

B. D. DeFOREST.

DANCING-TOY.

No. 171,216.

Patented Dec. 21, 1875.

Fig. 1.

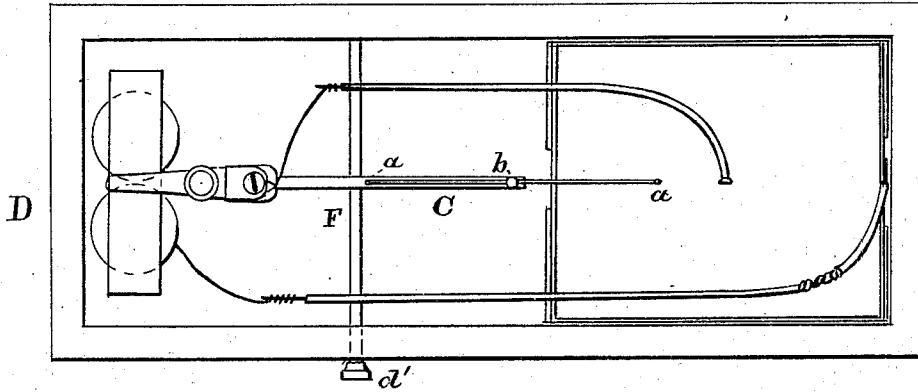


Fig. 2.

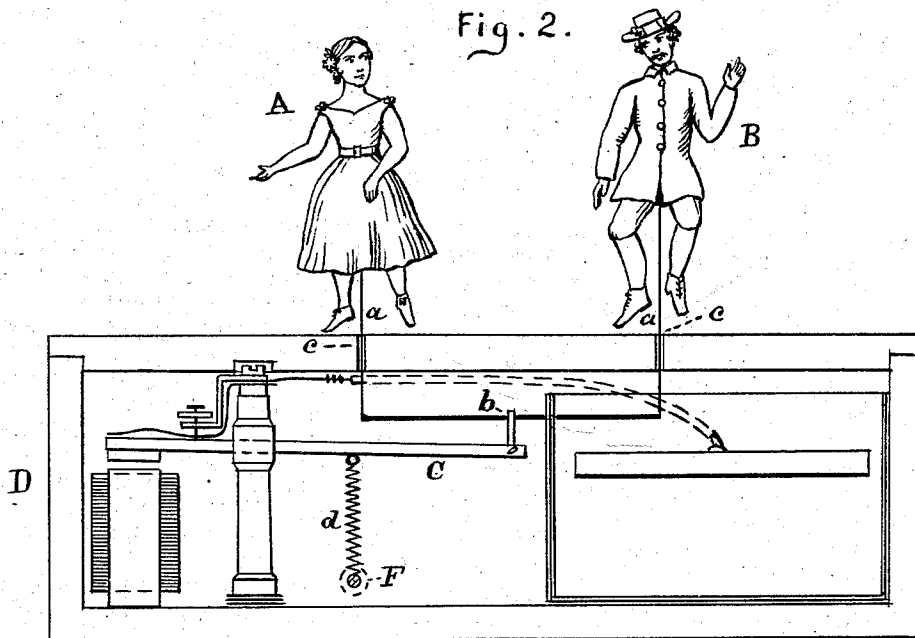
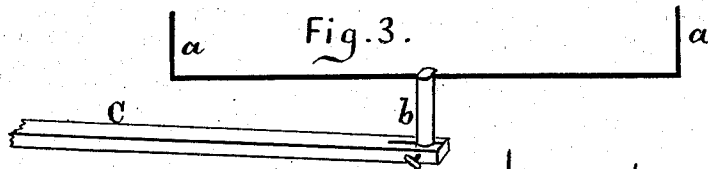


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Theodore Mungen.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN D. DE FOREST, OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN DANCING TOYS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,216**, dated December 21, 1875; application filed October 30, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN D. DE FOREST, of Mount Vernon, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dancing Toys; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved dancing toy, showing the floor or table removed; Fig. 2, a side elevation, showing the side of the box inclosing the battery removed; Fig. 3, a view of wire frame for supporting the toy or toys.

Like letters in all the figures of the drawing indicate like parts.

This invention consists of a dancing toy operated by means of a galvanic battery and electro-magnet, combined with a floor or table for the toy to vibrate or dance upon, so as to permit the vibrating or dancing movement imparted to the toy to be continued for an indefinite time, or as long as desired, which cannot be done with the clock machinery now used for that purpose, as the spring requires to be wound up to keep the machine going, and, besides, the occasional breaking of the spring requires the substitution and expense of a new one, thus rendering this kind of mechanism objectionable, which it is the design of this invention to obviate.

The toy or toys A B, or as many as can be conveniently operated at a time, are placed on a wire-frame, having one or more upright arms, *a a*, to receive the toys, and provided with a stem, *b*, by which it is attached by a pivot to the outer end of the lever or arm C, connected with the battery located in box D. The table or floor E, which rests upon the box, is provided with guide holes or slots *cc*, through

which the arms *a a* pass and vibrate. On this table the toys are operated, or made to dance, by the vibrating movement of the lever produced by an electrical current from the battery, in the usual manner.

Any galvanic battery and electro-magnet will answer for the purpose which has the usual vibrating lever and armature, but for cheapness, simplicity, and safety, the common blue-stone battery is preferable.

A regulating-shaft, F, having a thumb-screw, *d'*, on the end of it, is placed across the box, and connected with the lever by a spiral spring, *d*, so as to provide a tension upon the lever, by which its movement can be stopped, diminished, or increased, as may be desired.

By increasing or diminishing the tension of the lever-spring, a greater or less vibration may be given accordingly, or the tension may be so far increased as to cause a cessation of the vibration altogether, when preferred.

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

1. A dancing toy, operated by means of an electro-magnet, combined with a table or floor for the toy to vibrate or dance upon, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a wire-frame, having one or more upright arms, *a*, and provided with stem *b*, with vibrating lever C of an electro-magnet, and table E, having one or more guide-holes, *c*, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a regulating-shaft, F, and spiral spring *d*, with the vibrating lever C of an electro-magnet, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BENJAMIN D. DE FOREST.

Witnesses:

W. BURRIS,
A. P. LACEY.