

J. M. HARRISON.
GAME TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 27, 1908.

Patented Apr. 6, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

917,060.

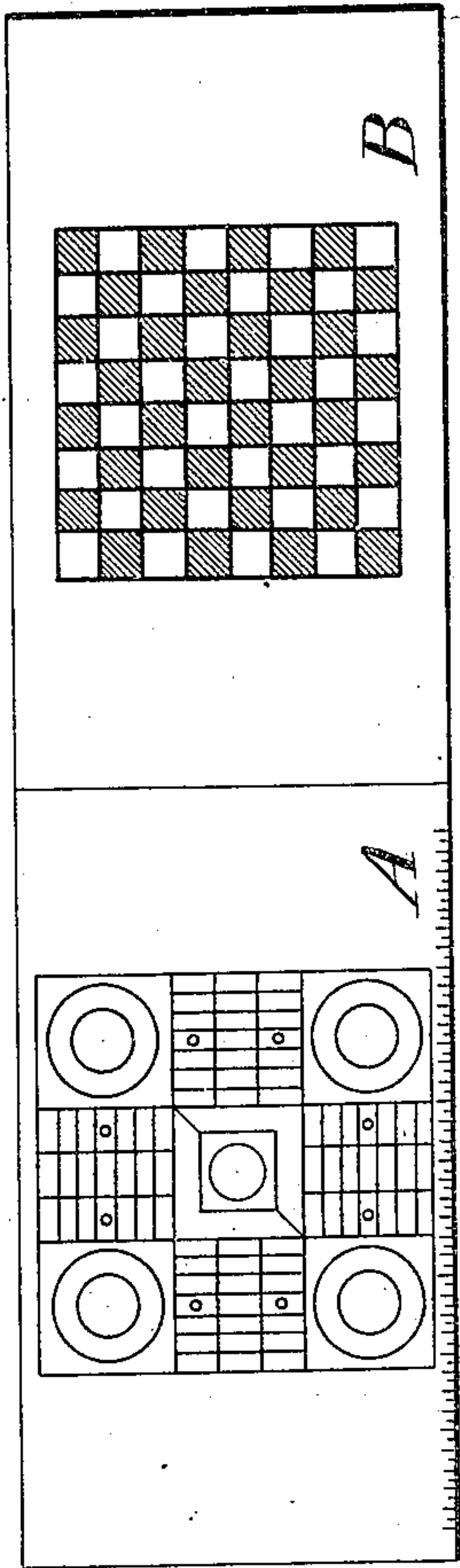


Fig. 1.

