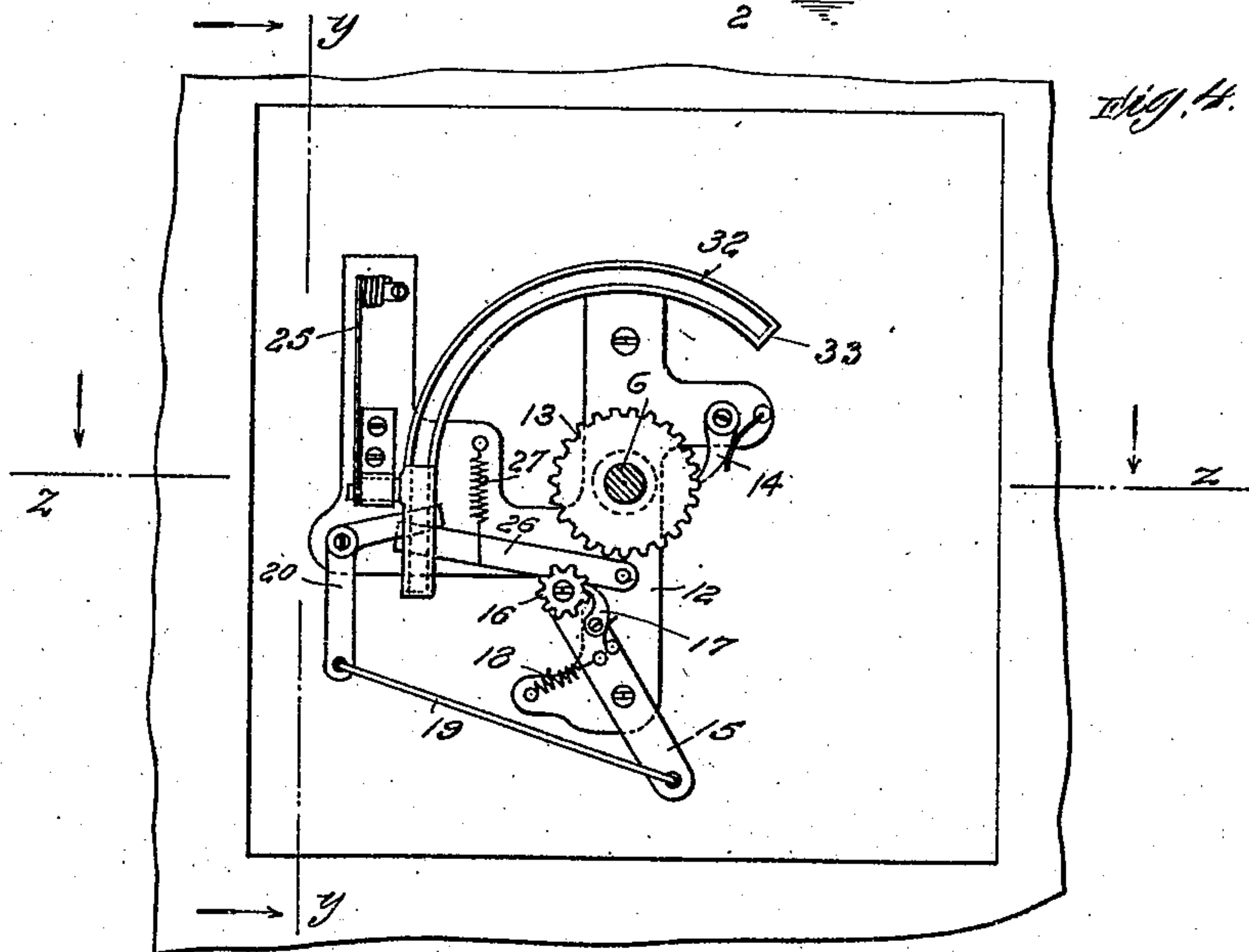
