

No. 837,189.

D. J. B. CAFFODIO.
AMUSEMENT DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 5, 1906.

PATENTED NOV. 27, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

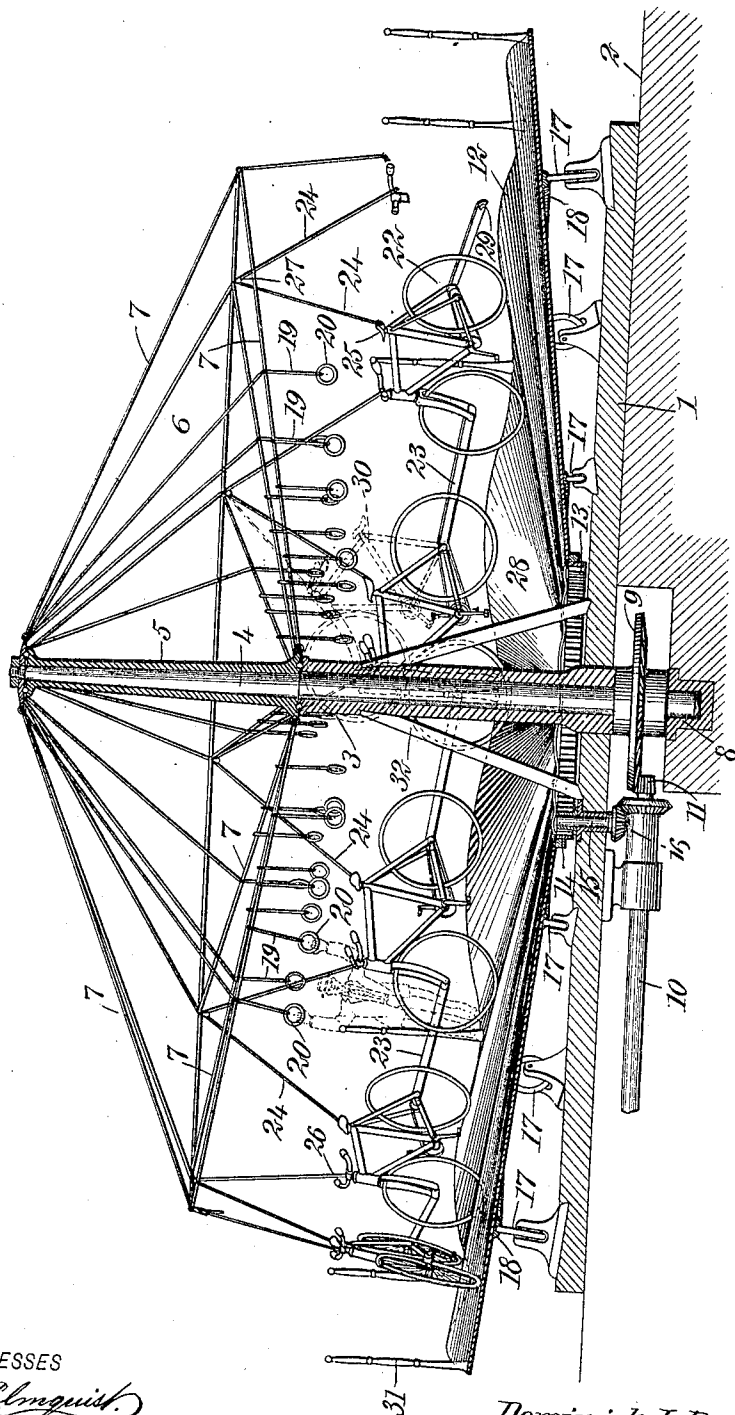


Fig. 1-

WITNESSES

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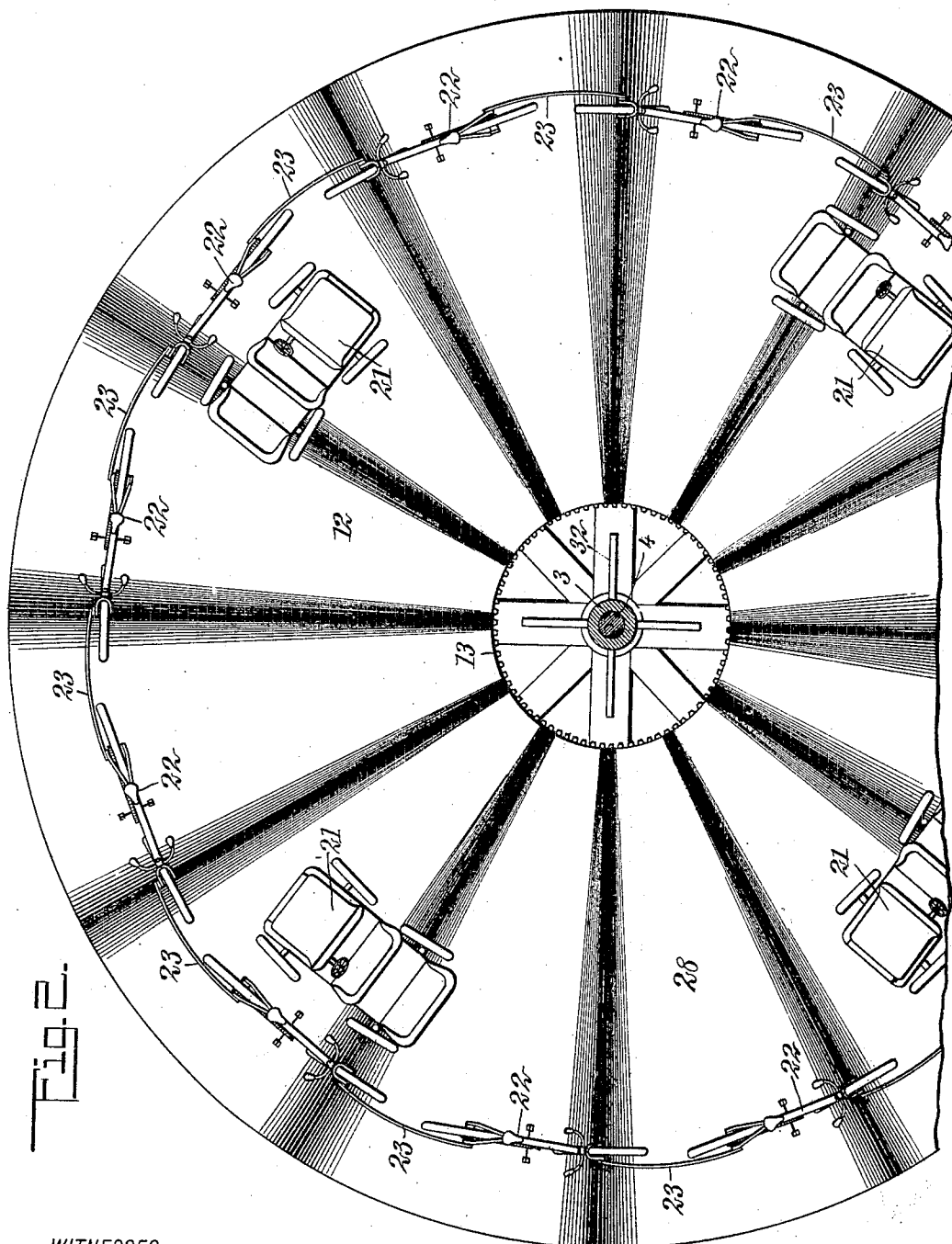


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DOMINICK J. B. CAFFODIO, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

No. 837,189.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 27, 1906.

Application filed July 5, 1906. Serial No. 324,775.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DOMINICK J. B. CAFFODIO, a subject of the King of Italy, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Amusement Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to amusement devices, and especially to the general type of such devices which are popularly known as "merry-go-rounds."

The object of the invention is to produce a device of this class which will give pleasure-seekers a new and enjoyable sensation.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts, to be more fully described hereinafter and particularly set forth in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

Figure 1 is a vertical central section through a device constructed according to my invention, certain parts being removed; and Fig. 2 is a plan, certain parts being broken away and shown in cross-section.

