No. 868,369. PATENTED OCT. 15, 1907.

O. M. STEWART & J. A. GREER.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 28, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

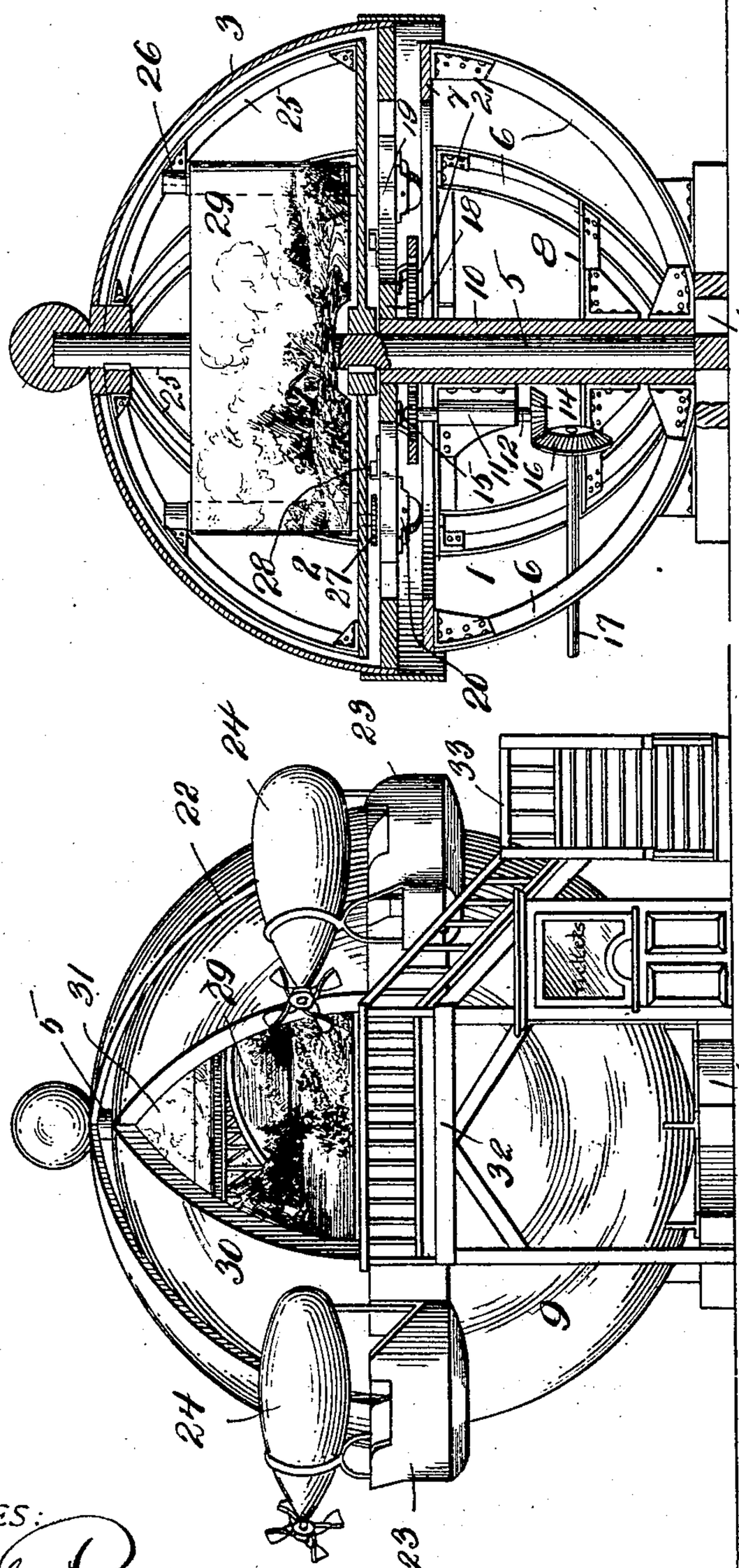

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1

WITNESSES:

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

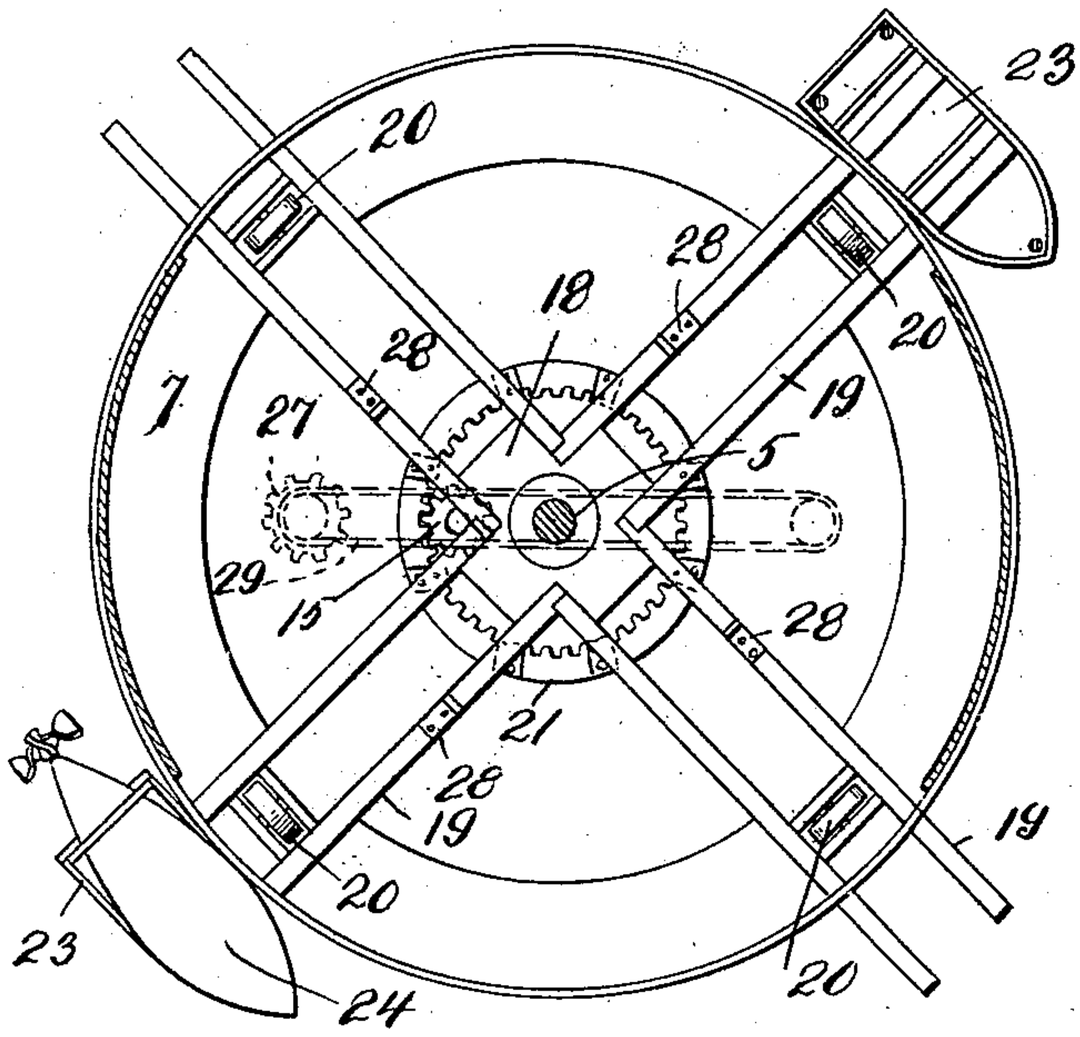

Fig. 3.