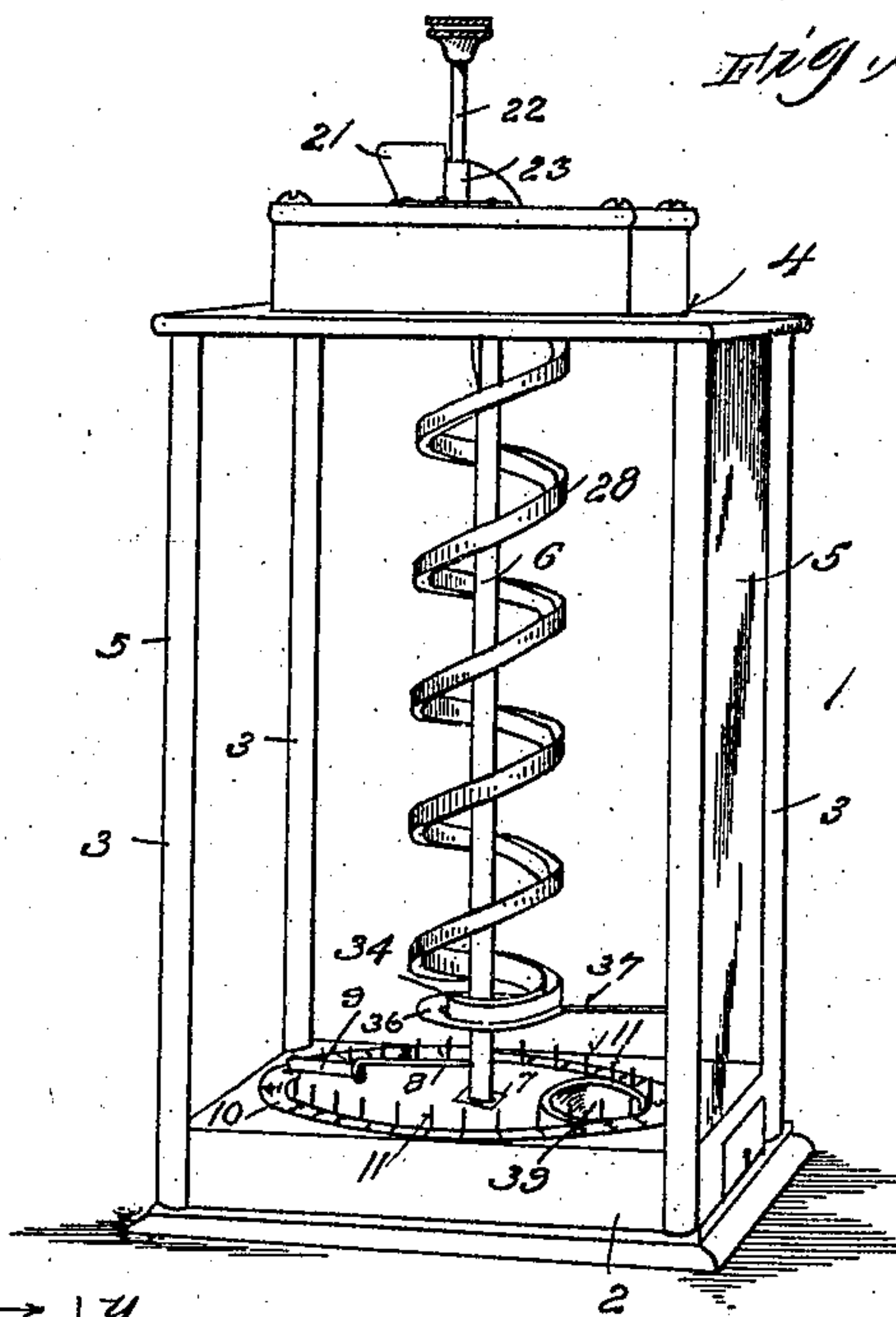


