

No. 688,027.

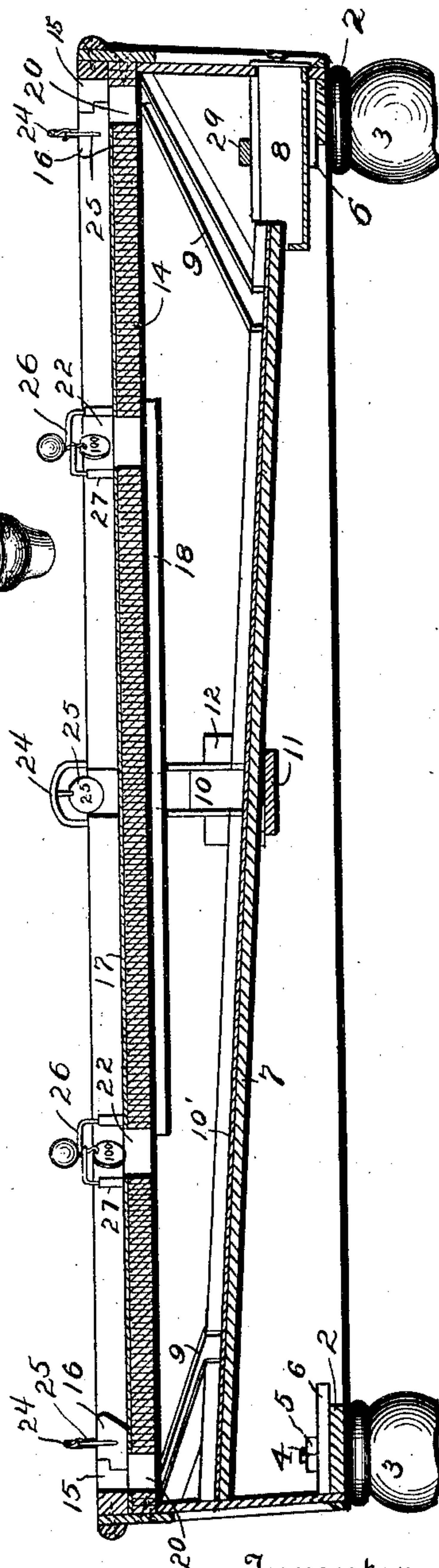
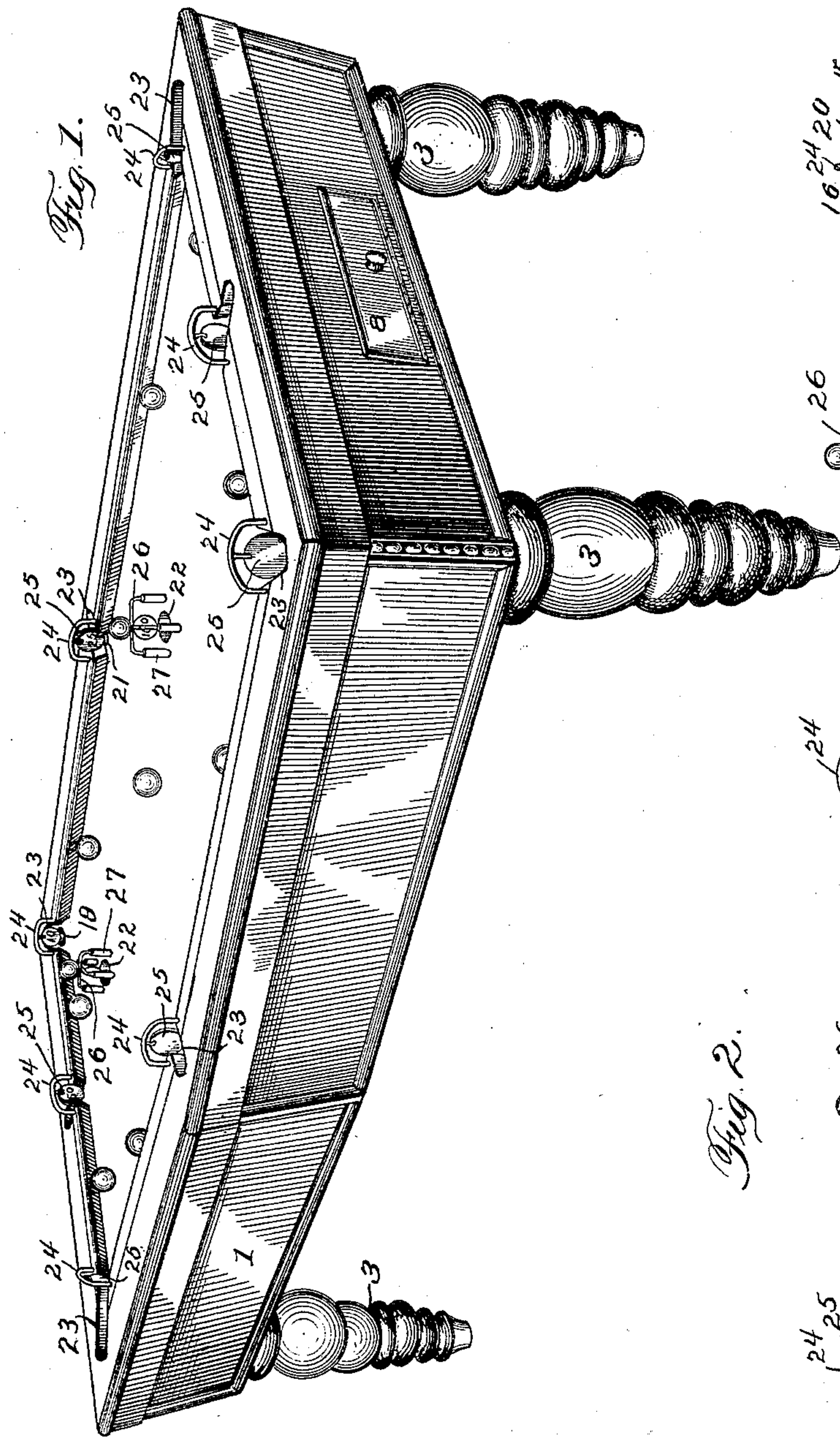
Patented Dec. 3, 1901.