Referring more particularly to the parts, 1 represents a base-plate or foundation which is adapted to be arranged upon the ground-level 2, as shown. This base or foundation is of substantially circular form and is provided with an upwardly-projecting hollow pillar or post 3, disposed centrally, as shown. Within this post 3 I provide a rotatable shaft 4, the upper extremity whereof carries rigidly the hub 5 of a wheel 6. The said wheel 6 is constructed out of rods or bar-iron, as shown, which is given rigidity by suitable braces 7. The lower extremity of the shaft 4 is suitably mounted in a step-bearing 8, adjacent to which the shaft carries rigidly a bevel gear-wheel 9. A driving-shaft 10 is rotatably supported in a horizontal position beneath the base 1, said shaft carrying a pinion 11, which meshes with the gear-wheel 9, so as to enable the shaft 4 to be continuously rotated. Upon the base 1 there is rotatably mounted a platform 12, which is of slightly conical form, as shown, the apex of the cone being disposed downwardly. In other words, the platform is formed with an opening concentric with which a gear-wheel 13 is secured on the platform, and this gear-wheel meshes with a pinion 14, carried upon a vertical spin-

dle 15, held to rotate on the base 1. Arrangement is made for driving this spindle 15 from the shaft 10 by means of a bevel gear-wheel 16.