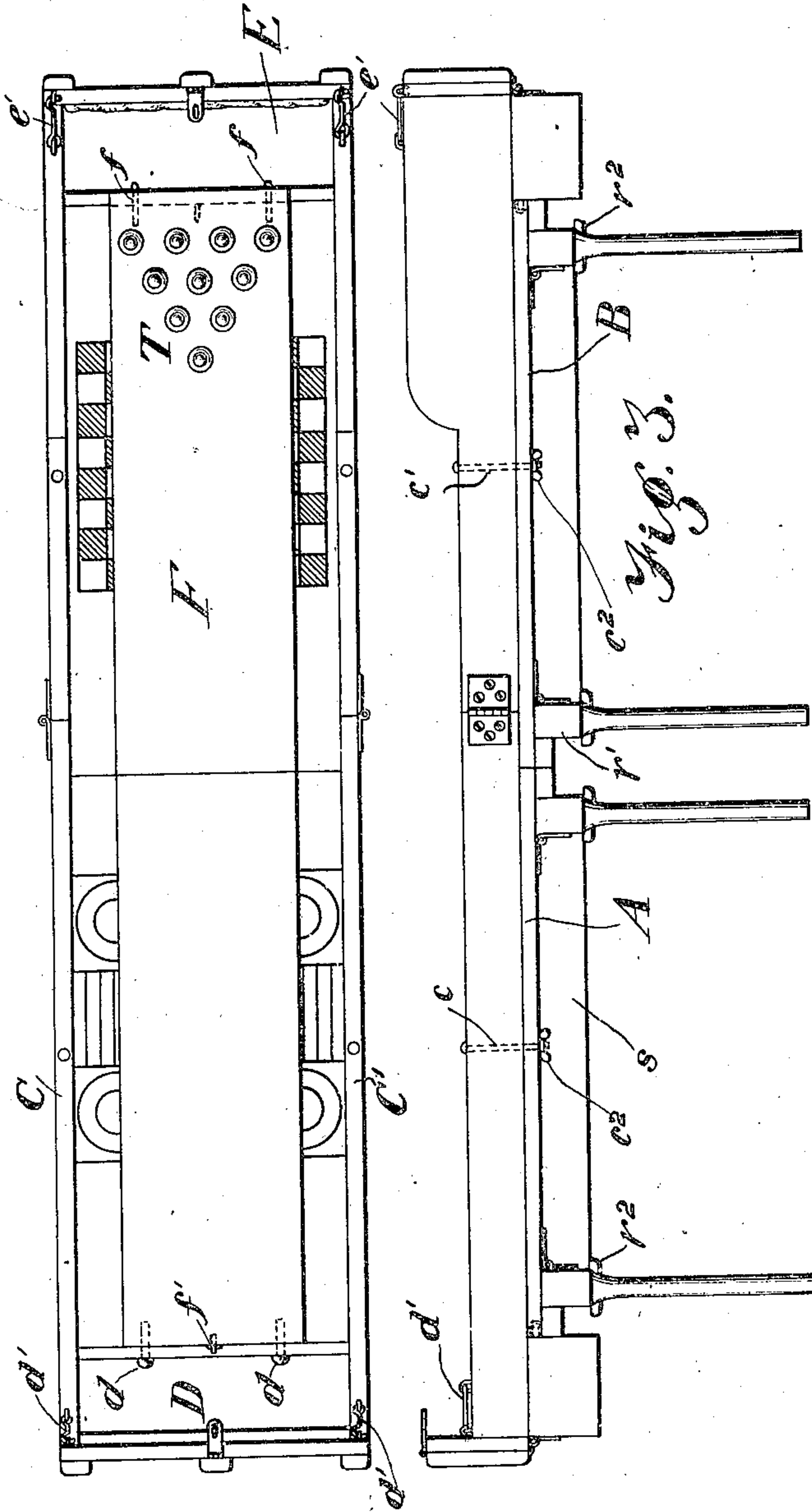


Fig. 2.

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Fig. 5.

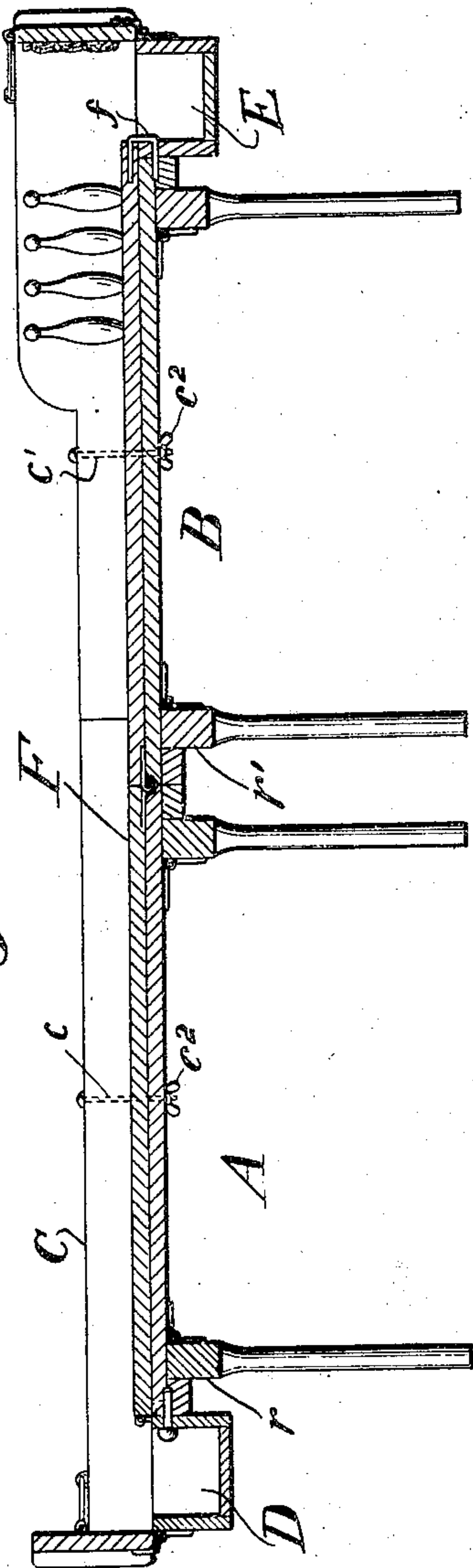
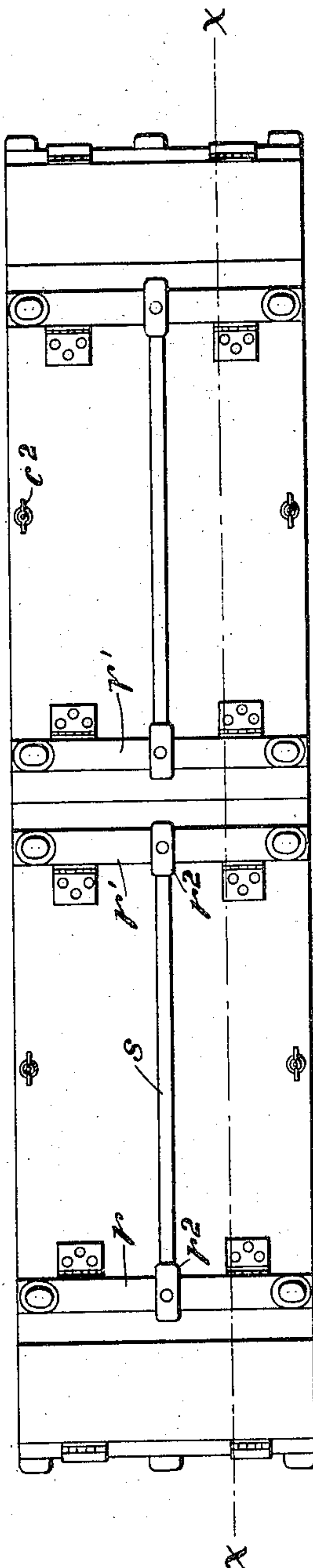


