Apr. 10, 1923. 1,451,230

T. J. MAHONEY

MARBLE SHOOTER

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Fig. 1.

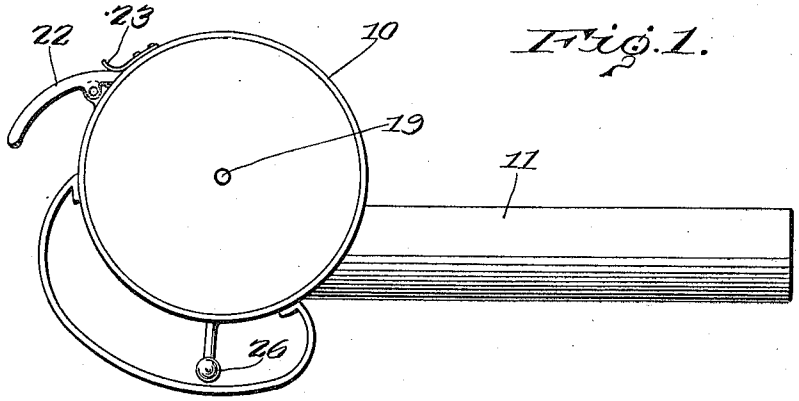


Fig. 2.

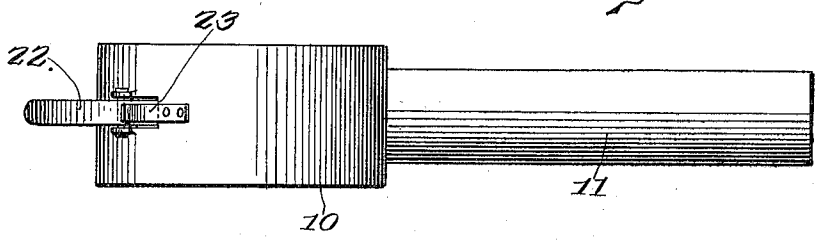
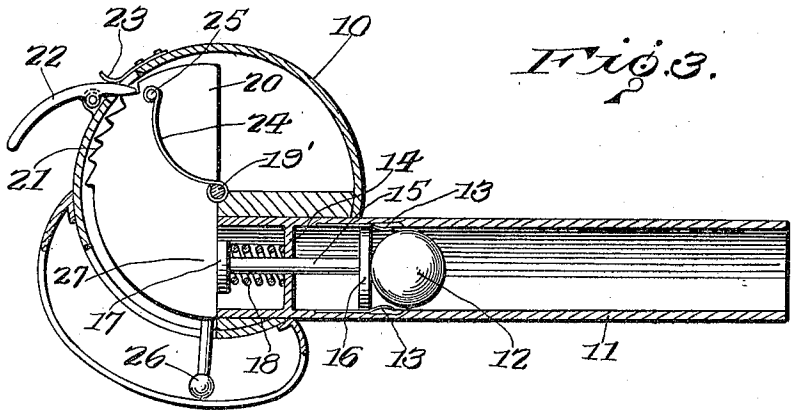


Fig. 3.



Witness

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. MAHONEY, OF COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO.

MARBLE SHOOTER.

Application filed March 10, 1921. Serial No. 451,218.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. MAHONEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Colorado Springs, in the county of El Paso, State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Marble Shooters; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in toys and particularly to devices for projecting marbles in the game of marbles.

One object of the invention is to provide a projector or shooter by means of which the player may project or shoot the marble known as the "shooter" without the use of the thumb, the result being a more accurate aim without the tiring of the hand.

Another object is to provide a projector of this character which is so constructed that the operator may regulate the force exerted on the marble to throw the same from the shooter or projector.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a marble projector made in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the same.

Figure 3 is a horizontal longitudinal sectional view through the device.

Referring particularly to the accompanying drawing, 10 represents the hand grip portion of the device which has the forwardly projecting barrel 11 adapted to receive the marble 12, to be projected therefrom. In the rear end of the barrel are arranged the inwardly bowed resilient members 13, which grip the marble lightly and prevent the same from rolling out of the barrel after having been placed therein for the purpose of projecting the same. In the barrel, rearwardly of the marble retaining means 13, is a centrally apertured member or wall 14 through which is slidably disposed the projecting plunger 15. The forward end of the plunger is provided with a head of a diameter slightly less than that of the barrel, as shown at 16, while the rear end is provided with a smaller head 17, against which the hammer, to be later described, is adapted to strike. Between the head 17, and the apertured wall, and encircling the stem of the plunger, is a coil spring 18 which normally and yieldably retains the plunger in rearward position.

Mounted on the pivot 19, for horizontal swinging movement on the hand grip portion 10, is a segmental disk member 20 in the curved portion of the periphery of which there are formed the ratchet notches 21. Pivotally mounted on the portion 10 is a trigger or detent 22 which is normally urged into engagement with the notches or teeth of the segment, by the spring 23. The outer end of the detent is arranged to be pressed inwardly by the thumb of the hand of the player who grasps the device, to release the disk. A leaf spring 24 is secured at one end to the pivot of the disk and has its other end engaged with the pin or projection 25, thereof, so that said spring will cause the disk to rotate on its pivot, when released from the detent. Projecting from one end of the flat portion of the disk is a handle 26, which is adapted to be grasped by the operator to swing the disk around and engage its teeth with the detent. A portion of the flat edge of the disk is slightly thickened or widened, as at 27 and is arranged in such position that it will strike the head 17, when released from the detent, with the result that it will drive the plunger forward against the marble, and project the marble from the barrel.

The edge of the disk is provided with a number of notches or teeth so that the disk may be swung around to engage any one of said teeth with the detent. This will put the spring 24 under varying tensions, so that the force of the blow of the portion 27 will be regulated, and the marble projected with greater or lesser force.

The casing 10 is grasped in the hand of the player with one of the flat sides toward the ground and in such position that the forefinger of the hand can grasp the knob 26 to partially rotate the disk 20, to be engaged by the pawl 22. To discharge the marble the player simply depresses the outer end of the pawl 22 with his thumb, which releases the pawl from the notches of the disk, whereupon the spring 24 will swing the disk around so that it will strike the in-

ner end of the plunger with sufficient force to drive it forward and discharge the marble from the barrel.

What is claimed is:

A marble shooter comprising a circular casing having a tube extending from the curved side thereof and intersecting the same, a spring pressed plunger mounted in the tube and extending into the casing, one portion of the curved side of the casing having a slot, a segmental disk mounted for partial rotation within the casing with one end of its flat edge portion disposed for striking engagement with the said plunger, a spring for normally urging the disk into engagement with the plunger, notches in the curved portion of the edge of the disk, and a pivoted spring pressed detent mounted on the casing and releasably engaging the notches, and a handle on the curved portion of the disk movable in said slot.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS J. MAHONEY.

Witnesses:

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D. H. ROBBINS.