No. 815,053.

PATENTED MAR. 13, 1906.

T. A. WATTS.
GAME APPARATUS.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 25, 1903.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

J. P. Dancy
Irvine Miller

INVENTOR.

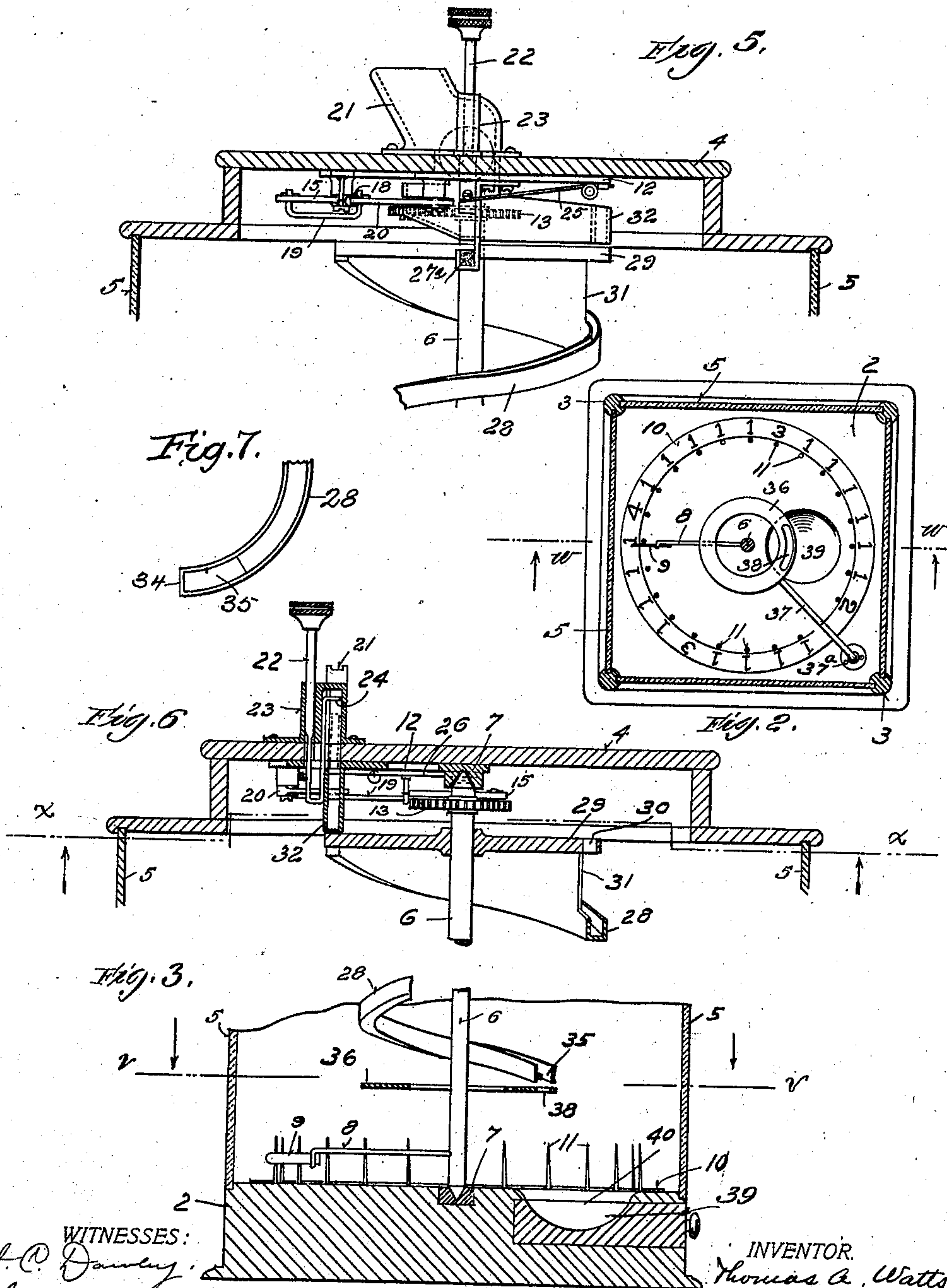
Thomas A. Watts
BY *H. A. Sullivan*
ATTORNEY.

No. 815,053.

PATENTED MAR. 13, 1906.

T. A. WATTS.
GAME APPARATUS.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 25, 1903.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES:
J. C. Dancy,
Irvine Miller

INVENTOR.
Thomas A. Watts
BY *H. A. Paulsen*
ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS A. WATTS, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

GAME APPARATUS.

No. 815,053.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 13, 1906.

