

(No Model.)

H. W. COLLENDER.
POOL TRIANGLE AND BOX.

No. 294,200.

Patented Feb. 26, 1884.

FIG. 1.

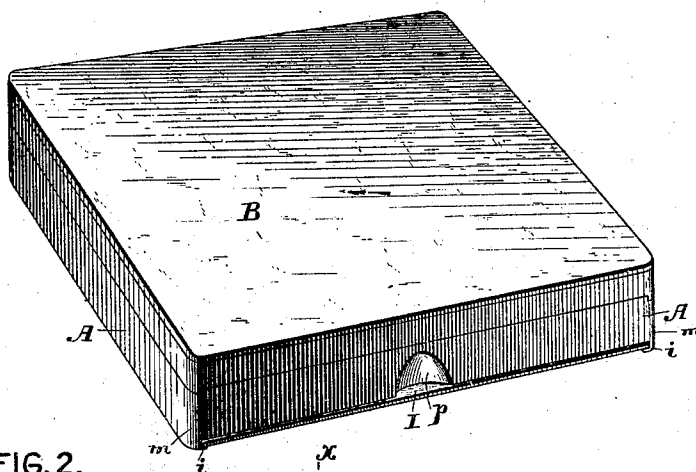


FIG. 2.

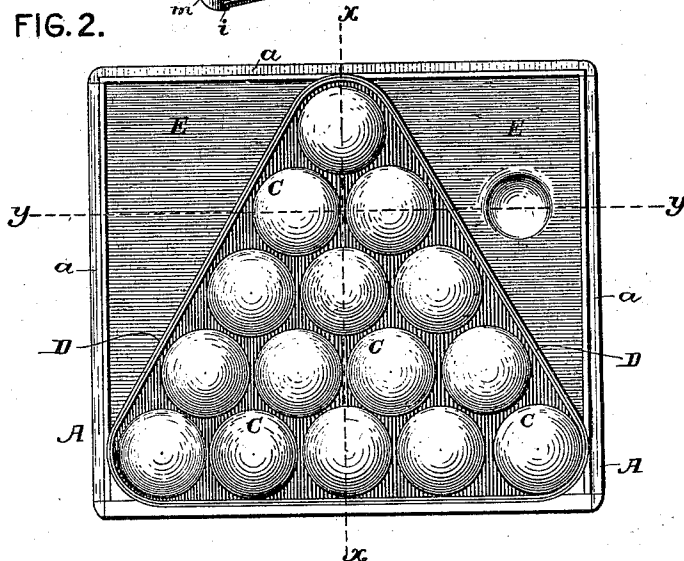


FIG. 3.

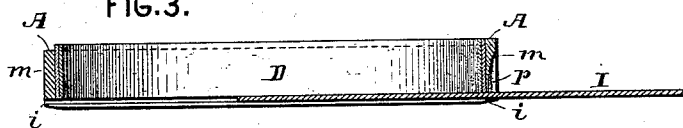
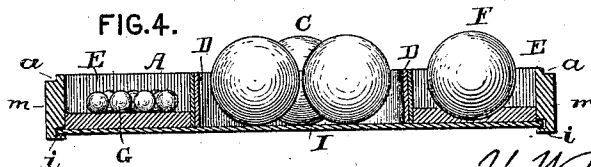


FIG. 4.



ATTEST.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE,

HUGH W. COLLENDER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

POOL TRIANGLE AND BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 294,200, dated February 26, 1884.

Application filed January 25, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH W. COLLENDER, of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Pool Triangle and Box; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this application.

My invention relates to a novel construction of the implement usually employed to place on the table, in proper order, the fifteen balls used in playing the game of "fifteen-ball pool," and has for its objects, first, to render said implement or contrivance serviceable also as a case or receptacle for the storage or keeping of both the set of fifteen balls and the players' or white ball, as well as the "small balls;" and, second, to render said implement capable of serving also, in the most desirable manner, as a tray, into which the balls may be collected from the pool-rack, to be carried to the table by the game-keeper (at the end of a game) for replacement thereon.

To these main ends and objects my invention consists, primarily, in a combined "triangle" and storage case or receptacle, and, secondarily, in a triangle or ball-tray provided with a sliding bottom, which is afforded a continuous support at two opposite edges in every position in which the said bottom may be placed, all as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

To enable those skilled in the art to which my invention relates to make and use it, I will now proceed to more fully describe the same, referring by letters to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which I have shown a contrivance embracing the features of my invention in those forms in which I have so far practiced my improvements.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an isometrical perspective view of one of my improved implements in a closed-up condition. Fig. 2 is a top view of the article with the cover or lid of the case removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken at the line *x x* of Fig. 2, and showing the sliding and removable bottom slid part way out, (as it would appear during the operation of depositing or placing the fifteen balls on the table ready for play.) Fig. 4 is a verti-

cal section at the line *y y* of Fig. 2; and in the several figures the same part will be found designated by the same letter of reference.

