

T. FOLKS.  
WATER CHUTE.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 8, 1904.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

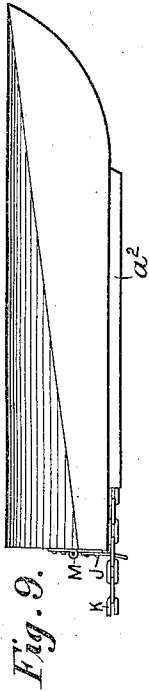


Fig. 9.

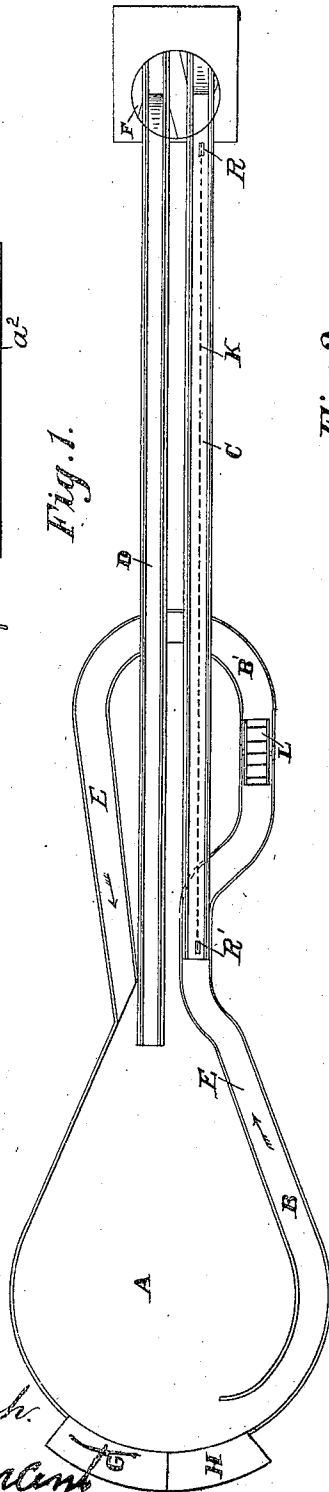


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

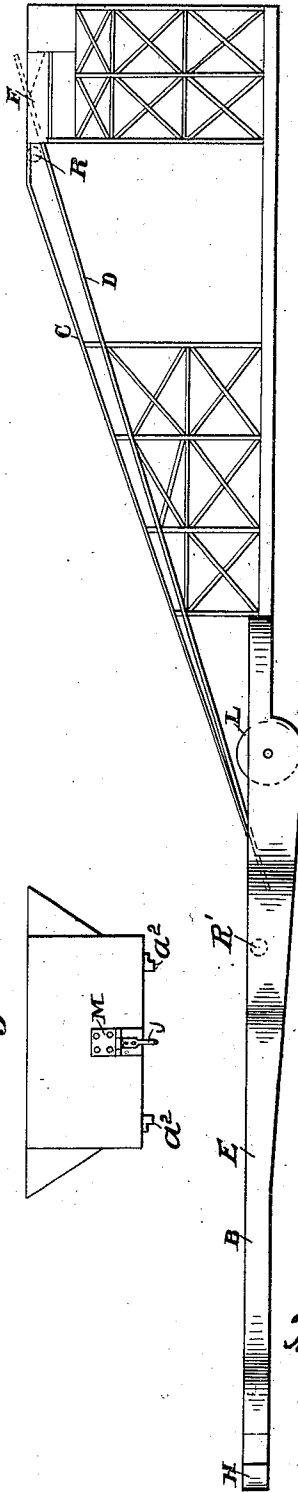
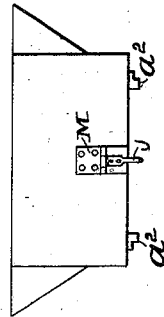


Fig. 12.



Witnesses

*Geo. C. Truch.*  
*Y. R. Vincent*

Inventor

*Thomas Folks*

No. 783,425.

PATENTED FEB. 28, 1905.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

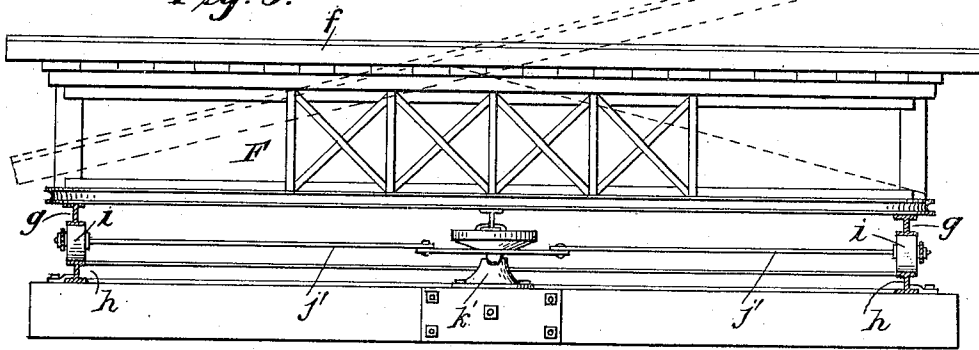


Fig. 4.