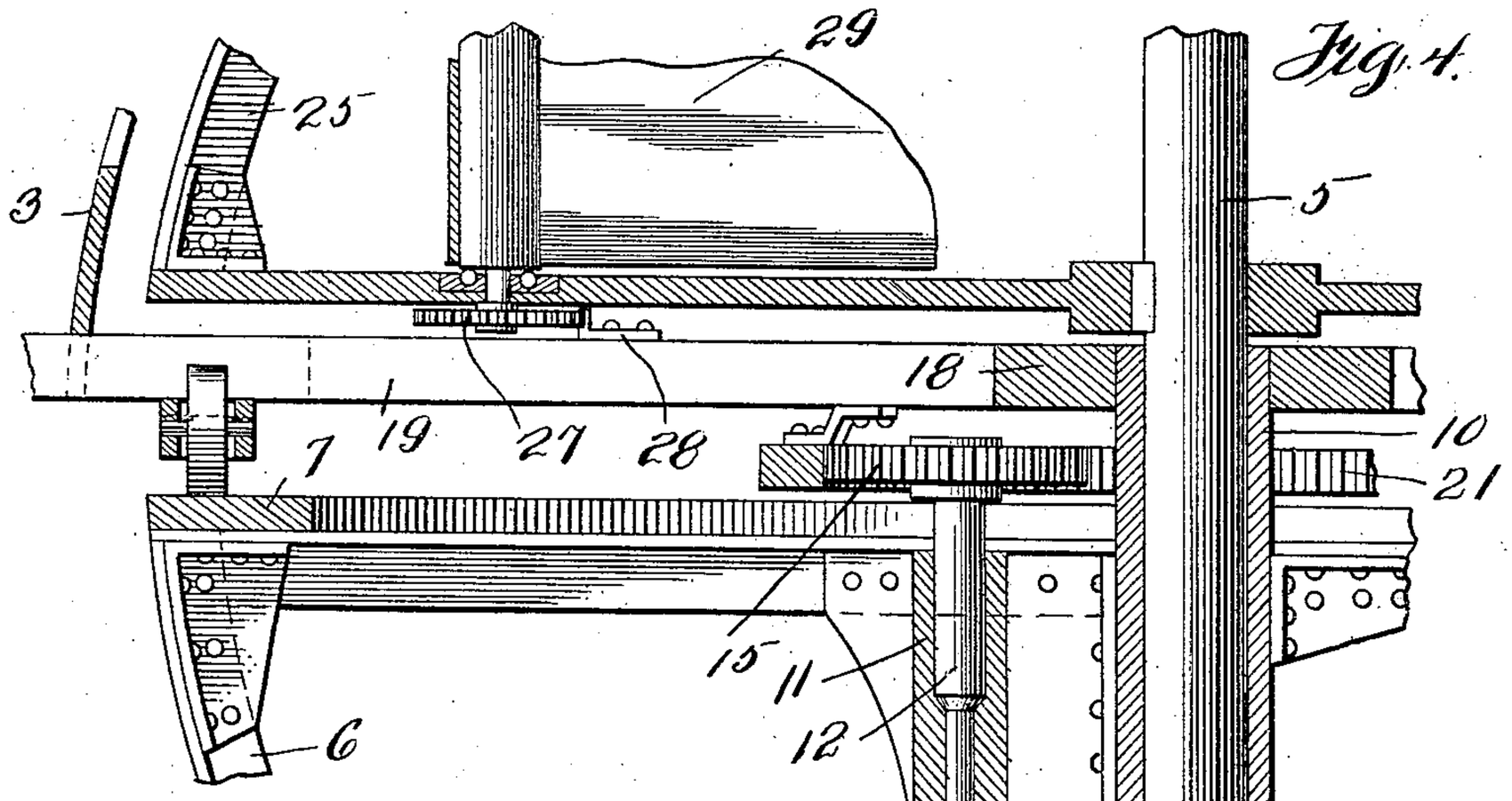

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OMERT M. STEWART AND JOSEPH AUSTIN GREER, OF WILKINSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

No. 868,369. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 15, 1907.

