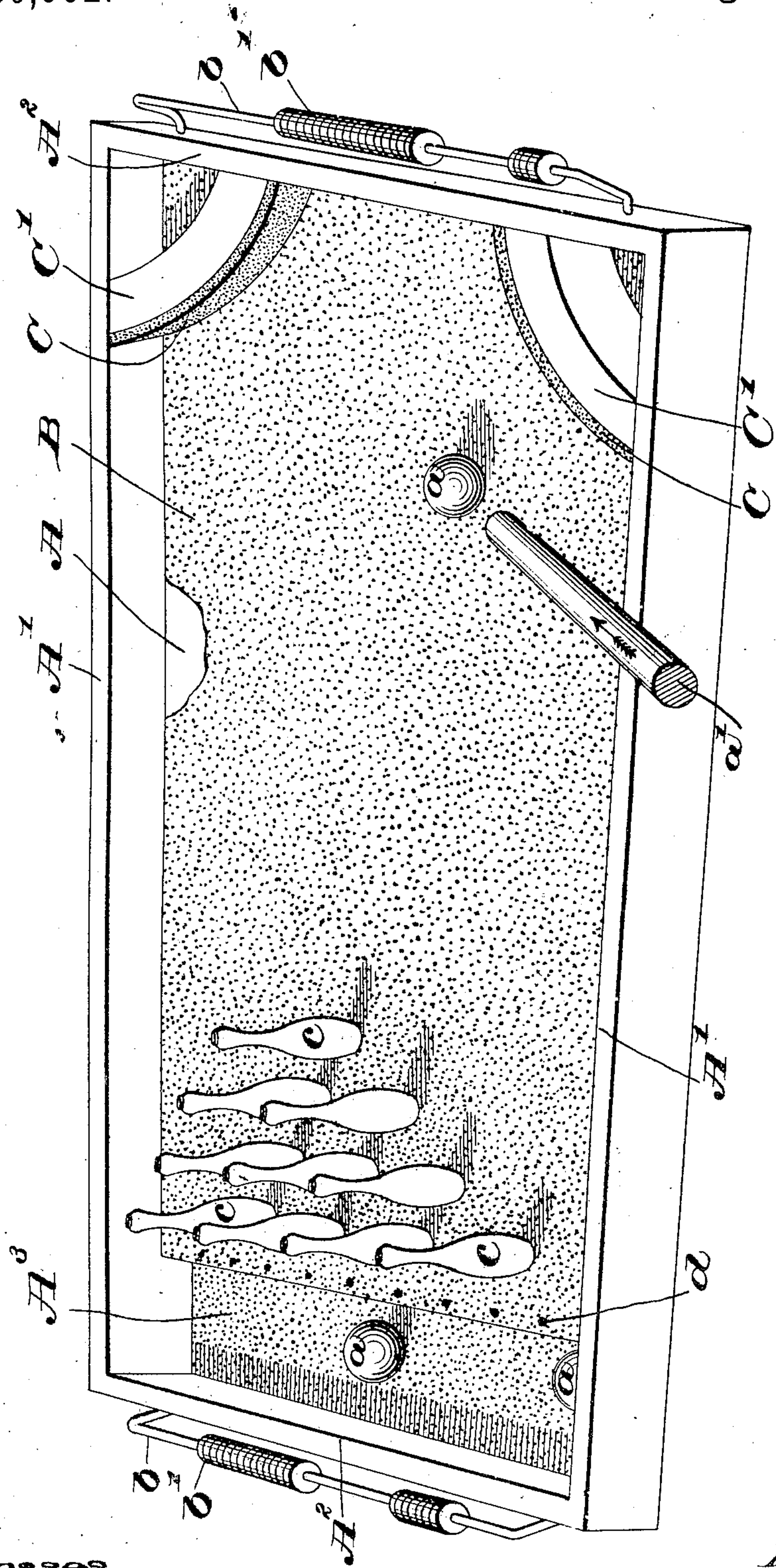


(No Model.)

M. H. GLEASON.
GAME APPARATUS.

No. 480,662.