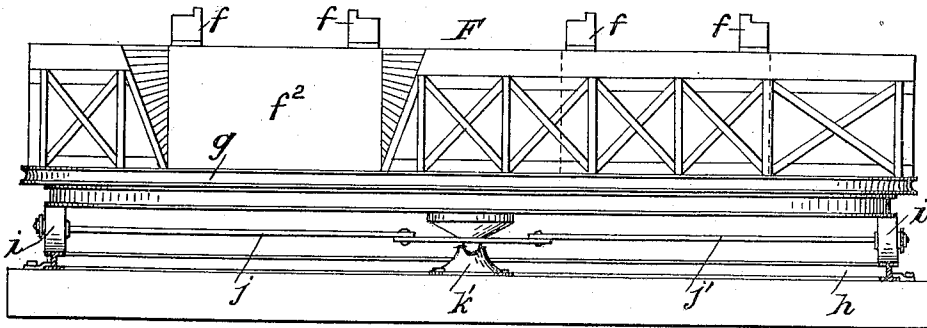


Fig. 8.

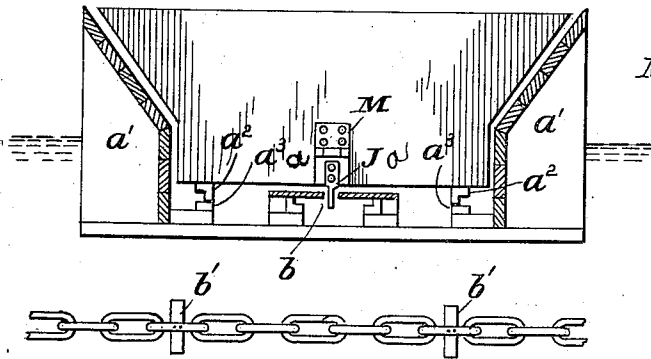


Fig. 10.

Fig. 11.

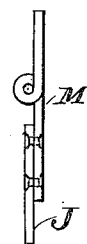
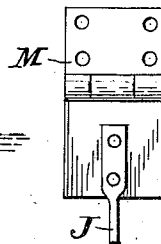


Fig. 7.

Witnesses

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 5.