Application filed February 28, 1907. Serial No. 359,857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, OMERT M. STEWART and JOSEPH AUSTIN GREER, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Wilkinsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Amusement Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to amusement devices, and has for its object to provide a novel device which will afford amusement, enjoyment and sensations similar to traveling in an air ship or balloon.

Our amusement device is particularly designed for large parks, expositions, and such places of amusement, and in this connection we have constructed our amusement device whereby it will present an attractive appearance and sensations new to the persons pleasure-bent.

To this end, we have devised an amusement device intended to represent the earth or a spherical body, and besides employing scenery to produce an aerial or nature-like effect, we employ miniature balloons or air ships which encircle the earth representation or spherical body, imparting to their occupants a sensation similar to traveling through the air in a balloon or air ship.

The detail construction of our invention will be hereinafter more fully described, and then specifically pointed out in the appended claims, and referring to the drawing forming part of this specification, like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of an amusement device constructed in accordance with our invention, Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view, Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view of the device, Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view of a portion of the device illustrating part of the operating mechanism thereof.

To put our invention into practice, we construct our improved amusement device on a very large scale and employ structural steel and such elements in its make up as will provide a non-collapsible structure and insure perfect safety to persons enjoying the amusement.

The amusement device is spherical or globular in contour and consists of two stationary semi-spherical or spheroid sections, 1 and 2, and an outer revoluble substantially semi-cylindrical shell 3.

The stationary section 1 comprises a suitable base or foundation 4 carrying a vertically disposed standard or center pole 5 and a plurality of sector shaped frames or beams 6 which are suitably braced and connected together by a horizontal track way 7 and braces 8. The skeleton-like semi-spherical section 1 is covered with canvas or a suitable material 9, which can be ornamented to present an attractive appearance.

Surrounding the standard or center pole 5 is a stationary sleeve 10 carrying a bracket 11 in which is journaled a vertically disposed shouldered shaft 12 having a bevel gear wheel 14 and a pinion 15, the latter being mounted upon the upper end of the shaft 12. Meshing with the beveled gear wheel 14 is a beveled gear wheel 16 carried by a shaft 17 which is driven by a motor or from a suitable source of energy. Embracing the upper end of the sleeve 10 is a head 18 carrying a plurality of outriggers 19, said outriggers being provided with roller bearings 20 adapted to travel upon the horizontal track way 7. In order to revolve the head 18 and the outriggers 19, we suspend from the outriggers a circular rack 21 which meshes with the pinion 15. The outriggers 19 support the substantially hemispherical shell 3, said shell being cut away, as at 22, whereby the stationary section 2 can be observed during the revoluble movement of the outriggers. The outer ends of the outriggers support carriages or chariots 23 having cigar or parabola shaped overhead structures 24 representing balloons or air ships.

The semi-spherical section 2 is secured to the standard or center pole 5, and is constructed somewhat similar to the section 1. The curved or sector-shaped frames 25 of the section 2 support two revoluble, ball bearing and vertically-disposed rollers 26, one of said rollers being provided with a star or toothed wheel 27 adapted to be struck by projections carried by the outriggers, those in the illustration shown being in the form of angle plates 28 secured to the upper faces of the outriggers 19. Mounted upon the rollers 26 is a taut endless apron 29 having painted, printed or otherwise marked thereon a landscape or similar piece of attractive scenery. The semi-spherical section 2 is covered with canvas or similar material 30, and two diametrically opposed openings 31 are provided whereby as the carriages or chariots 3 encircle the spherical body, the pleasure seekers or occupants thereof can observe from time to time, the piece of scenery within the section 2. The scenic-apron 29 is moved by the angle plates 28 striking the star or toothed wheel 27, imparting an intermittent movement to the scenic-apron and this mechanism is so geared or arranged as to allow an occupant of the carriage or chariot to observe all of the scenic-reproduction on the apron before completing a ride in the carriage or chariot.