J. P. MOYER.  
GAME TABLE.

(Application filed Feb. 25, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses  
Frank Campbell  
R. H. Russell.

John P. Moyer, Inventor

By H. C. Moyer & Co.  
Attorneys

No. 688,027.

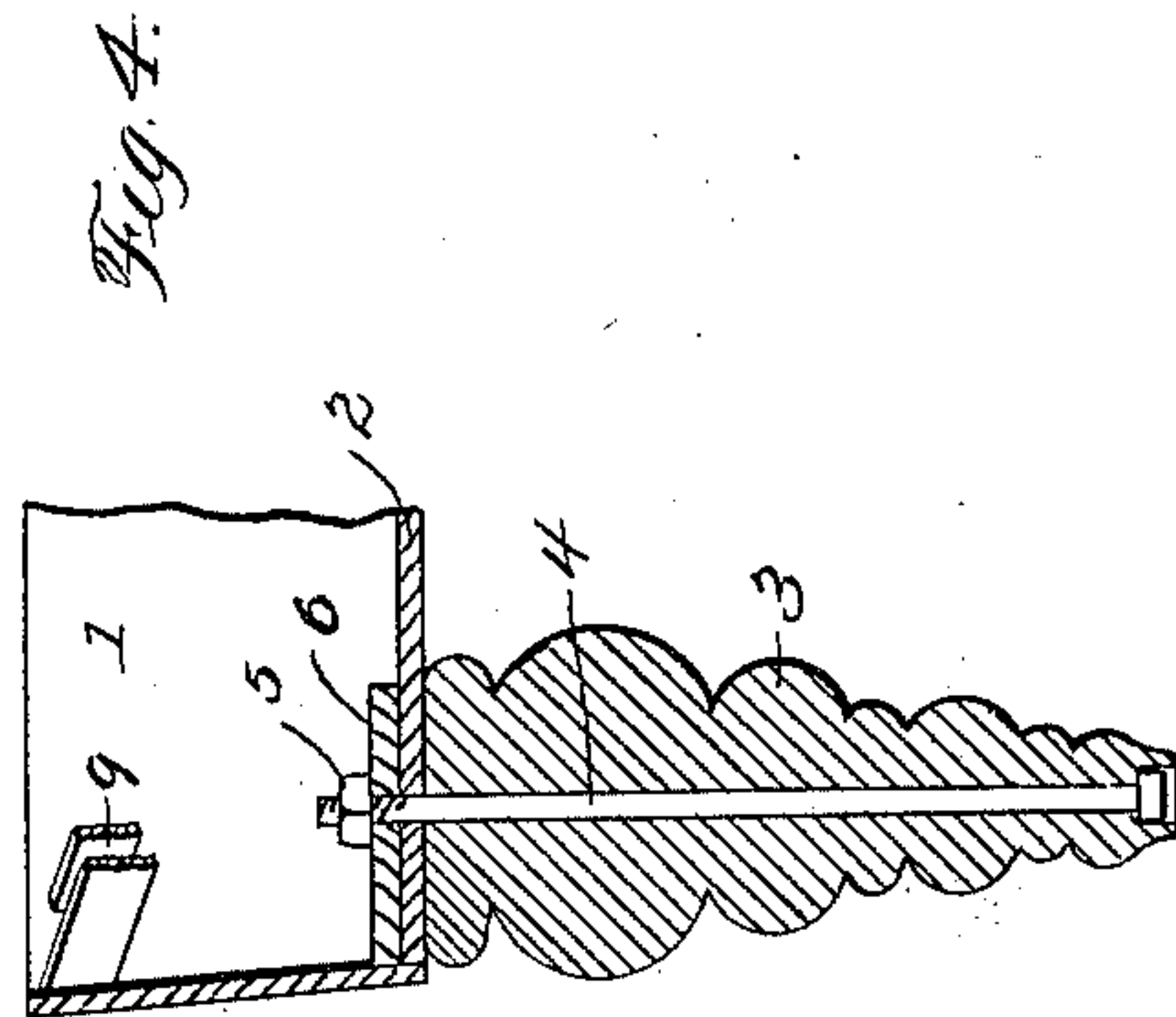
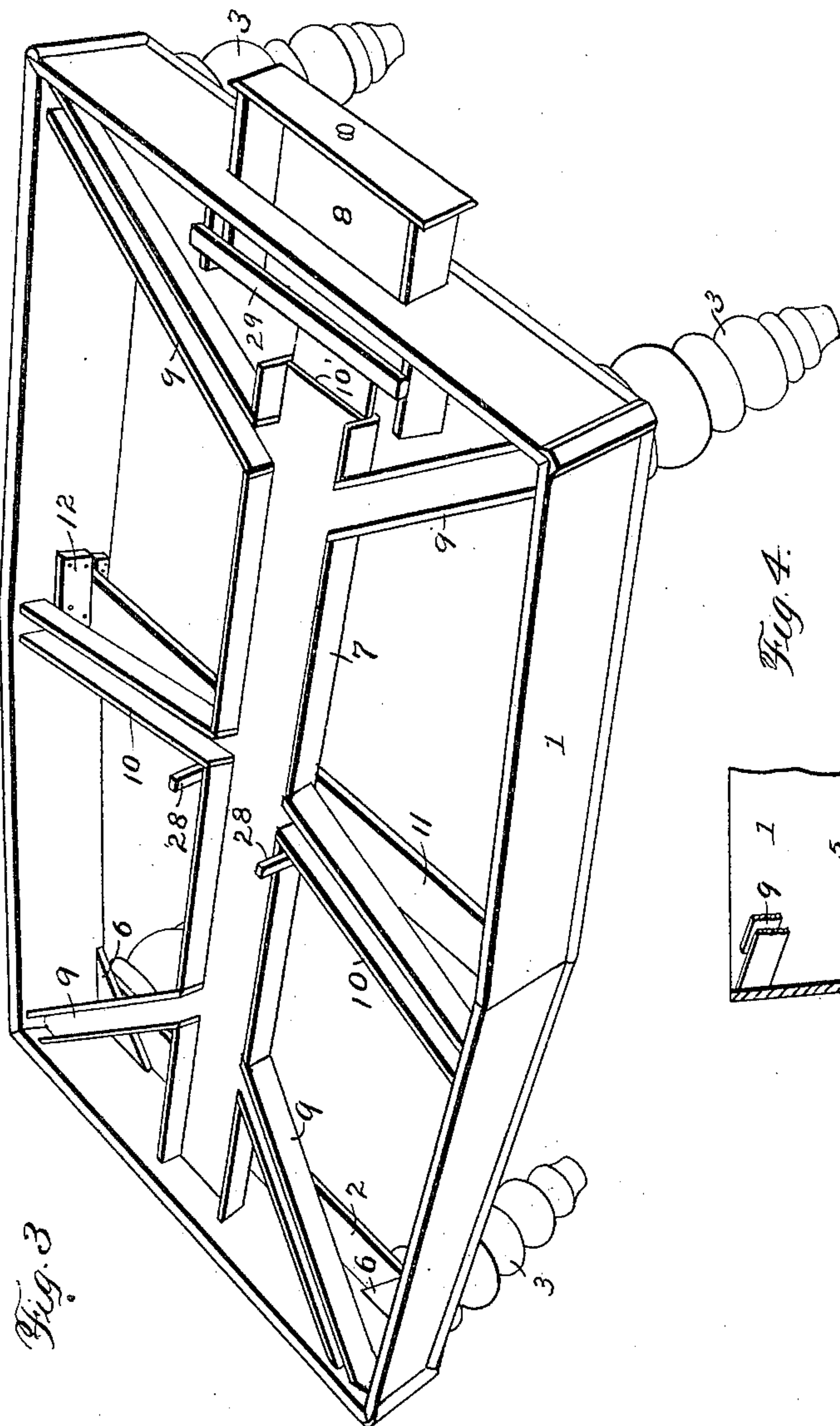
Patented Dec. 3, 1901.

