

No. 685,596.

Patented Oct. 29, 1901.

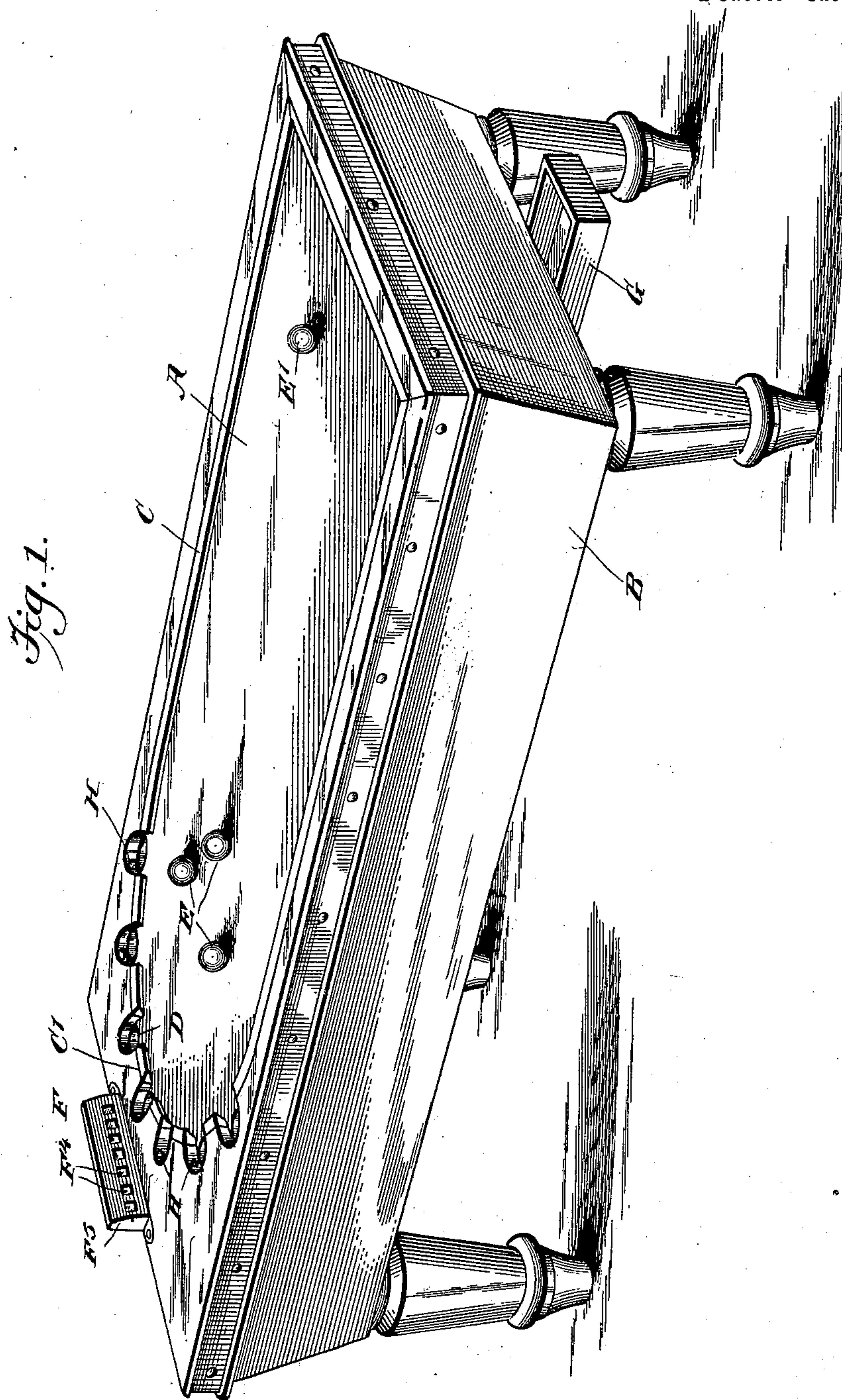
J. H. GENTER & J. BESCH.

POOL TABLE.