In order that persons may easily and safely enter the carriages or chariots 23, we erect a stationary platform 32 adjacent to the amusement device, easy access being had to the platform by a stair way 33.

It is thought from the foregoing description taken in connection with the drawings, that the operation of my improved amusement device will be clearly understood without further description, but we desire it to be understood that such structural changes in the device

as are permissible by the appended claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. An amusement device consisting of a base or foundation, a center pole carried thereby, two hemispherical stationary sections supported by said base and center pole, revoluble out-riggers arranged between said sections and having roller bearings traveling upon one of said sections, a shell surrounding the other of said sections, and having openings formed therein, a plurality of carriages or charlots carried by said out-riggers and adapted to encircle said sections, an endless apron movably mounted in one of said sections, means for revolving said outriggers, means actuated by said out-riggers to move said apron, and means whereby easy access can be had to said carriages or chariots.

2. An amusement device consisting of a spherical structure having two stationary sections, horizontal revoluble out-riggers arranged between said sections, a shell carried by said out-riggers, carriages or chariots carried by said outriggers, an endless apron arranged in one of said sections and adapted to be viewed from said carriages or chariots, means to revolve said carriages or chariots, means carried by said out-riggers to move said apron, and means whereby easy access can be had to said carriages or chariots.

3. An amusement device consisting of a spherical structure having openings formed therein, a shell revolubly mounted upon the upper part of said structure, carriages or chariots supported from within said structure and adapted to encircle said structure, an endless apron arranged within said structure, means to move said carriages or chariots, means actuated by the first named means for moving said apron, and means whereby easy access can be had to said carriages or chariots.

4. An amusement device consisting of a spherical structure, a shell revolubly mounted upon the upper part of said structure, a plurality of carriages or chariots movably supported from the interior of said structure and adapted to encircle the exterior of said structure, an endless apron arranged within said structure and adapted to be viewed from said carriages or chariots, means to move said carriages or chariots, and means actuated by the first named means to move said apron.

5. In an amusement device, a stationary spherical body, a hemispherical shell surrounding the upper part of the spherical body and revoluble around the same, a plurality of carriages supported to revolve with said hemispherical shell around the stationary spherical body, means for revolving said hemispherical shell and carriages, an endless scenic-apron arranged within the upper part of the spherical body, and means for imparting intermittent movement to said scenic-apron while the shell and carriages are revolving.

6. In an amusement device, a substantially spherical body comprising an upper and a lower section both stationary, a circular track carried by the lower section, a hemispherical shell revoluble around the upper section of said spherical body, a plurality of outriggers suitably supported to revolve with said shell and having rollers traveling on the track carried by said lower section of the body, carriages supported on the outer ends of said outriggers, means for revolving said shell and outriggers, a scenic-apron arranged to be exposed to view through said shell as the latter is revolved, and means for moving said apron as the shell and outriggers are revolved.

7. In an amusement device, a spherical body comprising an upper and a lower section, a shell mounted to be revolved around the upper section, a plurality of carriages suitably supported to be carried around with said shell as the latter is revolved, means for revolving said shell, an endless scenic-apron mounted within the upper section of said spherical body, and means for intermittently operating said scenic-apron as the shell is revolved.

8. In an amusement device, a spherical body comprising an upper and a lower section, a circular track carried by the lower section, a shell arranged to revolve around said spherical body, a plurality of outriggers suitably-supported and arranged to be revolved with said shell, having rollers traveling on the circular track of the lower section of said spherical body, carriages carried on said outriggers outside the shell, and means for revolving said shell and outriggers.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

OMERT M. STEWART.
JOSEPH AUSTIN GREER.

Witnesses:
H. C. EVERT,
A. J. TRIGG.