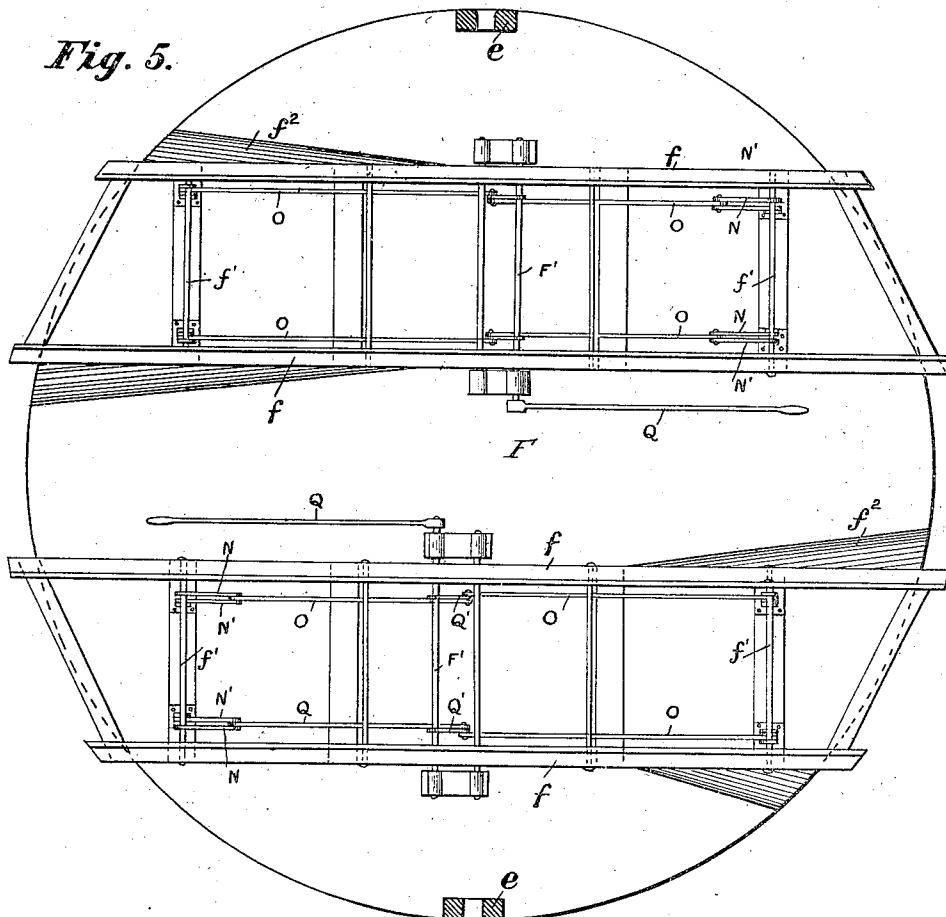
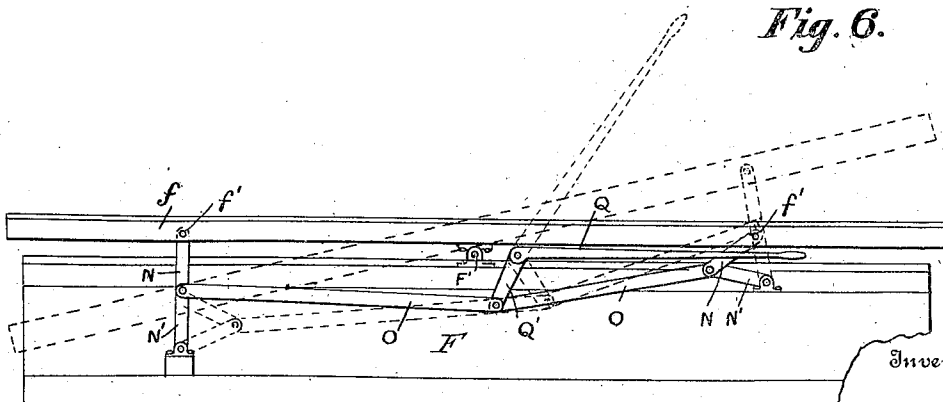


Fig. 6.



Witnesses

Geo. E. Dyck.  
G. R. Vincent

Inventor

Thomas Folks

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS FOLKS, OF HIRAM, OHIO.

## WATER-CHUTE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 783,425, dated February 28, 1905.

Application filed July 8, 1904. Serial No. 215,841.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS FOLKS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Hiram, in the county of Portage and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Water-Chutes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in water-chutes and means for conveying boats from the loading-station to and over the foot of ascending track and up the same to top of chute and also for turning the boats around and starting them down the descending track. In the accomplishment of this invention I employ an incline or chute having one ascending and one descending track, a lake or large body of water into which is built or from which emerges a canal in which a current is created by means of a large paddle-wheel or other suitable device for the purpose of conveying boats from the loading-station to and over the foot of ascending track of said chute, an endless chain for conveying boats provided with fingered hinge to top of chutes, and a turn-table on which is built two tipping cradles for receiving boats from ascending track and delivering same on descending track, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of my invention; Fig. 2, a side elevation of same. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are views of turn-table, Fig. 3 being a side view, Fig. 4 a front view, and Fig. 5 a plan view. Fig. 6 is a side view of cradle-tipping appliance; Fig. 7, a plan view of endless chain; Fig. 8, a sectional view of foot of ascending track of chute or boat-guideways with boat in position to engage chain; Fig. 9, a side view of boat; Fig. 10, a back view of fingered hinge; Fig. 11, an edge view of same; Fig. 12, a stern view of boat with fingered hinge attached.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The canal, Figs. 1 and 2, has two levels—an upper level B' and a lower level B—each having an inclined bottom. The lower level B begins, preferably, at the loading-station H and runs any desirable course to and under the foot of ascending track C of chute in its

course to the paddle-wheel L, where the lower level B ends and the upper level B' begins and runs any desirable course and preferably empties into the lake from which the water was taken. At the foot of the ascending track C, adjacent to the sprocket-wheel R, Figs. 1 and 2, are placed boat-guideways a' and chainway b, having finger-guide plates a, Fig. 8. On turn-table F are built two tipping cradles f' for receiving boats from ascending track C and delivering same on descending track D. In the turn-table F, immediately under the bow end of each cradle f', is an inclined flaring opening f'', Figs. 4 and 5, the object of which is to allow the cradle f' when it is directly in line with the descending track D to be tipped in order to deliver the boat on the said descending track and start it on its way down the chute.

