

T. E. GREGSON.  
AMUSEMENT APPARATUS.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 10, 1912.

1,048,152.

Patented Dec. 24, 1912.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

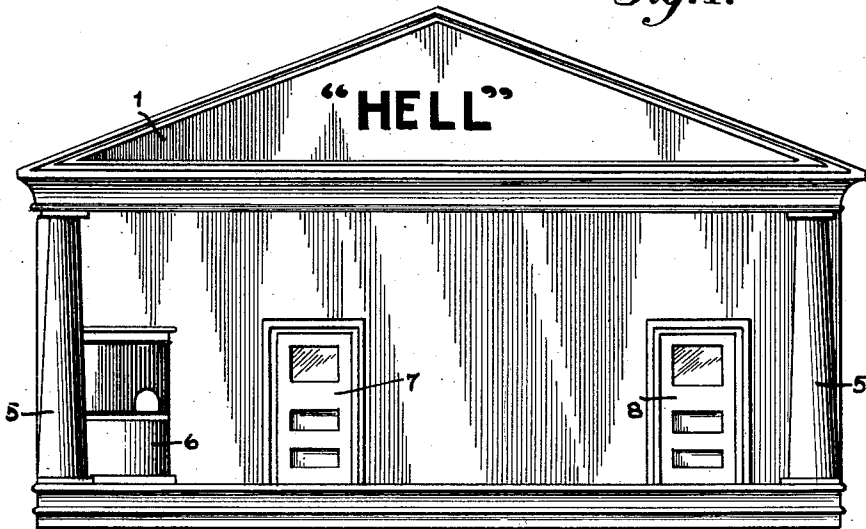
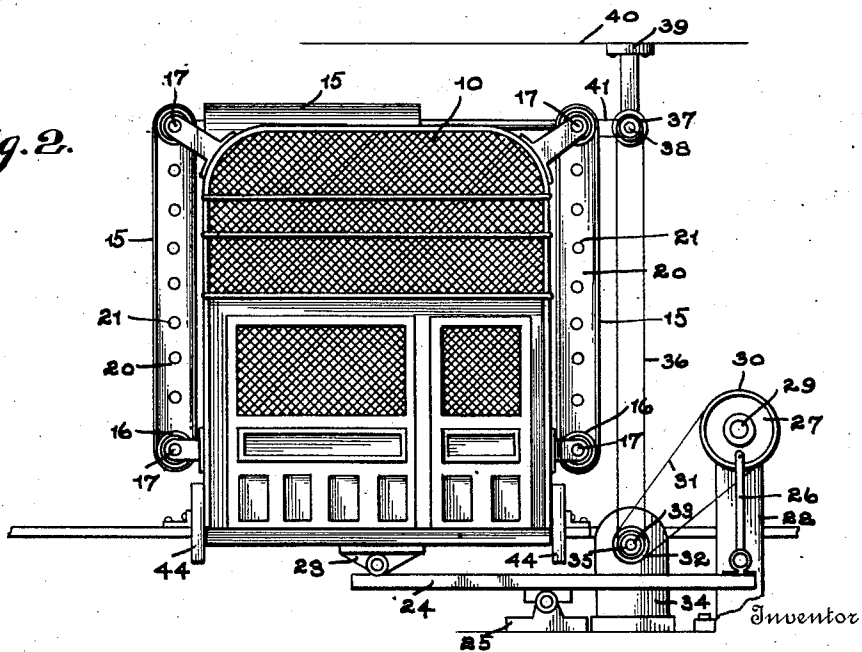


Fig. 2.