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES MADISON HARRISON, OF LUMBERTON, NEW JERSEY.

GAME-TABLE.

No. 917,060.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 6, 1909.

Application filed May 27, 1908. Serial No. 435,253.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES MADISON HARRISON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lumberton, in the county of Burlington and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Tables, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to game apparatus, and especially those games which are played upon a table or extended surface. It has for its object the production of a combination table which may be knocked down and folded into compact form when not in use, and whose several parts will severally and collectively afford proper facilities for divers games, such as checkers or chess, pachisi, shuffle board and tenpins.

In attaining my object I take as the foundation for the structure, two or more small folding tables, each having upon its top permanent markings for one or more games, such as chess or pachisi, so they can be used separately for these games as well as for other useful purposes. Placing these tables end to end, I secure upon them a pair of side rails, a pair of end boxes, and a longitudinal smooth-surfaced board adapted for tenpins or shuffle board. A set of tenpins is provided, and when the table is knocked down, these are packed in one of the end boxes, which in use are opened and form pockets for the balls or other devices used in gaming. The side rails and central board fold and as the table legs fold up, the entire structure when knocked down may be packed in a very small compass.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the two tables with all other parts removed. Fig. 2 is a similar top plan view of the game board with all parts assembled on the tables. Fig. 3 is a side view of the same. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the same. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, A and B are two individual tables or game boards with legs. Board A has upon it the necessary marks for the game of pachisi and board B is shown as marked for the game of chess or checkers. Each of these may of course carry other markings than or in addition to those shown. The top A is also shown as

having a thirty-six inch measure graduated upon one edge thereof, so it will be useful as a sewing table. I contemplate the use of these tables for other purposes than gaming when the apparatus is knocked down. Each of these individual tables is provided with folding legs best shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5. These legs are secured upon the ends of hinged transverse rails r and r' , and are normally kept apart and perpendicular to the table top by means of a spreader or brace s . In order to prevent the accidental displacement of this spreader I provide buttons or equivalent securing devices upon the rails, as indicated at r^2 .

The parts of the complete apparatus supported by means of the individual tables are as follows: first the tables A and B, then side rails C, C', end boxes D and E, a surface board F, and suitable tenpins T, with the necessary balls, irons and other attachments, all of which are packed in the boxes D and E when not in use.

When assembling the device, tables A and B are set together, the side rails are placed in position with their dowels and bolts extending through the table tops as shown at c, c' in Fig. 3, and the thumb-nuts c^2 are firmly set up so as to bind the rails to the tables and connecting the latter firmly together. If found desirable, dowels may be provided for the abutting ends of the tables A and B, but so far I have not found this to be essential, as any tendency to warping is more likely to be transverse than longitudinal, and moreover I contemplate making these table tops of cross veneered material, so that although very thin and light, they will be exceedingly strong and always hold their shape. After the side rails are in position, the two end boxes D and E are secured to them and to the ends of the tables. The box D has a pair of pins or dowels d securing it to the table edge, and a pair of hooks d' securing its lid to the side rail. The box E on the other hand while it has hooks e' similar to those at d' , has no dowels, but is secured to the adjacent table B by a pair of hooks or clips f carried in the end of the surface board F which is the last thing to be put in position. This board is preferably jointed in its middle, and being unfolded it is laid upon the table tops so that the hooks f engage in the openings in the box E, and then the board is slid along drawing the hooks through the said open-

ings in the edge of the table, thus securing the three parts firmly together. The other end of the board is held by means of a latch or hook *f'*.