J. P. MOYER.  
GAME TABLE.

(Application filed Feb. 25, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



Witnesses  
Frank G. Campbell  
*R. H. Russ.*

John P. Moyer, Inventor.

by *H. C. Everett & Co.*  
Attorneys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN P. MOYER, OF FRANKLIN, PENNSYLVANIA.

## GAME-TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 688,027, dated December 3, 1901.

Application filed February 25, 1901. Serial No. 48,694. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN P. MOYER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Franklin, in the county of Venango and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Tables, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in billiard, pool, or bagatelle tables, and has for its principal object to produce a table extremely simple in construction, so arranged as to permit the playing of a novel form of game, and so constructed as to be quickly and easily knocked down for shipment and readily set up again.

The invention further aims to construct a table that will be extremely cheap to manufacture, dispensing with the stone or other mineral-substance slab ordinarily employed, together with other novel features in construction, as will be hereinafter pointed out.

Briefly described, the invention comprises, in connection with the body of the table, a table-bed composed of narrow strips set on edge and connected together, this bed being provided at each end with an aperture, and also provided with apertures intermediate the ends, these latter apertures being in line with those at the ends of the bed. The rails and cushions are also provided at the corners of the table and also centrally of the sides of the table with recesses in lieu of the pockets ordinarily employed in a pool-table of the usual construction, and are further provided centrally of the ends with like recesses. Over each one of these recesses is arranged an arch, upon which is hung to swing thereon a numbered disk or indicator, and over the two holes in the table-bed, intermediate the ends of the latter, are arranged arches or obstructions likewise carrying a swinging disk or indicator having an indicating-number. The holes through the table-bed lead to a series of runways, which are inclined, and all discharge into a central inclined runway leading to a box or drawer at one end of the table, from which the balls may be removed by pull-

ing out the drawer or box. These runways are each preferably covered with felt or like soft material, so as to prevent injury to the balls as the latter fall through the openings in the table-bed into the runways and are conducted by the latter to the box or drawer at the end of the table.

Various other novel features of construction enter into the invention and will be hereinafter more specifically described and then particularly pointed out in the appended claim, and in describing the invention in detail reference will be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and wherein like numerals of reference will be employed to designate like parts throughout the several views of the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a table constructed and arranged in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof with the legs partly broken away. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the table with the table-bed, rails, and cushions removed. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view of one of the supporting-legs and a part of the table-body, showing how the legs are secured rigidly to the table.

In the practice of my invention I construct the main body of the table, consisting of the side and end pieces, (designated 1,) in the usual manner, providing the same at the ends, however, with a cross-strip 2 to form a bearing for the upper ends of the supporting-legs 3. These latter are bored throughout their length to receive the securing-rods 4, the said rods or bolts extending through the legs and having the heads thereof countersunk in the lower ends of the legs. The upper ends of these rods or bolts are threaded to receive the nuts 5, which are placed on the rods or bolts after the latter have been passed through triangular brace-strips 6, secured in the corners of the table-body to assist in strengthening the latter.