Application filed February 25, 1903. Serial No. 144,957.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS A. WATTS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to game apparatus, and more particularly to game or chance apparatus of the character known as "check-controlled," and has for its object to produce a simple and attractive apparatus of the class 15 specified.

To this end the invention consists in certain novel features, which will first be described and then particularly pointed out in the claims.

20 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an apparatus embodying the invention in one form. Fig. 2 is a plan section taken on the line *v v* of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on the line 25 *w w* of Fig. 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 4 is an inverted plan section taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 6 and looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 5 is a vertical section taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 4 30 and looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 6 is a vertical section taken on the line *z z* of Fig. 4 and looking in the direction of the arrows, and Fig. 7 is a detail plan view of the lower end of the spiral coin-raceway.

35 In the said drawings, 1 indicates a suitable case comprising a base 2, uprights 3, a top 4, and sides 5, the latter of glass or other transparent material. Within this case is located a vertical shaft 6, mounted in suitable bearings 7 in the base and top. In connection 40 with this shaft there is employed a chance-indicating device comprising a circular character-scale and a coöperating indicator, one of said parts being revoluble relatively to the other. In the present instance the indicator 45 is revoluble, being attached to the shaft 6 and comprising a radial arm 8, located near the lower end of the shaft and provided with a resilient tip or finger 9. The circular character-scale is in this case fixed, being indicated at 10 and being located on the upper surface of the bottom 2 of the case. It is 50 divided into a plurality of spaces, each bearing a numeral or other indicating character, the spaces being separated by vertical pins 11, arranged in a circle beyond which the re-

silient tip of the indicator projects, so as to contact successively with said pins. Any similar known chance-indicating device may be substituted for the one shown and de- 60 scribed.

The shaft 6 is provided with any suitable coin or check controlled operating mechanism, that shown being one devised by me and constructed as follows: The shaft 6 has its 65 upper bearing in a frame-plate 12, secured to the under side of the top 4 of the case, said shaft having secured thereon near its upper end a gear 13, which is prevented from moving in the wrong direction by a spring-pawl 70 14, mounted on the plate 12. A vibrating lever 15, pivoted between its ends on the plate 12, is provided at its inner end with a pinion 16, adapted to mesh with the gear 13 and prevented from turning in one direction 75 by a spring-pawl 17, mounted on the lever 15. An actuating-spring 18 holds the lever 15 normally in the position shown. The outer end of the lever 15 is connected by a link 19 with one end of an operating-lever 20, pivoted on 80 the plate 12 and having its other end arranged in the path of the coin or check. This path is defined by means of a chute 21, having an external mouth to receive the coin or check, the lever 20 extending into the chute. A 85 pusher 22, extending through a bearing 23 in the top of the case, is provided with a finger 24, which engages the top of the coin or check and pushes it down through the chute, thereby moving the operating-lever 20. The 90 pusher is returned to its normal position by a spring 25, and a pivoted protector-arm 26, actuated by a spring 27, extends into the chute in advance of the lever 20 and serves to prevent withdrawal of the coin after it has en- 95 gaged the lever. A cushion-stop 27^a limits the downward motion of the pusher. Through the above-described movement of the operating-lever the vibrating lever swings past the gear 13, said gear being held stationary by 100 the pawl 14, while the pinion 16 rotates freely during its engagement with the gear. Upon the return motion of the lever under the action of the spring 18, the pinion 16 is held from rotating by the pawl 17, and the gear 13 105 and shaft 6 are thus given a rotatory impulse which operates the chance-indicating device in an obvious manner.

Secured to and rotating with the shaft 6 is a spiral raceway 28, down which the coin or 110 check runs by gravity. This is in the form of an open trough encircling the shaft 6 and

extending substantially from top to bottom thereof. At its upper end the raceway is connected to the shaft by means of a guide-plate 29 in the form of a disk having a slot or opening 30, through which the coin or check may fall into the upper end of the spiral raceway, one or both walls of which are extended upward to said disk adjacent to said slot, as indicated at 31, to better guide the coin and support the raceway. The chute 21 is provided with a curved extension 32, extending over the disk and open at the bottom to guide the coin to the opening 30, the disk supporting the coin until the opening comes under it, and the extension 32 being provided with a terminal stop 33 to prevent the escape of the coin.