5 The inside of the lid of the box E is preferably padded to form a back stop for the tenpins and balls. The lids of both boxes are also provided with suitable hasps and locks so that when not in use they can be
10 closed and fastened.

In knocking down the apparatus, the surface board F is first removed by casting off the hook *f'* and sliding the board along toward the box E so as to disengage the hooks
15 *f*. The surface board can then be folded and laid aside. The end boxes are then removed, and the side rails unbolted, removed and folded up. The individual tables can then be taken separately and the spreader
20 slid out of each so that its legs may be folded. Finally the tenpins, balls and other small pieces such as the washers and nuts *c*², are packed in the two boxes D and E, and the same fastened, whereupon it will be
25 found that the entire apparatus is reduced to seven small pieces, all of which may be packed and stored in a space less than that occupied by a single one of the individual tables when set up.

30 I am aware that folding tables are not new, also that broadly speaking knock down game apparatus is not new. I believe, however, that I am the first to produce a complete knockdown apparatus of this type. I
35 shall therefore claim the same accordingly.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the arts to which this invention and its manufacture appertain, that many changes can be made in matters of form and detail without departing from the spirit of the invention. For example, the fastening devices
40 may be changed, or the form and dimensions of the side rails, etc., but these and all similar variations are contemplated by me and must be construed as within the scope of the
45 appended claims. When a very long table is required, I contemplate using three or more of the small folding tables, and putting two or more hinged joints in each of the
50 side rails as well as in the surface board. Where a single long table is available or desired for some other purpose, it may be used in place of the multiple arrangement of
55 tables, and the other parts applied to it accordingly. The number of foundation tables is therefore non-essential to the rest of the invention, and I therefore claim sub-
60 combinations of the other parts, as well as the general combination of those parts with a plurality of tables.

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

1. A knock down game apparatus comprising the following elements: a plurality
65

of folding tables set together to form a continuous horizontal surface, rails rigidly and removably secured along opposite sides of the table tops, and boxes removably secured across the ends of said rails, so as to form a complete inclosure, substantially as described. 70

2. A knock down game apparatus comprising the following elements: a plurality of game boards, side rails removably secured along their opposite adjoining edges and connecting them together, a surface board detachably secured upon said game boards between the side rails, and terminal closures removably secured across the ends of said rails beyond the ends of said board, substantially as described. 75 80

3. A knock down game apparatus comprising the following elements: a pair of individual game boards set together end to end, a pair of jointed side rails removably secured along the opposite edges thereof, and connecting them together, a surface board detachably secured upon the top of the individual boards between the rails, and extending from end to end thereof, and a pair of boxes with hinged lids adapted to be removably secured across the ends of the side rails while their bodies extend across the ends of the surface board from rail to rail and form pockets, substantially as described. 85 90 95

4. In a knock down game apparatus, a plurality of folding tables placed end to end, a plurality of jointed side rails removably secured thereto, and a plurality of end boxes with hinged lids also removably secured, so as to form pockets when the apparatus is assembled and to contain portions thereof when not in use, substantially as described. 100 105

5. A knock down game apparatus comprising a pair of folding tables placed end to end, a pair of removably jointed side rails, and a box having a padded top hinged thereto, and adapted to be removably secured across the ends of the side rails while its body lies beneath the same to form a pocket, said box serving to receive portions of the apparatus when not in use, substantially as described. 110 115

6. A knock down game apparatus comprising a plurality of individual game tables placed end to end, a surface board removably secured thereon, a pair of jointed side rails removably secured along the edges of the tables, the width of said surface board being less than that of the individual boards so as to leave depressions between it and the side rails, and a removable end closure having a pocket, secured at the end of the rails, substantially as described. 120 125

7. A knock down game apparatus comprising a plurality of individual game tables placed end to end, a pair of removable jointed side rails, a box with a hinged lid
130

5 adapted to be removably secured across the ends of the said rails with its body beneath the same, and a surface board having at one end hooks or clips adapted to removably en-
gage said box as well as the end of the adja-
cent individual table, together with means to detachably secure said surface board at its opposite end to the other table, substantially as described.

10 8. A knock down game apparatus comprising a pair of folding tables A and B

placed end to end, a pair of jointed side rails C, C', removable end boxes D and E to form pockets, a surface board F, and means for removably fastening all these parts together, 15 substantially as described.

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

JAMES MADISON HARRISON.

Witnesses:

WALTER I. DILL,
CHARLES COLES.