A is the body portion or main part of the case, and B the removable lid or cover. The lid and body are made to fit together, preferably by means of rabbets *a a a*, on three of the upper edges of the box part A, engaging with correspondingly-shaped projecting ledges on three of the under sides or edges of the lid B, and the latter, as shown, is preferably made so as to afford space within it for the upwardly-projecting portions of the balls C, which may be packed in the body portion A of the contrivance. (See Fig. 4.) The box or case A and its lid B are preferably about square in contour, and within the body portion A is permanently arranged or formed the usual triangle, D, for positioning the fifteen balls on the table. The (substantially) right-angled triangular spaces at E E, which occur between the exteriors of two of the sides of the triangle D and the interiors of three adjacent sides of the body portion A of the implement, are provided with permanent bottoms, and serve as depositories for certain other implements of the game. In one of these compartments E may be kept the white ball or player's ball F in a seat formed by perforating the bottom of said compartment, as seen best at Fig. 4. In the other may be kept the small balls G and any other matter which can be accommodated, and which the game-keeper or room-keeper may see fit to store in the box.

I is a sliding bottom to the entire box or case. It is rectangular in contour, as seen, should be made as thin as possible, of some suitable material, and may be covered on its top surface, or, at least, on that portion of its top surface which forms the bottom to the triangle D, in order that the balls, when put into the triangle, may cushion thereon, and not either make too much noise or be battered or marred on their colored surfaces. This sliding bottom I has two opposite edges seated in grooves at *i i*, that are formed in the downward extensions *m m* of two opposite sides of the body portion A of the contrivance, (see Figs. 3 and 4,) which extensions, however, should be made as slight as possible consistent with strength, in order that in drawing out the bottom I to let the balls in the trian-

gle down onto the table they may have to fall the least possible distance. For convenience of manipulation of this sliding bottom I, I have formed a sort of thumb hole or notch at 5 p, to facilitate getting hold of one edge of I to pull it out.

During the use of the contrivance as a tray into which to gather the balls from the pool-rack, and as a triangle to position the balls 10 on the table, the player's ball, small balls, and any other articles which may have been kept in the box are of course in use and out of the way, and the game-keeper uses the improved implement much after the fashion of using 15 other constructions of triangles and trays—that is to say, he takes the implement, with its bottom I in place, to the pool-rack, from which all balls in said rack are gathered into the triangular receptacle (either by picking the balls 20 out of the rack and placing them in the tray, or by the automatic discharge of the contents of the rack) in about the usual manner. He then places the contrivance in proper position on the table, as usual, and having first seen 25 that the pool-balls are properly arranged, (with the fifteen-ball at the apex of the pyramid facing the striker, &c.,) he withdraws the sliding bottom, letting the balls all rest on the table; then finally adjusts the batch perfectly, and, 30 as usual, carefully lifts upwardly and away from the mass the now bottomless triangle. The sliding bottom I may be then replaced, ready for a reuse of the implement.

In lieu of the thumb-notch referred to, the 35 handling of the sliding or false bottom I may be facilitated, if desired, by providing said bottom I with a tab-like projection or handle at the proper point to convenience the handler of the contrivance in pulling out the bottom.

40 If deemed expedient, the arrangement or combination of the sliding bottom I with the body portion A may be such that by means of some suitable stop devices said bottom will be capable of sliding out of its seats or grooves 45 only sufficiently far to permit the extrication of the balls from the triangle, and thus avoid the possibility of such dropping of the entirely removed bottom, and any such slight inconvenience or trouble to the game-keeper 50 as may be experienced in having to replace the whole removed bottom piece; but all such and other mere modifications are not of course material to the invention made the subject of my application.

55 It will be seen that by the combination in one implement or article of the triangle D, with

its movable bottom, and the rectangular case A, I produce a contrivance which serves not only all the purposes of any of the usual false-bottomed triangles, but one which also answers 60 that of the usual separate box or receptacle for holding all the pool-balls, the player's ball, &c., when not in use in the room.

It is usual to supply all the balls for the table for the game of fifteen-ball pool in a rectangular box or case, in which the room-keeper 65 can store them and lock them up in his safe when not in use; and it is of course also necessary to have the separate contrivance of a triangle of some style to position the balls on 70 the table. By the first part of my invention I afford both these necessary contrivances in one article, and the supplementing of the triangular device (especially when used in connection 75 with any of the automatically-dumping pool-racks now in use) with the rectangular case not only does not interfere with the most convenient use of the triangular device, both as a tray and a placer of the balls on the table, 80 but in fact renders the tray device more convenient, since the rectangular addition facilitates the placement of the tray in proper relationship to the pool-rack, (in collecting the balls to put them on the table,) and also renders less 85 liable the falling of any ball from the tray onto the floor during the collection of the balls from the rack into the triangular tray.

By providing the tray with a rectangular sliding bottom and affording two continuous 90 parallel supporting-ledges, as shown and described, the sliding bottom I (on which rests the weight of all the balls) is in the act of withdrawing the bottom (to let the balls down onto the table) supported up to the point of its 95 complete removal from beneath the balls always and properly at diametrically-opposite points.

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

1. A combined triangle and ball-case, substantially as set forth. 100

2. In a triangle and tray, a sliding bottom having two parallel edges and means for supporting said edges during the movements of the bottom, as set forth. 105

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 23d day of January, 1884.

H. W. COLLENDER.

In presence of—

JOHN D. O'CONNOR,
JACOB FELBEL.