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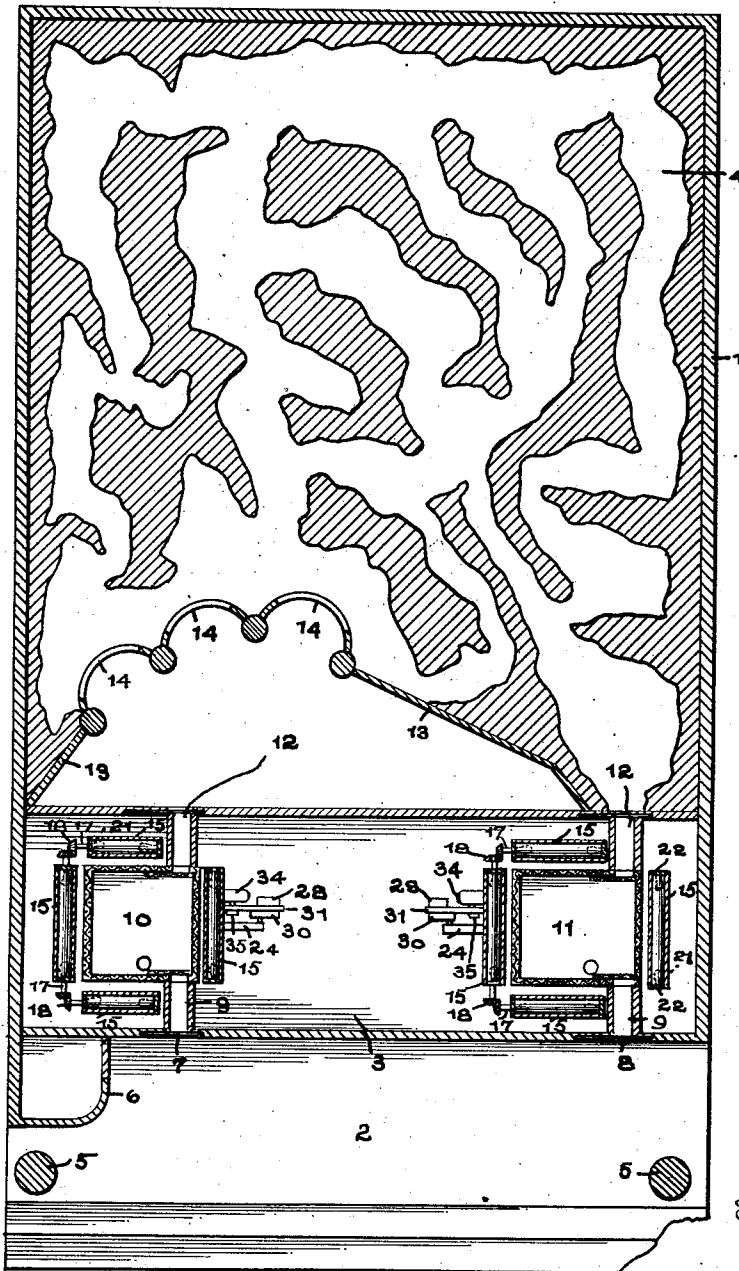
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3 SHEETS-SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 4.

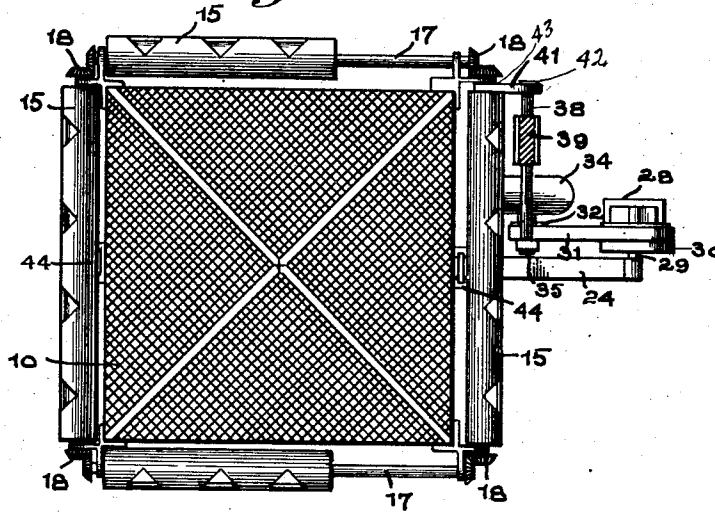


Fig. 5.