In order to rotatably support the platform 12 in the upper side of the base 1, I provide a plurality of rollers 17, arranged as indicated, and upon the upper edges of these rollers wearing-strips 18 rest.

The arms of the wheel 6 are provided with straps or hangers 19, which support rings 20, adapted to be grasped by the hands of persons standing upon the platform. It is intended that the persons holding the rings 20 shall wear roller-skates and stand upon the platform.

Rigidly secured upon the platform 12 I provide a plurality of automobiles or motor-cars 21, in which persons may seat themselves. These automobiles will of course be lightly constructed, so as to represent automobiles, but will simply be models without machinery of any kind. Near the outer edge of the platform 12 I provide a complete circle of bicycles 22, and these bicycles are connected together by links 23, the forward end of one bicycle being connected to the rear end of the one next in advance, and so on. In addition to the links 23, connecting the bicycles in succession, I provide flexible cords 24. The forward end of each of these cords is attached to the saddle 25 of the forward bicycle and to the handle-bar 26 of the following bicycle. Each cord passes up and through a guide-pulley 27, which is attached to the rim of the wheel 6, as shown. The platform 12 is not a simple conical surface, but is formed with waves or convolutions 28 radiating from the center. When the device is in operation, the platform is driven in one direction, while the wheel 6 rotates in the opposite direction. Persons riding upon the bicycles will then advance with the wheel 6, and at the same time they will be given a rising-and-falling or galloping movement by the convolutions 28. The bicycles are prevented from upsetting by the cords 24. In this connection special attention is called to the pulleys 27, through which the cords 24 are guided, facilitating the movement of the cords in either direction. In this way the cords adapt themselves to varying positions of the bicycles.

One extremity of each link 23 is formed with a notch 29, by means of which attachment is had to the adjacent bicycle. By dis-

connecting one of these links any one of the bicycles may be raised on its hind wheel, as indicated in the outline at 30, so as to enable the person to pass through the circle of bicycles onto the interior of the platform. The persons sitting in the automobiles will move around with the platform, but will not advance relatively to the platform. The skaters, which stand upon the platform within the circle of bicycles and automobiles, will of course advance with respect to the platform, and at the same time they will rise and fall as they pass over the convolutions 28. Around the outer edge of the platform stanchions 31 are placed, to which a guard-rail may be attached, if desired.

The central post 3 preferably is held rigidly in an upright position by means of diagonal braces 32, arranged as indicated.

The device described evidently will afford amusement for pleasure-seekers.

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

1. A rotatable platform having convolutions formed therein and adapted to support persons, a wheel above said platform to which said persons may be attached, and means for rotating said platform.

2. A rotatable platform having convolutions formed therein and adapted to support persons, a wheel above said platform to which said persons may be attached, means for rotating said platform, and means for rotating said wheel.

3. In a device of the class described, in combination, a rotatable platform, a rotatable wheel supported thereabove, means whereby persons may stand upon said platform and attach themselves to said wheel, and

means for rotating said wheel and said platform in opposite directions.

4. In an amusement device, in combination, a platform, a wheel mounted thereabove, a circle of bicycles resting on said platform, pulleys carried by said wheel, cords connecting said bicycles and passing through said pulleys, and means for rotating said platform or said wheel.

5. In a device of the class described, in combination, a rotatable platform having a substantially conical form with convolutions radiating from the center, a wheel above said platform and having means whereby persons supported on said platform may attach themselves to said wheel, and means for rotating said wheel or said platform.

6. In an amusement device of the class described, in combination, a rotatable platform of substantially conical form having convolutions formed therein, a central shaft passing up through said platform, a wheel carried by said shaft above said platform, means for driving said wheel and said platform in opposite directions, a circle of bicycles resting on said platform and connected with said wheel, a plurality of automobiles mounted on said platform and adapted to rotate therewith, and hangers carried by said wheel and adapted to be seized by persons standing upon said platform and skating thereupon.

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

DOMINICK J. B. CAFFODIO.

Witnesses:

F. D. AMMEN,
C. C. NIELSON.