(Application filed Jan. 10, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES:

*A. R. Applegate*  
*Geo. F. Foster*

INVENTORS

*Jacob H. Genter*  
*Joseph Besch*

BY

*Munn*  
ATTORNEYS

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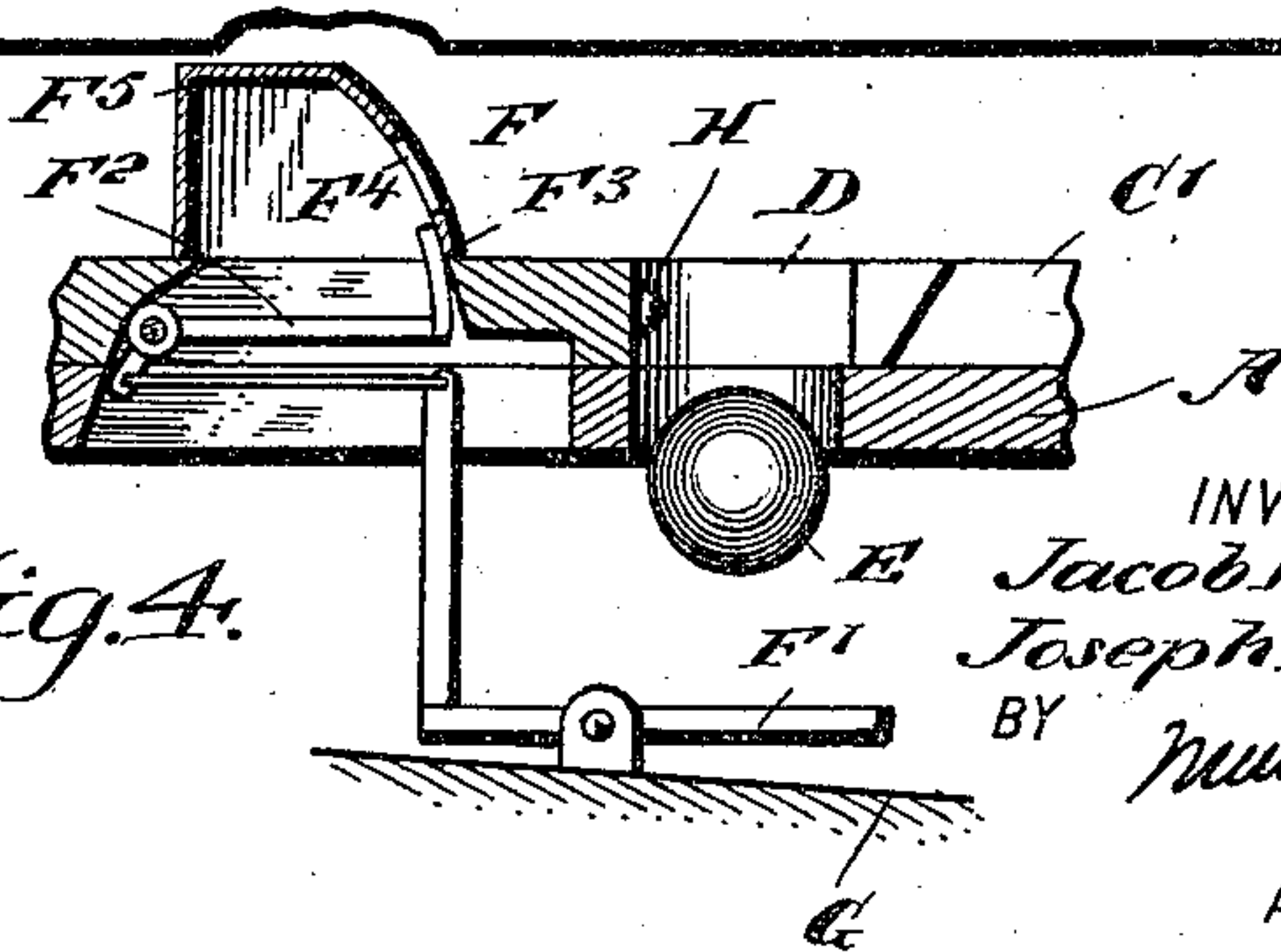