Patented Aug. 9, 1892.



Witnesses.

Fred W. Culworth.
Edward F. Allen.

Inventor.

Martin H. Gleason
by Crosby & Mayory
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN H. GLEASON, OF FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO
JOHN K. GLEASON, OF SAME PLACE.

GAME APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 480,662, dated August 9, 1892.

Application filed April 12, 1892. Serial No. 428,788. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN H. GLEASON, of Fitchburg, county of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Game Apparatus, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention has for its object the production of a novel game apparatus adapted for home amusement.

My apparatus consists of a board and a series of pins and balls adapted to be struck and rolled by a cue or equivalent device, the said board having one, or it may be more, convexed carom-cushions, upon which the ball to strike the pins must first be played. This board has attached to it suitable counters (shown as disks or washers) strung on a wire, every fifth disk being preferably of a different color to facilitate quick counting.

The figure of the drawing shows a game-board embodying my invention preparatory to commencing a game of nine-pins.

The game board or table A has upright side and end walls or guards A' A². The bed A is covered with cloth, as at B, and has one or more convexed cushions, as C, preferably of india-rubber, backed up by segments C' of wood or other cheap material. I have shown two of these convexed cushions, one in each of two corners of the board, and I have left spaces between the segments and the side and end walls for the reception of balls a. The board at its end most remote from the convexed cushions is grooved transversely to leave a pocket A³, into which any ball having been shot will enter and remain.

To save space on the drawing, I have shown but part of a cue a'; but in practice there will be several cues with the apparatus, their length being about three feet.

To the ends of the board and, as shown, in the end walls, I have secured wires b b, on which I have placed a series of washers or buttons b' b' for the use of each player, the said washers being preferably of wood and every fifth one colored differently to aid in counting. The cloth will be stenciled, marked, or "spotted" to designate the places where the nine-pins c c shall stand when the game

of nine-pins is to be played on the board, the drawing showing the said pins all set. At the rear of the pins I have provided the board with a series of spots d, on which the pins may be set if it is desired to make the game one of marksmanship.

Prior to my invention boards adapted to be used as nine-pin alleys have been used; but no skill is required in rolling the balls directly at the pins. To therefore make more of a game, one requiring thought and demanding attention and skill, I devised the convexed cushion, and then to complete the game devised as additional useful co-operative elements the pocket A³ and counters.

The game requires the same class of skill as is necessary to play billiards, and in the game the ball must always be shot by the cue against the face of a convexed cushion, and thence it caroms directly upon a pin, and by skill the player may shoot his ball against a particular point in the convexed cushion and hit any particular ball which is in the range of the aimed shot.

I am aware that a cushion is in common use on billiard-tables; but never prior to my invention has a table or board having straight sides and ends ever been provided with a convexed cushion in one or more of its corners.

My improved apparatus makes a game of skill, not of mere chance, and the convexed cushions, the cue being held by a skilled hand, enables the ball to be shot in any direction to range over any part of the field.

I have devised a number of different games which may be played on my game apparatus by placing the pins in different positions, or by using balls instead of pins, which will be reached by a carom-shot, some requiring the exercise of more skill than others, but which need not be described in this specification.

The arc of the face of the cushion will be calculated to correspond with the width and length of the board.

This invention is not limited to the shape shown for the pins c, and instead of pins any objects may be used and constitute targets for the carom-balls.

In Fig. 2, showing part of the under side of the board, f represents a foot composed of corrugated rubber, there being a like foot

near each corner of the board, said feet by friction on the table on which the board rests preventing any accidental slipping of the board.

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

1. The combination, with the board having straight side and end guards, of a convexed cushion in one corner of the board and adapted to be struck by a ball, substantially as described.

2. A board having straight side and end guards and a convexed corner cushion at one end, of a transverse pocket at the other end of the board, substantially as described.

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

MARTIN H. GLEASON.

Witnesses:

JOHN K. GLEASON,
PATRICK F. GLEASON,
CHAS. S. HAYDEN.