(No Model.)

W. F. FELDHOFF.

PUZZLE.

No. 570,921. Patented Nov. 10, 1896.

Fig 1

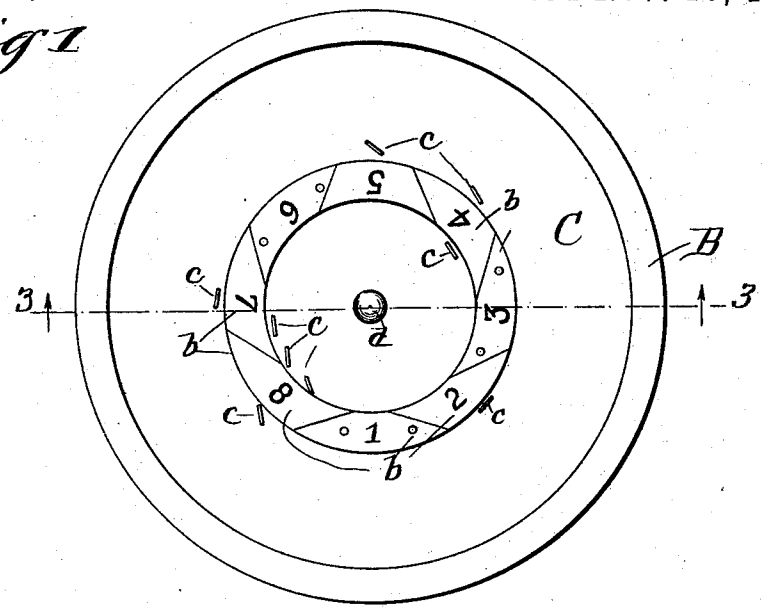


Fig 3

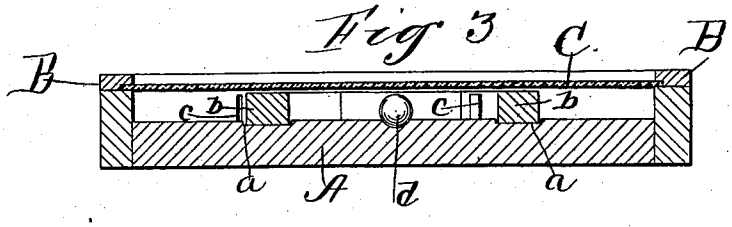
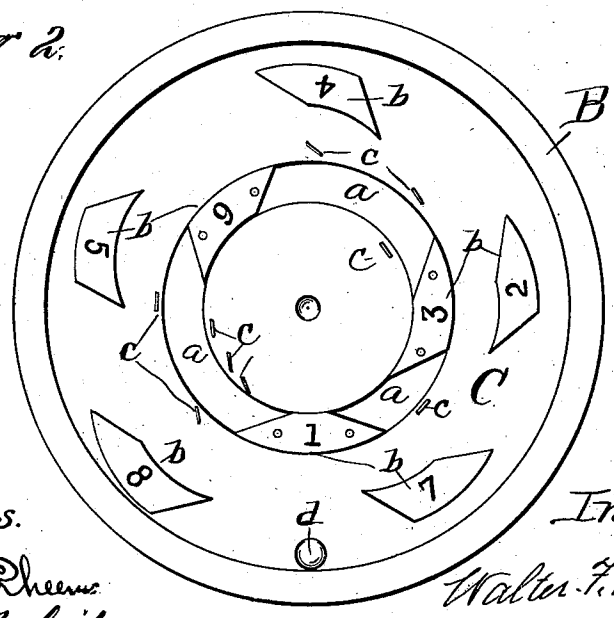


Fig 2.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PUZZLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 570,921, dated November 10, 1896.

Application filed April 20, 1896. Serial No. 588,355. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER F. FELDHOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Puzzles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view with the blocks or sections in correct position and inclosing the ball. Fig. 2 is a face view showing the blocks or sections and the ball out of correct position, to be brought into position by manipulating them; and Fig. 3 is a cross-section.

The object of this invention is to construct a puzzle having an inclosing case with a base or bottom, in which is a receiving groove or depression for a series of blocks or sections, to be brought into such groove or depression by manipulation of the parts, and when in correct position inclose a ball, all as hereinafter more specifically described; and its nature consists in the several parts and combinations of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims as new.

In the drawings, A represents the base or bottom, which in the form shown is circular or has a circular periphery, but the shape of which can be a triangle or a square or such other shape as may be desired for its outer edge or base, and this block or base A is provided with a groove or depression *a* of a circular shape, as shown, but which can be of a triangular, square, or other shape to receive the sections or blocks.

B is a rim or wall secured to the edge or sides of the block A by any suitable means.

C is a front of glass or other transparent material secured to the rim or wall B by insertion in a groove or otherwise, so that when in place it cannot be detached except by breaking or removal of the fastening devices.

The shell or case as a whole incloses a series of blocks or sections *b*, which, as shown, are eight in number, and are so formed that when in proper position they will fill the groove or depression *a*, and, as shown, for the circular groove or depression the inner and outer edges of the blocks are formed on a curve conforming to the edges of the groove or depression, and their abutting ends are formed so that when in place they will lie in contact one against the other and form a complete circle; but the form of the blocks and the edges can be varied from that shown, so long as the confirmation is one that when the blocks or sections are together they will complete the circle, and instead of a circle the blocks can be so formed as to make when in position a triangle, square, or other shape without departing from the spirit of my invention.

The blocks are prevented from ready placement in the groove, channel, or depression by pins *c*, located around the edges of the groove or channel, as shown, or in such other manner as will attain the end of preventing the blocks from being readily brought into position, and, as shown, three of the blocks are set in position and secured by any suitable means, so as to be immovable, while the remainder of the blocks are detachable, to be brought into position by proper manipulation. A ball *d* is also provided, which ball, when the puzzle is completely solved, must be located within the space formed by the block or sections when in position.

The blocks and ball are placed within the case or receptacle, and when in position the case is securely closed by fastening the rim or wall, with the face C secured thereto, to the base or in any other suitable manner, so that when closed access to the interior of the case or shell cannot be had; and the puzzle consists in displacing the detachable blocks, and then, by proper manipulation, bringing them back into the groove or channel, with the ball inclosed within the blocks or sections when the blocks or sections are all in position; and this is to be accomplished by striking the case light blows or turning the case as required to bring the blocks or sections into position.

The essential features of the puzzle consist in a base or block having a groove or depression of the desired shape and a series of sections or blocks which can be brought into the groove or channel and inclose the ball by proper manipulation; and to carry out the invention the parts can be made of

any suitable material and the groove or channel can be of any desired shape, with the blocks or sections of a proper form to produce when in position the shape of the groove or channel.

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

1. The combination, with an inclosing case having a grooved bottom or base, of a series of blocks or sections, and stops around the groove or channel preventing the ready placing of the blocks or sections in position, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with an inclosing case having a grooved bottom or base, of a series of blocks or sections, a ball, and stops around the groove or channel preventing the ready placing of the blocks or sections in position, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of a base or block having a groove or channel on its face, a wall around the base or block and a transparent face held by the wall, with a series of blocks or sections, a ball and a series of stops around the groove or channel of the base, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

WALTER F. FELDHOFF.

Witnesses:
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O. W. BOND.