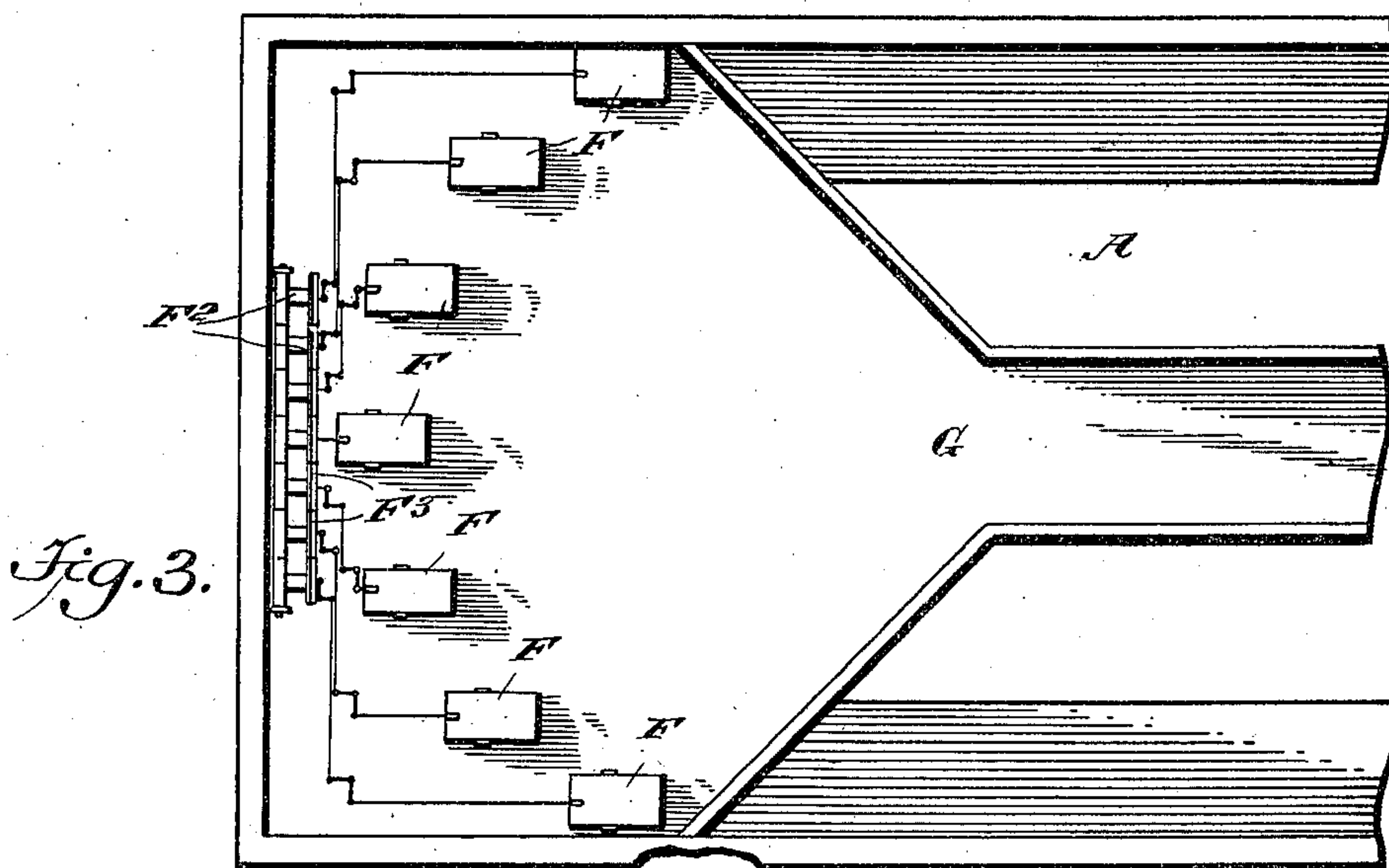
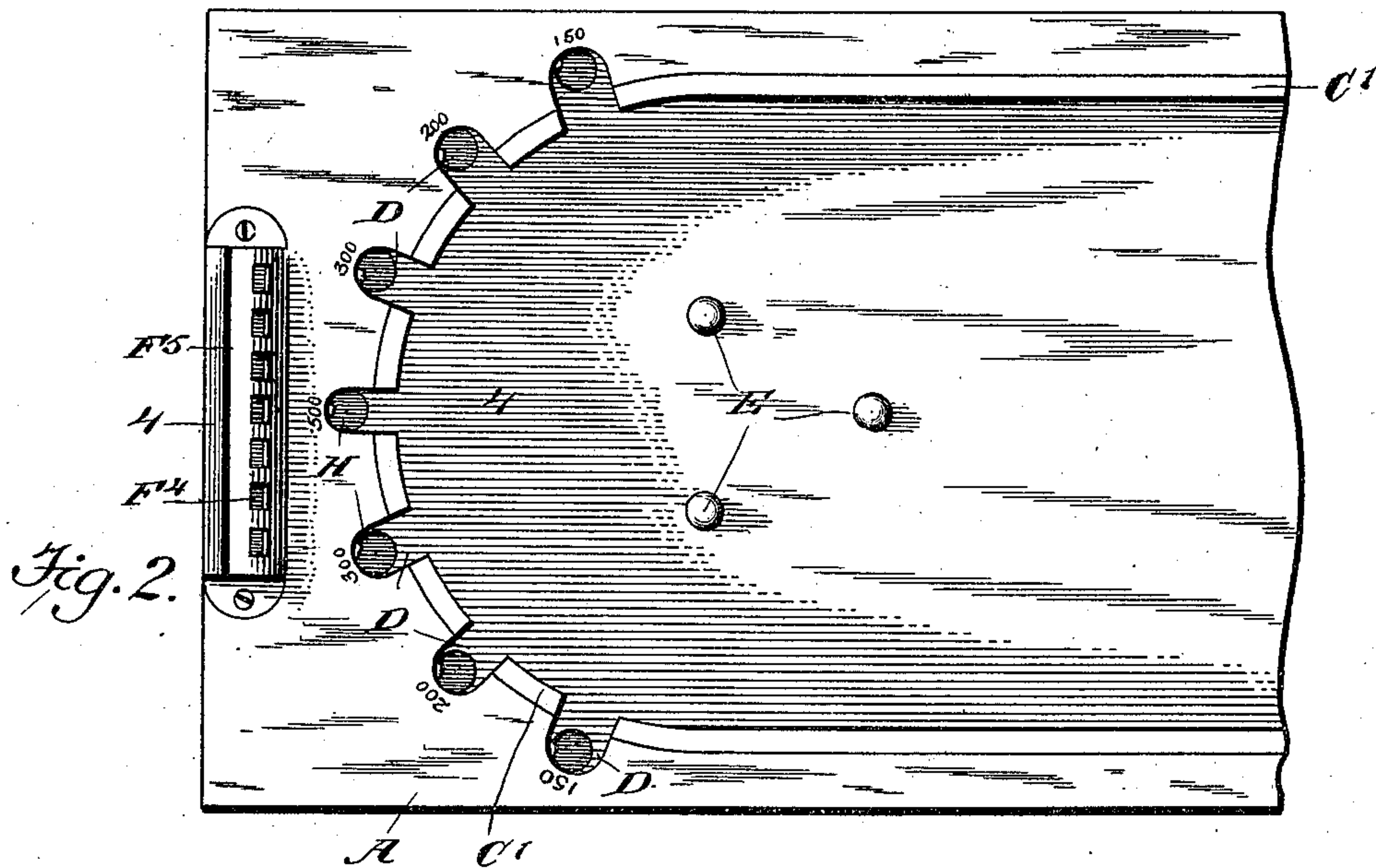
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