In the operation of my invention power being applied causes sprocket-wheel R to revolve, thereby causing endless chain K, Fig. 9, supported by carriers b', Fig. 7, to move through chainway b up incline C to top of chute and paddle-wheel L to revolve, thereby lifting water from lower level B of canal E and depositing same into upper level B', thereby creating a current in said canal. A boat having a hinge M, with finger J secured thereto, being introduced into the mouth or beginning of canal E, adjacent to loading-station H, is caused by said current to move along the course of said canal to and over the foot of ascending track C between the boat-guides a', which bring the finger J of hinge M directly in slot between finger-guide plates a, when finger J engages with endless chain k, which draws said boat up incline C to top of chute, where endless chain k releases finger J and deposits said boat on one of the cradles f' on turn-table F, which being turned half-way around places the boat in line with descending track D, when turn-table is locked and cradle tipped, allowing the boat to run by gravity down the descending track D, into and over the lake A, to the unloading-station G.

I am aware there are devices having inclines up which boats are drawn and allowed to run down by gravity into a body of water below

and devices which have tipping cradles and turn-tables. These broadly I do not claim; but

What I do claim, and desire to have secured by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A water-chute having ascending and descending tracks, the foot of the latter being built in a lake or large body of water; a canal having an inclined bottom and an upper and lower level, the latter of which runs under foot of ascending track; a paddle-wheel for creating and maintaining a current in said canal; and sprocket-wheels over which an endless chain passes for the purpose set forth, and substantially as described.

2. A water-chute having a turn-table on which is built two tipping cradles, and means for operating same; a boat having fingered hinge fastened to the stern thereof; and sprocket-wheels over which an endless chain passes, for the purpose set forth, and substantially as described.

3. A water-chute having ascending and descending tracks, the foot of the latter being in a lake or large body of water; a canal having an inclined bottom, an upper and a lower level, the latter of which runs under the foot of ascending track; a paddle-wheel for creating and maintaining a current in said canal; a turn-table on which is built two tipping cradles, and means for operating same; sprocket-wheels over which an endless chain passes, for the purpose set forth, and substantially as described.

4. A turn-table on which is built two tipping cradles, and means for operating same, for the purpose set forth, and substantially as described.

5. A boat having a fingered hinge attached to the stern thereof, in combination with a chainway provided with finger-guide plates for the purpose of guiding finger of said hinge so as to drop in said chainway and engage with chain passing through same, for the purpose set forth, and substantially as described.

6. A water-chute having a turn-table on which is built two tipping cradles, and means for operating same; a boat to which is attached a hinge having finger to engage in chain; boat-guides and finger-guide plates for the purpose set forth, and substantially as described.

7. A water-chute having ascending and descending tracks, the foot of the latter being built in a lake or large body of water; a canal having an inclined bottom and an upper and lower level; a paddle-wheel for creating and maintaining a current in said canal for the purpose of conveying a boat from loading-station to and over the foot of said ascending track; a turn-table on which is built two tipping cradles; boat-guides, and chainway having finger-guide plates, for guiding boats

having fingered hinge attached thereto, in position to engage said finger with endless chain passing through said chainway for the purpose of conveying boats to top of chute on one of said cradles on turn-table, for the purpose set forth and substantially as described.

8. In an amusement device, two incline tracks terminating in water; boats adapted to float in the water and run on the tracks; means of receiving passengers at the lower ends of the tracks; means of carrying the boats up one of the tracks; and means of turning the boats and shooting them down the other track.

9. In an amusement device, the turn-table; tilting frame mounted upon the turn-table; an incline track leading up to the turn-table; a second track leading down from the turn-table; a passenger-carriage adapted to run upon the tracks and connect with the conveyer, so that the carriage may be loaded at the bottom of the incline, carried up the incline onto the turn-table, turned around, tilted and shot down the second incline.

10. In an amusement device, an elevated turn-table; a track leading up to the turn-table; a body of water at the lower end of the track; tilting frames upon the turn-table; a second track leading down from the turn-table; and guideways at the lower end of the first track, so that boats floating upon the water may be guided into position to connect with the conveyer and be carried up the incline to the turn-table, turned around, tilted and shot down the second incline.

11. An amusement device of the character described comprising a superstructure; an ascending track mounted upon said superstructure; a descending track mounted on the same; said ascending and descending tracks being inclined in the same direction and located in different planes; and an organized mechanism located at the upper ends of said tracks for transporting the boats leaving the ascending track onto the descending track; substantially as specified.

12. An amusement device of the character described comprising a superstructure; an ascending track mounted upon said superstructure; a descending track mounted on the same; said ascending and descending tracks being inclined in the same direction and located in different planes and parallel with each other; and an organized mechanism located at the upper ends of said tracks for transporting the boats leaving the ascending track onto the descending track, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS FOLKS.

Witnesses:

G. R. VINCENT,  
G. A. VINCENT.