Arranged within the body portion of the table is a main passage or runway 7, which extends from one end of the table to a point near the opposite end and discharges into a



drawer or box arranged in the end of the table, as at 8. This main passage or runway is inclined toward the drawer or box, and leading into the same from each corner of the table is a runway 9, and likewise leading into the same near the center of its length, at each side thereof, is a runway 10. The runways 9 10 may be constructed of a width slightly greater than the diameter of the balls employed for playing, though the main runway is preferably constructed of a width considerably greater than the side runways to provide sufficient room for the balls fed into this main runway from the side runways. These runways are all preferably provided on the bottom with a covering of felt 10' or like soft material, so that the balls will not be damaged as they fall into the runways and are conducted thereby to the drawer or box at the end of the table. A transverse cross-strip 11 may be provided to assist in supporting the main runway 7, and the two side runways 10 may be supported at their higher ends by cleats 12, attached to the inner face of the body portion of the table.

The table-bed or bed-plate 14 is constructed of a series of strips set on edge and suitably fastened securely together, making a bed of sufficient weight for the purpose, but of considerably less weight than the slate or other mineral-substance beds employed on ordinary pool and billiard tables. This table-bed or bed-plate 14 is bound within the rails 15, which are preferably secured thereto, the cushions 16 resting upon the upper face of the bed around the edges of the latter. The rails 15 fit down over the frame or body of the table for a slight distance, and when the table is to be taken apart the lifting of the rails also removes the bed from its position upon the top of the frame or body of the table, and access may then be readily had to the nuts which hold the legs to the table frame or body. The rails are preferably fastened to the table-bed in such a manner that when it is desired to renew the covering 17 of the table-bed the rails and cushions may be lifted off the table-bed, and this may readily be provided for by employing such fastening means as screws for securing the bed to the rails. The strips of which the bed is composed may be glued together and further held by strips 18, secured to the underneath face of the bed, as shown.

In lieu of the suspended basket-form pockets ordinarily employed in pool-tables, I provide holes through the bed that lead to the runways, and cut the cushions and recess the rails so that the balls will roll into the recesses, and drop into the holes, down the runways into the drawer or box at one end of the table. For this purpose, a hole 19 is provided near each corner of the bed-plate which conduct the balls into the runways 9. A hole 20 is provided through the bed-plate, near

each end thereof, one of which conducts the balls into the runway 7 at the highest end thereof and the other of which conducts the balls directly into the drawer or box 8. The holes 21 at the sides of the table conduct the balls into the runways 10, and holes 22 intermediate the ends of the table and in line with the holes 20 conduct the balls into the main runway 7. The rails are cut away or recessed, as at 23, as are also the cushions, at each opening or aperture through the table-bed, so as to permit the balls to fall through the various apertures into the runways and be conducted to the box or drawer. Secured in the cushions over each of the various apertures or openings through the table-bed is an arch 24, upon which is swung an indicator or disk 25. These disks or indicators at each corner of the table are numbered "10." Those at the ends of the table are numbered "50," the two at the sides "25." Over the apertures or holes 22 in the table-bed are placed crossed arches 26, from which are suspended disks or indicators similar to those at the corner, side, and end pockets, though numbered "100." The upright arms or standards of these arches 26 are preferably covered with rubber or like material 27 to protect the ball from injury in case it should strike one of these uprights or posts instead of passing between the same and down through the aperture to the main runway.

I may provide additional supports for the table-bed, such as the standards 28, attached to the side walls of the main runway, and at the ends of the table a rest or support 29, held upon pieces attached to the end of the table frame or body. A suitable ornament 30 may be placed upon the cross-arches, as shown.

As the games played may be varied by different rules I do not claim any particular form of game, as it will be readily observed that sets of rules for playing might be formulated by the players or by the owner of the tables. It will be observed, however, that a ball entering any of the recesses in the cushions and rails will be conducted by the respective runway registering therewith to the main runway and thence to the drawer or box at the end of the table, or when dropping through either of the openings 22 in the table-bed will fall directly into the main runway and be conducted to the drawer or box. The simplicity of construction enables me to knock down the table in much less time than required for an ordinary pool-table and also materially cheapens the cost of such devices.

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

In a device of the character described, a removable frame, a bed-plate constructed of a series of strips suitably fastened together, secured in said frame, the said bed-plate being provided with a series of openings, run-



ways rigidly secured to said frame and registering with the said openings, one end of said runways supporting the bed-plate, the said runways leading to a common runway, a  
5 drawer suitably connected to one end of said main runway, legs secured to said frame, the said legs having an aperture formed centrally therein, a securing-rod mounted in said aperture, one end of said rod having a head formed

thereon, the other end being threaded and adapted to have a nut secured thereon.

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

JOHN P. MOYER.

Witnesses:

FRANK L. RIDDLE,

H. W. RODGERS.