No. 657,522. Patented Sept. 11, 1900.

H. A. DEITERS & E. L. BILL.

GAME APPARATUS.

(Application filed May 3, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

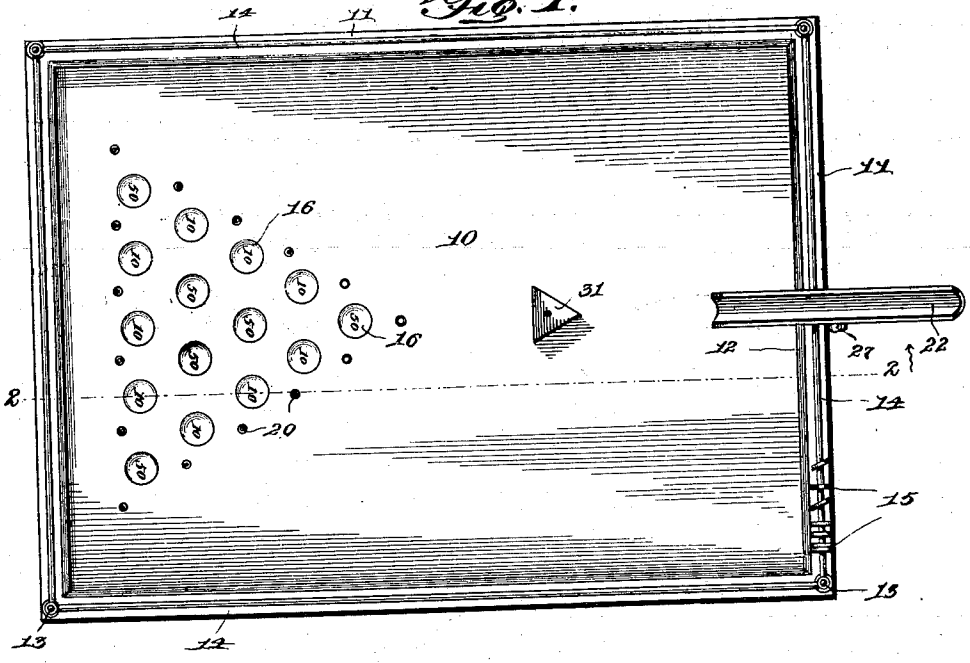


Fig. 2.

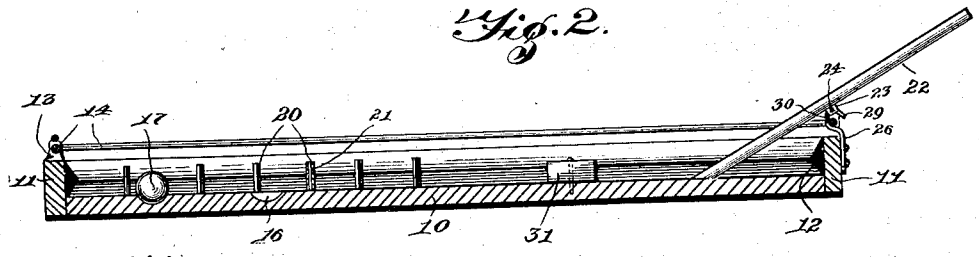


Fig. 3.

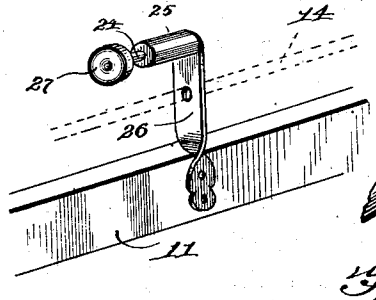


Fig. 4.

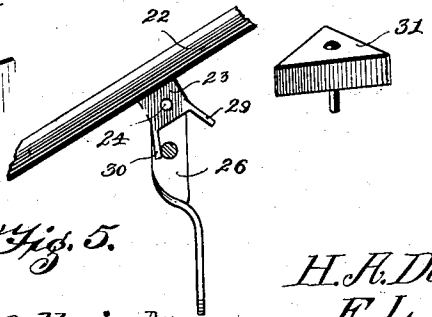


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY A. DEITERS AND EDWARD L. BILL, OF SPENCER, WEST VIRGINIA.

GAME APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 657,522, dated September 11, 1900.

Application filed May 3, 1900. Serial No. 15,383. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HARRY A. DEITERS and EDWARD L. BILL, citizens of the United States, residing at Spencer, in the county of Roane and State of West Virginia, have invented a new and useful Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to game apparatus in general, and more particularly to that class including a board having a number of numbered pockets which are to receive a ball discharged to the board.

One object of the invention is to provide a game apparatus which may be operated in a manner to exercise skill in placing the ball; and a further object of the invention is to form a cheap construction and one in which the parts are so made and assembled that they may be readily and efficiently operated in the playing of the game.

In the drawings forming a portion of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a plan view showing the complete apparatus ready for operation with the ball lying upon the board. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section taken through the board on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view showing the supporting-bracket for the chute. Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the adjustable block against which the balls are discharged to make carom shots. Fig. 5 is a detail section of Fig. 1 on line 2 2, showing the means for limiting the pivotal movement of the chute.