At its lower end the raceway is provided with a terminal stop 34 and discharge slot or opening 35 to permit the coin to drop by gravity from the raceway, and below the lower end of the raceway there is located a fixed guide-plate 36 in the form of a disk supported by an arm 37 from a socket 37^a on the base 2 or otherwise, said guide-plate having a slot or opening 38 located above a receptacle or drawer 39, into which the coins are discharged. In the present instance the bottom has an opening 40 to permit the coin to enter the receptacle.

After the coin has been inserted in the chute and pushed down by the pusher the shaft 6 and its attached parts rotate, as described, and the coin lying in the chute extension 32 the disk 29 travels around under it until the coin falls through the opening 30 into the spiral raceway. The coin rolls down the raceway by gravity, and the raceway is preferably so constructed as to embrace only the lower portion of the coin, so that its descent may be observed through the transparent sides of the case. During this descent the coin acts by reaction as a propelling force upon the spiral raceway and shaft. When the coin reaches the lower end of the raceway, it falls through the slot 35 onto the disk 36, being still held upright and carried around, however, by the raceway until it reaches the slot 38 in the disk, through which it falls into the receptacle. This latter may be provided with a lock and may be opened or withdrawn from time to time to remove the coins or checks.

The apparatus is intended to be used in a game or amusement in which a chance device is employed. For instance, each player may be provided with a given number of checks, which are successively used by the players, the player having the largest total of numbers indicated by the chance device being the winner.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise details of construction hereinbefore described, and shown in the accompanying drawings, as the same may ob-

viously be modified without departing from the principle of my invention.

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

1. A coin-controlled game or chance apparatus comprising an inclosing casing having a transparent wall, a vertical shaft mounted to rotate within the casing, a coin-controlled operating mechanism connected with said vertical shaft to impart to the same an initial rotatory impulse, a spiral coin-raceway connected with the shaft so as to rotate in unison therewith, said raceway being grooved or U-shaped in cross-section and embracing only the lower edge of the coin so as to expose the body thereof, a receptacle located below said raceway, means for conducting the coin from the impulse mechanism to the raceway and from the raceway to the receptacle, and a base provided with a circular chance-indicating scale, the shaft being provided with a cooperating indicator, and the spiral raceway being so constructed and arranged that the weight of the descending coin thereon adds a propelling increment to the initial rotatory mechanism, substantially as described.

2. A coin-controlled game or chance apparatus comprising an inclosing casing having a transparent wall, a vertical shaft mounted to rotate within the casing, a coin-controlled operating mechanism connected with said vertical shaft to impart to the same an initial rotatory impulse, said operating mechanism comprising a coin-chute open at its lower end, a guide-plate mounted on said shaft below said chute and provided with a slot or opening, a spiral coin-raceway connected with the shaft so as to rotate in unison therewith, having its upper end located below said slot or opening, and having at its lower end a discharge-slot and a terminal stop, said raceway being grooved or U-shaped in cross-section and embracing only the lower edge of the coin so as to expose the body thereof, a fixed guide-plate located below said raceway and having a discharge slot or opening, and a receptacle located below said last-mentioned slot or opening, the base being provided with a circular chance-indicating scale and corresponding projections and the shaft being provided with a resilient indicator engaging said projections, the spiral raceway being so constructed and arranged that the weight of the descending coin thereon adds a propelling increment to the initial rotatory impulse imparted to the operating mechanism, substantially as described.

3. A coin-controlled game or chance apparatus, comprising a chance-indicating device, a shaft controlling the same, a gear secured on the shaft, a spring-pawl to prevent reverse motion of said gear, a spring-actuated vibrating lever, a pinion mounted on said lever and

adapted to engage the gear, a spring-pawl to
prevent rotation of the pinion on its return
movement, an operating-lever connected with
the vibrating lever, a coin-chute into which
5 the operating-lever extends, and a pusher to
engage the coin in the chute, substantially as
described.

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

THOMAS A. WATTS.

Witnesses:

E. O. HAGAN,
IRVINE MILLER.