



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GAME APPARATUS.

No. 801,416.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EUGENE STRATTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus; 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.

This invention relates to game boards or apparatus.

The object of the invention is to provide a board upon which may be played a new and interesting game, the successful playing of which will require considerable judgment and skill which will be beneficial to the players as an exercise for both mind and body.

With this object in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the game-board constructed in accordance with the invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view, and Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view showing the parts in folded position.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 denotes the base or board, which is preferably circular and is formed in two semi-circular sections which are hinged together, as shown at 2, to permit the parts to be folded. Around the outer edge of the board 1 is formed an annular flange 3. On the board 1 is also formed or fixed a concentrically-disposed beveled ring 4, within which is adapted to be placed a frusto-conical or pyramidal shaped block 5, which forms a mound. In the flattened upper end of the mound 5 is formed a pocket or recess 6. On the sides of the mound of the block 5 are formed four diametrically-arranged spirally-formed main channels, each of which leads from the upper edge of the beveled ring 4 to the top of the conical block 5, where said channels unite and form a common opening or space surrounding the pocket or recess 6.

Between the channels 7 are arranged a series of spirally-formed channels 8 and 9. The channels 8 open at their lower ends onto the beveled ring 4 and are closed at their upper ends by one of the walls of the channels 7.

Near the upper end of each of the channels 8 is formed a pocket or recess 10. The channels 9 are closed at their lower ends and open at their upper ends through a passage 12, formed in one of the walls of the channels 7, and in said channels 9, adjacent to the passage 12, is formed a pocket or recess 13. The channels 7, 8, and 9 are formed on the conical-shaped block 5 by means of strips of metal bent to the proper shape and inserted or driven in grooves formed in said conical block.

In the beveled ring 4 is formed a notch 13', which is adapted to be engaged by a lug 14, formed on the lower edge of the block 5, whereby when said block is placed within the beveled ring 4 the lug 14 will enter said notch 13', thereby locking the parts together and preventing the mound from turning in said ring. The bevel or inclination of the outer face of the ring 4 is the same as that of the inclined wall of the block 5, so that when said parts are assembled a smooth unbroken inclined surface is formed from the board 1 to the top of the block 5.

On the board 1 midway between the beveled ring 4 and the outer flange 5 is inscribed a concentrically-arranged ring 15, and the space between said ring 15 and the flange 3 is divided into equal parts by diametrically opposite lines 16 to form spaces, one of which is assigned to each of the players. On the line 15 is formed a series of dots, which are spaced equal distances apart to form starting-points for the pieces used in playing the game.

In playing the game, pieces are provided in the form of spherical bodies or balls, which are assigned to the players and are adapted to be projected by use of a cue or mallet. The object of the game, which will be designated "mound," is to project said spherical bodies or balls up the main channels 7 and into the home pocket or recess 6 in the upper end of the mound, or failing in that to project them into one or the other of the channels 8 and 9 and into the pockets formed in said channels. In playing the game the player starts the ball from the circle and plays until he misses the pocket he is playing for, at which time the next player starts to play. Should a ball enter the pocket when projected, the same must be removed before another play is made. The balls rolling inside of the circle must be played from the position to which they have rolled. If they should roll out-

side the circle, they may be placed on the line and played from that point. Should there be four players occupying one of the spaces formed by lines 16 wishing to make  
 5 their own game they may play from their own spaces all the balls rolling into that position. The pockets are numbered by beginning with the lowermost line, which is preferably marked "25," and continuing upwardly, each  
 10 row being numbered by an increase of twenty-five, so that the pockets of the second row will count fifty, those of the third seventy-five, while the home pocket or recess in the upper end of the mound will represent one  
 15 hundred points. The player making the largest number of points after all the balls have been played wins the game.

When not in use, the conical block 5 may be removed from the ring 4, after which the  
 20 sections of the board 1 may be folded upon themselves, as shown in Fig. 4, thereby occupying but a small amount of space. One section of half of the board 1 may be provided with a pivoted hook 17, which when the board is in  
 25 opened or operative position may be engaged with an eye or staple 18 on the opposite section or half of the board, thereby holding said parts in open position.

From the foregoing description, taken in  
 30 connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion,  
 35 and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

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

1. A game apparatus consisting of a board, and a frusto-conical block on the central portion thereof, said board extending out-

wardly from said block and the latter having 45 spirally-formed main channels meeting at the apex of the block and forming a space, a pocket for the center of said space, and said block being further provided with spirally-  
 50 formed channels between the main channels, and pockets in the upper ends of said intermediate channels, substantially as described.

2. A game apparatus, consisting of a board, a concentrically-disposed beveled ring secured thereon, a frusto-conical-shaped block 55 arranged within said ring, channels formed on said block and extending upwardly from said ring, and pockets formed in said block at the upper ends of said channels, substantially as described. 60

3. A game apparatus, consisting of a board, a concentrically-disposed beveled ring secured thereon, a frusto-conical-shaped block arranged within said ring, spirally-formed 65 channels arranged on said block and extending upwardly from said ring and pockets formed in said block at the upper end of said channels, substantially as described.

4. A game apparatus, consisting of a board, a concentrically-disposed beveled ring secured thereon, a frusto-conical-shaped block 70 arranged within said ring, spirally-formed main channels arranged on said block at diametrically opposite points, said channels meeting at the upper end of the block, thereby forming a space, a pocket formed in the 75 center of said space, spirally-formed channels arranged between said main channels, and pockets formed in the upper ends of the same, substantially as described. 80

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EUGENE STRATTON.

Witnesses:

JOHN L. O'HARA,  
 PATRICK TAYLOR.