Referring now to the drawings, the apparatus of the present invention comprises a board 10, having a wall 11 extending entirely around its periphery, and which wall projects above the upper surface of the board to a height sufficient to prevent displacement of the ball or balls from the board during the game. The wall 11 has a cushion 12 on its inner face which is substantially triangular in cross-section, with the apex of the triangle extending inwardly and at a height to be struck by the ball midway of the height of the ball, as is usual in the cushions of billiard and pool tables. At the corners of the wall 11 are posts 13, and engaging these posts are rails 14, which form supports for the counting-disks 15, which are usually strung overhead on a wire independently of the board.

In the upper face of the board 10, which is preferably oblong in outline, there is formed a series of recesses 16, which in the present instance are shown as fifteen in number, and these recesses are curvilinear to snugly receive the ball 17 when the latter is rolled thereinto. The recesses 16 are arranged in the form of a triangle and at one end of the board, the base of the triangle being parallel with the adjacent end of the board and the apex of the triangle being midway of the sides of the board and reaching somewhat less than half-way of the length of the board. The triangle of recesses is inclosed by a triangular arrangement of posts or pins 20, and each pin is disposed equidistant from the centers of the adjacent recesses, with the exception of the three corner-pins, which are in line with their respective lines of pins and lie also in the lines passing through the adjacent apices of the triangular arrangement of recesses and perpendicular to the opposite sides thereof. Thus these pins guard the interspaces between the recesses of the outer rows and tend to direct the ball to the outer recesses. The recesses are, however, of such depths that with proper speed the ball may be caused to roll entirely thereover, and thus enter one of the three inner recesses. In practice the outer recesses are marked with low numbers—in this instance "10"—while the inner recesses are marked with higher numbers, such as "50," indicating the points in the game that are counted when the ball is rolled thereinto. In order to cause the ball to rebound from a pin when it strikes it, and thus to increase the difficulty of rolling the ball into a recess, each pin is provided with a casing 21, of rubber, which may be in the form of a tube-section slipped over the pin, as shown.

At the opposite end of the board 10 from the series of recesses 16 there is arranged a chute 22, which is arc-shaped in cross-section to properly discharge a ball therefrom to the board. Depending from this chute is a lug 23, which is pivotally mounted upon a spindle 24, formed by an axial extension of a lateral arm 25 upon a bracket 26, which is secured to the outer face of the wall 11 at the

end of the board opposite to the recesses 16. At the inner end of the spindle there is a shoulder 25, against which the lug 23 is clamped by means of a clamping thumb-nut 27, which is engaged with the threads which are formed upon the outer end of the spindle. The pivotal movement of the lug, and therewith the chute, is limited by ears 29 and 30, which are formed upon the lug for alternate engagement with the rail 14, which is passed through a perforation in the bracket 26. With this construction it will be seen that the chute may be adjusted to lie at any angle within certain limits and that by adjusting the chute the ball may be discharged therefrom at different velocities.

In alinement with the chute is mounted an adjustable carom-block 31, which is triangular in form and which may be of rubber or of wood, as may be preferred, this block having a central stem which engages a perforation in the board 10. Hence by adjusting the block rotatably the ball may be caused to strike different points thereof, and thus deflected at different angles against the cushion, from which it will rebound in the direction of the recesses 16. By changing the position of the block 31 shots may be made with great skill, and it will of course be understood that one or any number of balls may be used, as may be preferred.

In the manufacture of this apparatus any suitable materials and proportions may be used for the various parts, and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is—

1. A game apparatus comprising a board having a surrounding wall provided with a cushion on its inner face, posts at the corners of the wall, rails engaged with the posts, counting-disks slidably engaged with the rails, a triangular series of recesses in the upper face of the board and separated by interspaces, pins in the board opposite the interspaces between the outer recesses, a chute pivoted to the board and a rotatably-adjustable block in the path of discharge from the chute.

2. A game apparatus comprising a board having a series of recesses therein for engagement by a ball, a wall at the edge of the board, a bracket fixed to the wall opposite to the recesses, said bracket having a lateral arm provided with an axial spindle having a lesser diameter than the arm to form a shoulder at the inner end of the spindle, a chute having a perforated lug for engagement with the spindle, a clamping-nut in threaded engagement with the free end of the spindle to clamp the lug against the shoulder, ears upon the lug, and a stop between the ears and adapted for alternate engagement thereby to limit the pivotal movement of the lug upon the spindle.

3. A game apparatus comprising a board having a wall at its edge provided with a cushion, a triangular series of recesses in the upper face of the board and adjacent one end thereof, a chute pivotally mounted at the opposite end of the board, means for holding the chute at different points of its pivotal movement, means for limiting the pivotal movement of the chute in both directions, and a cross-sectionally angular block pivotally mounted upon the board in a line between the chute and the apex of the triangular series of recesses.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

HARRY A. DEITERS.
EDWARD L. BILL.

Witnesses:
M. HOLLY SIMMONS,
EARL VANDALE.