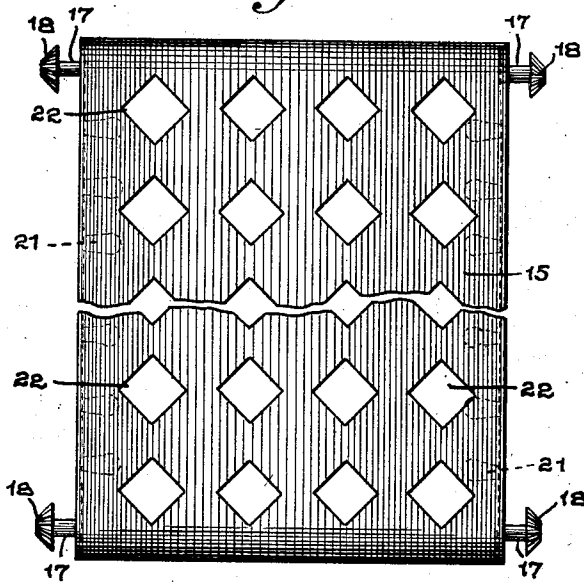
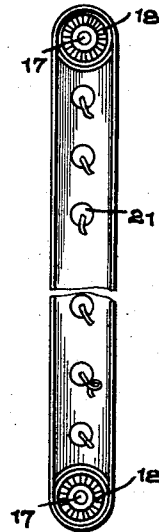


Fig. 6.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## AMUSEMENT APPARATUS.

1,048,152.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 24, 1912.

Application filed June 10, 1912. Serial No. 702,866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS E. GREGSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atlantic City, in the county of Atlantic and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Amusement Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in amusement apparatus, the object of the invention being to provide an improved apparatus of this character in which illusory elevators are employed with improved means for giving to the occupants of the elevators, the impression of descending and ascending, together with an improved arrangement of maze constituting a plurality of irregularly arranged passages purporting to be hell.

A further object is to provide an amusement apparatus in which the impression is given of first descending in an elevator into the lower regions, passing from the elevator through a maze pictorially representing hell, and after finding the way through said maze to the exit, ascending again to the surface of the earth.

A further object is to provide an improved illusory elevator having endless aprons at the sides thereof through which flashes of light are discernible, and provide improved means for providing a vibratory motion of the elevator, whereby the occupants of the elevator are given the impression of descending or ascending.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1, is a view in elevation illustrating the front of my improved amusement apparatus. Fig. 2, is a view on an enlarged scale in elevation showing one of the elevators and omitting parts in front of the elevator for purposes of clearness. Fig. 3, is a plan view of the apparatus. Fig. 4, is a plan view of one of the elevators, and Figs. 5, and 6, are views at right angles to each other illustrating one of the endless aprons.

My improved amusement apparatus comprises a building 1 which is divided into three principal sections, namely, a front entrance or lobby section 2, an intermediate elevator compartment 3, and a maze 4. The

entrance or lobby compartment is rendered ornamental and attractive, preferably by the employment of suitable columns 5, and is provided with a ticket office 6, and adjacent to this ticket office 6, an entrance door 7 is provided with an exit door 8 adjacent the other end of the lobby. These doors 7 and 8 lead into passages 9 communicating with the illusory elevators 10 and 11 respectively, and the latter at their opposite sides communicate through passages 12 with the maze compartment 4. The outlet of elevator 10 into the maze chamber 4 is preferably provided with an ornamental wall 13 having a plurality of entrances 14 into the maze.

The particular maze employed may of course be varied in many ways, but will be made of suitable material to illustrate rocky or craggy surfaces having caverns or passages therein suitably illuminated, and provided with grotesque animals and figures to indicate an imaginary reproduction of hell. The idea is that the traveler will find difficulty in passing through the maze, and in certain passages will find animals and figures which block the passages and render his journey through hell a difficult and dangerous one. The maze therefore constitutes a baffle to this journey, and by reason of the arrangement of wall 13 and entrance 14, the traveler will find himself frequently at the starting point, and the exit from the maze will be difficult to locate, and therefore will result in amusement to the travelers.

In connection with my improved maze I, of course, use various forms of amusement devices which would all be illustrative of imaginary scenes in inferno.

