No. 626,863. Patented June 13, 1899.

J. B. FLACK.

GAME.

(Application filed Sept. 22, 1898.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

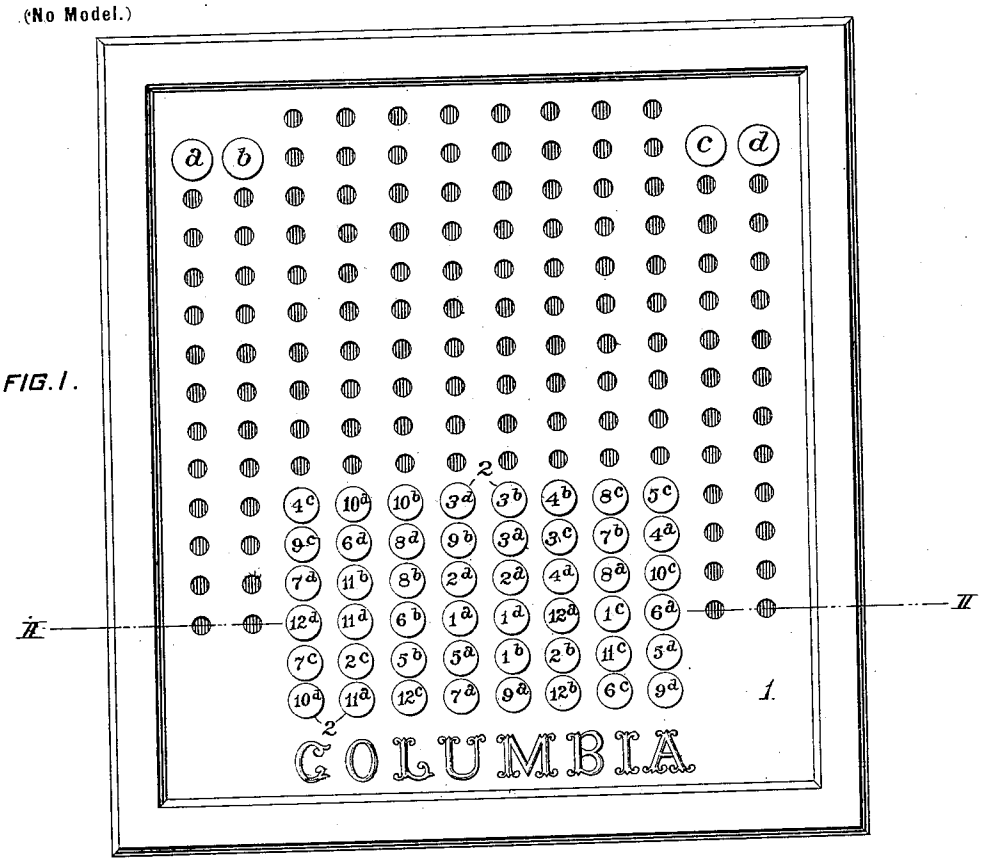
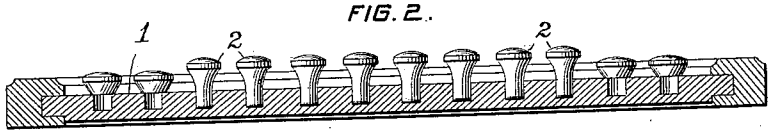


FIG. 2.



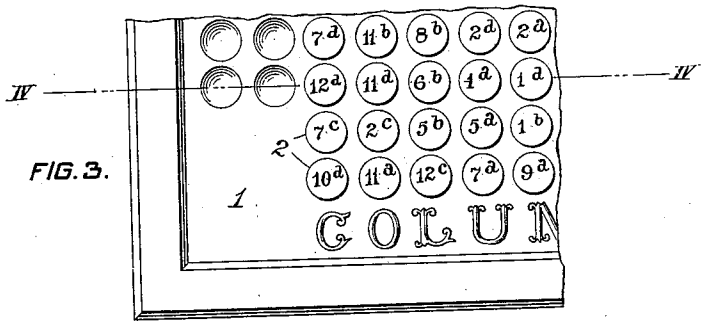
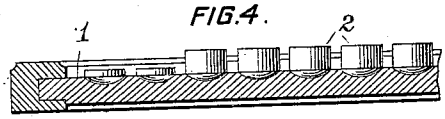


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.



WITNESSES:

Chas. F. Miller.