WITNESSES:

*W. H. Appleman*  
*Rev. J. Foster*

*Fig. 4.*

INVENTORS

*Jacob H. Genter*

*Joseph Besch*

BY

*Mumford*  
ATTORNEYS



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB H. GENTER AND JOSEPH BESCH, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

## POOL-TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 685,596, dated October 29, 1901.

Application filed January 10, 1901. Serial No. 42,776. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JACOB H. GENTER and JOSEPH BESCH, of Albany, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented  
5 a new and Improved Pool-Table, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to billiards; and its object is to provide a new and improved pool-table more especially designed for playing  
10 the game known as "cocked-hat pool" and arranged to afford amusement to the players and to require considerable skill to successfully play the game.

15 The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is  
20 represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the upper end of the same. Fig. 3 is a similar view  
25 of the same with the table and rails removed, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional side elevation of the same on the line 4 4 in Fig. 2.

30 The improved pool-table consists, essentially, of a table A, mounted on a suitably-constructed frame B and surrounded by a cushioned rail C, the upper or head portion C' of which is made semicircular and formed  
35 with pockets D for the balls E to drop in, said balls E being preferably three in number set up at the head portion of the table in "cocked-hat" style, as is plainly shown in Figs. 1 and 2. A fourth ball E' at the foot  
40 of the table is propelled by a cue in the hands of a player to strike the cocked-hat balls E, so as to send the same to the pockets D. The pockets D are of different sizes, as is plainly shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and are marked with  
45 corresponding values—that is, the central pocket is the smallest one and has the highest value, (five hundred points.) The nearest pockets on opposite sides of the central pocket are somewhat larger, and their value is three  
50 hundred points. The next succeeding pockets are still larger, with a value of two hundred points, and the side pockets are the

largest, with a value of one hundred and fifty points. A ball dropping into a pocket D actuates an annunciator F, arranged at the  
55 head of the table and indicating the value of the pocket through which the ball dropped. The annunciator F is provided with a lever F', pivoted on the frame B a distance below the table A in alinement with a pocket D, so  
60 that a ball dropping through the pocket falls upon one end of the lever and imparts a swinging motion thereto. Each lever F' is connected with an indicating-lever F<sup>2</sup>, having a segmental arm F<sup>3</sup>, on which is marked  
65 the number of points of the corresponding pocket, and said segmental arm F<sup>3</sup> is adapted to swing in register with an aperture F<sup>4</sup> in a casing F<sup>5</sup>, set at the head of the table, the apertures facing down the table to be in sight  
70 of the players standing at the lower end of the table. Normally the indicating-levers F<sup>2</sup> are in a lowermost position, as shown in Fig. 4; but when a ball E drops through a pocket then the corresponding lever F' is actuated  
75 to impart an upward swinging motion to the indicating-lever F<sup>2</sup>, so that the arm F<sup>3</sup> thereof swings into register with the corresponding aperture F<sup>4</sup> and displays the number of  
80 points indicating the value of the pocket through which the ball dropped. A ball after leaving the lever F' drops into a chute G, attached to and extending at the under side of the frame B to the lower end thereof, so  
85 that the balls roll to the lower end of the chute and can there be conveniently removed and placed back upon the table.

In the rear wall of each pocket and in the portion above the table A is arranged a tip or  
90 button H, of leather or other suitable material, so that a ball passing into the pocket strikes the said tip previously to dropping down in the pocket onto the lever F' and chute G, as previously described. By this arrangement the ball is not liable to make  
95 undue noise.

Instead of having a head at only one end of the table, as shown and described, we may provide the other end with a similar semicircular head with pockets to permit of playing  
100 the game from either end of the table.

Having thus fully described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—



1. A pool-table, comprising a cushioned rail on said table, and having its head portion approximately semicircular and formed with spaced pockets ranging radially, said pockets  
5 being of different sizes, an annunciator adapted to be actuated by a ball dropping through one of the pockets, and a return-chute for the balls and receiving the latter from the annunciator actuated by a ball, as set forth.
- 10 2. A pool-table, comprising a cushioned rail on said table and having its head portion approximately semicircular and formed with spaced pockets ranging radially, said pockets being of different sizes, and tips on the rear  
15 walls of said pockets above the table, as set forth.
3. A pool-table having a cushioned rail provided with spaced pockets, a projecting tip or button forming a cushion arranged on the  
20 rear wall of each pocket, the table being provided with openings for the passage of the balls that enter the pockets, and an annunciator adapted to be actuated by a ball dropping through one of said pockets, as set forth.
- 25 4. A pool-table provided with a cushioned rail having its head portion approximately semicircular and formed with spaced pockets

ranging radially, an annunciator adapted to be actuated by a ball dropping through either of said pockets, the said annunciator being  
30 provided with a series of actuating-levers arranged approximately in a semicircle beneath the pockets and on which the balls fall, and a chute into which the balls pass after moving the levers, as set forth.

5. A pool-table provided at its head portion  
35 with spaced pockets and an annunciator, comprising a casing arranged at the head of the table and provided with a series of apertures, a series of levers located one below each  
40 pocket and on which the ball is adapted to fall, and indicating-levers connected with the first-mentioned levers and each having a segmental indicating-arm adapted to swing in register with the corresponding aperture in  
45 the casing, as set forth.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JACOB H. GENTER.  
JOSEPH BESCH.

Witnesses:

FREDERICK M. BRESLER,  
PETER KEELER.