The elevators 10 and 11 are constructed and operated alike, so that the description of one will apply alike to both. The elevator is constructed to resemble an ordinary elevator, and is provided with screened or transparent sections in all of its sides, through which the passengers will observe endless aprons 15. These aprons 15 turn on rollers 16 supported on shafts 17. All of the upper shafts 17 are connected by beveled gears 18, so that all the aprons move simultaneously. At the ends of the aprons, partition plates 20 are provided and support electric lights 21 which preferably have red globes thereon. The aprons 15 are provided with a large number of preferably angular openings 22, so that as they move, they will show flashes of red. The bottom of the ele-

vator is provided with a roller bracket 23 mounted on one end of a lever 24. This lever 24 is fulcrumed between its ends on a bracket 25, and at its other end is connected by a link 26 with a crank disk 27. This crank disk 27 is secured to a shaft 29 supported on an upright 28, and a pulley 30 on said shaft 29 is connected by a belt 31 with a pulley 32 on a shaft 33 driven by a motor 34. A second pulley 35 on motor shaft 33 is connected by a belt 36 with a pulley 37 on a shaft 38. This shaft 38 is supported in a hanger 39 depending from the ceiling 40, and motion is transmitted from this shaft 38 to one of the shafts 17 through the medium of a belt 41 connecting pulleys 42 and 43 respectively on shafts 38 and 17.

The vertical vibratory movement of the elevator gives to the passengers, the impression of an elevator as it ascends and descends, and guides 44 are provided to hold the elevator against lateral displacement.

The electric control, of course, may be varied to suit conditions, and if desired some other form of motor may be employed. It is, of course, to be understood that the aprons 15 of elevator 10 will be turning in a direction to give the occupants of the elevator the impression of descending, while the aprons 15 of elevator 11 will be moving in a reverse direction, so that the occupants of this elevator 11 will receive the impression that they are ascending.

In operating the amusement device, a number of persons will be admitted to car 10, and then the aprons 15 will be started and lever 24 oscillated, so that the elevator will be vibrated and due to the flashes of the red light through the perforations 22 in the aprons 15, a weird descending effect will be had. After the proper length of time has passed during this illusory descent, the passengers will be allowed to pass from the opposite side of the elevator into the maze, and after a passage through the maze as above described, they will enter the elevator 11 and an illusory ascent begun, and from this elevator they will be discharged through the exit 8.

It will, of course, be desirable to have elevator conductors in the elevators, and various means other than described may be employed to carry out the illusion.

Various slight changes might be made in the general form and arrangement of parts described without departing from my invention, and hence I do not limit myself to the

precise details set forth, but consider myself at liberty to make such changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

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

1. An amusement apparatus comprising a building divided by vertical walls into three compartments, one end compartment constituting an entrance, the other end compartment constituting a maze, and the intermediate compartment constituting an elevator chamber, two illusory elevators in said last-mentioned chamber, endless aprons at the sides of said elevators, said aprons having openings therein, and lights inside of said aprons, levers fulcrumed between their ends, said levers connected at one end to the elevators, and means for simultaneously oscillating said levers and moving said aprons, substantially as described.

2. An amusement apparatus comprising a maze and an illusory elevator, shafts supported on the elevator at its upper end, beveled gears connecting all of said shafts, rollers on said shafts, endless aprons on said rollers, idle rollers supported on the sides of the elevator over which said aprons move, openings in said aprons, and lights supported inside of the aprons, substantially as described.

3. An amusement apparatus comprising a maze and an illusory elevator, shafts supported on the elevator at its upper end, beveled gears connecting all of said shafts, rollers on said shafts, endless aprons on said rollers, idle rollers supported on the sides of the elevator over which said aprons move, openings in said aprons, and lights supported inside of the aprons, a lever fulcrumed between its ends and supporting at one end the said elevator, guides directing the vertical movement of said elevator, a crank disk, a link connecting the crank disk with the lever, and a motor constructed to transmit motion to said crank disk and to said first-mentioned shafts, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS E. GREGSON.

Witnesses:

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SAMUEL GREGSON.