Florence M. Daffner

INVENTOR,

Junius B. Flack

by Dennis & Wolcott

Att'y.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JUNIUS B. FLACK, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

GAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,863, dated June 13, 1899.

Application filed September 22, 1898. Serial No. 691,591. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JUNIUS B. FLACK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented or discovered certain new and useful Improvements in Games, of which improvements the following is a specification.

The invention described herein relates to certain improvements in games; and it consists, generally stated, of a board provided with a series of two or more rows of home positions for movable pins, blocks, or pieces and a series of four or more rows of field or playing positions for the pins, blocks, or pieces.

The invention is hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved game-board. Fig. 2 is a sectional view, the plane of section being indicated by the line II II, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a portion of a board, illustrating a modification in the construction of the movable pieces; and Fig. 4 is a sectional view, the plane of section being indicated by the line IV IV, Fig. 3.

In the practice of my invention a board 1 is provided with a series of two or more rows *a b*, &c., of home positions, which are designated in any suitable manner—as, for instance, by holes or sockets, as shown—so that the movable pieces 2 are preferably made in the form of pins provided with heads, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, or in the form of cylindrical blocks having convex ends to fit in correspondingly-shaped sockets in the board. It is preferred to arrange the rows *a b*, &c., adjacent to opposite edges of the board, one or more rows adjacent to each edge, as shown. The board is also provided with a series of four or more rows C O L U, &c., of field positions, which may be designated in any suitable manner, but preferably in the same manner as the home positions—*i. e.*, by holes or sockets. Each of the rows C O L U, &c., should contain at least four more positions than the home rows in order to permit of the proper playing of the game.

The movable pieces are divided into series, each series being distinctively marked, as by color or by letters, as shown, and each row of home positions is similarly marked. The pins of each series, in addition to their distinctive color or letter, are numbered "1," "2," "3," "4," &c., corresponding to the number of home positions in each row.

In playing the game the movable pieces are placed, regardless of number or distinctive mark or color, in the positions at one end of the field rows C O L U, &c. As the number of rows of field positions is greater than the number of rows of home positions and as the number of field positions in each row is greater than in the home positions in the rows *a*, *b*, *c*, or *d*, there will be a large number of vacant field positions after the pieces have been placed as stated.

The object of the game is to arrange the movable pieces having certain distinctive marks in rows of home positions having the same distinctive mark and in their numbered order—as, for example, all the pieces marked "a" must be arranged in 1, 2, 3 order in the row *a* of home positions. The piece cannot be shifted from the field to its home position until the field positions in the same row above it are vacant—as, for example, when the pieces are arranged as shown, the piece 1^d cannot be moved to its home position in row *d* until the pieces 3^b, 3^a, and 2^a have been moved to other positions in the field. To clear the piece 1^d, the pieces 3^b and 3^a must be placed above pieces marked "4," as 4^b, and the piece 2^a above the piece 3^a, previously shifted. The shifting of these pieces vacates the row above the pieces 1^d and 1^b, which can then be moved to their respective home positions in rows *d* and *b*. In other words, the pieces in the field can be moved only to a position above a pin of a higher number or to a position in a vacant row; but no regard need be paid to the distinctive marks or colors. It will be understood that the pieces can be arranged in reverse order in their home positions, in which case the play in the field will be reversed.

It will be readily understood that the game can be played on any plane surface, using blocks which will rest firmly on such surface. In such case the blocks are placed in four or more rows without regard to their distinctive marks or their numerical sequence, each row

containing half the number of blocks contained in each series. The home rows—*i. e.*, the rows in which the blocks are to be arranged according to their distinctive marks and in numerical sequence—can be formed anywhere outside of the field rows.

I claim herein as my invention—

1. A game consisting of two or more groups or series of movable pieces, each group having a distinguishing mark and the pieces of each group being numbered in regular sequence, said pieces being adapted to be arranged in four or more field rows without regard to their distinctive marks or numerical sequence, and to be moved from such field rows in numerical sequence and arranged in two or more home rows in accordance with their distinctive marks and numerical sequence, substantially as set forth.

2. A board provided with a series of two or more rows of home positions each row being distinctively marked, and a series of four or more rows of field positions, in combination with a series of movable pieces, the pieces of each series being similarly marked in such manner as to distinguish them from the pieces of the other series, and numbered or marked in regular sequence, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

JUNIUS B. FLACK.

Witnesses:

DARWIN S. WOLCOTT,

F. E. GAITHER.