

No. 787,535.

PATENTED APR. 18, 1905.

T. W. McGRATH.  
TRICK TOY.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 19, 1904.

Fig. 1.

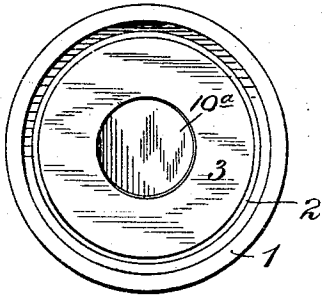


Fig. 2.

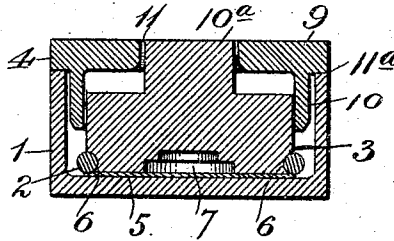


Fig. 5.

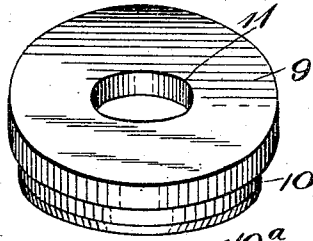


Fig. 4.

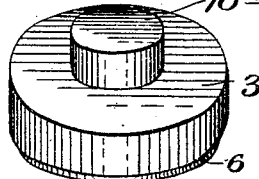


Fig. 3.

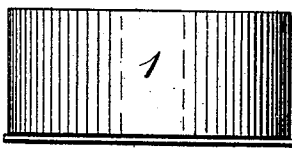


Fig. 6.

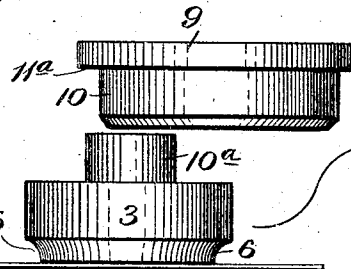


Fig. 7.

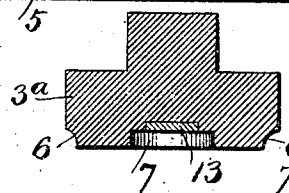


Fig. 8.

Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## TRICK TOY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 787,535, dated April 18, 1905.

Application filed May 19, 1904. Serial No. 208,740.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, TIMOTHY W. McGRATH, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trick Toys; and I do 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.

My invention relates to a trick toy whereby a coin or other similar article may be caused to disappear from view, thus producing considerable amusement and interest to observers, as well as perplexity in trying to arrive at a proper solution of the mystery attending the disappearance.

The object of the invention is to provide a trick toy or device of this kind which is simple of construction, inexpensive of production, and effective for its intended purpose.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of a trick toy embodying the invention, showing the parts disposed within their containing box or case. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are perspective views of the operative elements of the toy. Fig. 6 is a view showing the disposition of the parts at a certain stage in performing the trick. Figs. 7 and 8 are sectional views of the ring and cover or mystifying element, showing a modification.

Referring to the drawings, 1 denotes the inclosing box or casing adapted to contain the operating parts of the toy. The toy proper comprises in its construction three elements—namely, a ring 2, a block or cover 3, adapted to fit down thereon and close the upper open side thereof, and a cup 4, adapted to receive and cover said block 3.

The ring 2 may be of any suitable form and construction and in the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 6, inclusive, is provided upon one side thereof with a coin-shielding disk or diaphragm 5, which may be made of paper or any other suitable material. The ring is designed to be placed in practice upon a surface matching in appearance and

color the said diaphragm or disk, so that the ring will appear to rest directly upon said surface, as hereinafter described.

The block 3, hereinafter termed a "cover" or "mystifying element," is adapted to be employed to rest upon the upper side of the ring and cover and conceal the opening therein during the exhibition of causing the coin or other object to disappear. It preferably consists, as shown, of a solid block provided at its lower peripheral edge with a recess forming a shoulder 6, adapted to receive the upper portion of the upper side of the ring, thus adapting the cover to fit snugly down upon said ring and to be held thereon from disengagement. The under side of the cover is provided with a coin pocket or recess 7 of a size to receive a coin or other article of a prescribed size or denomination and utilized in carrying out the trick as the element caused to mysteriously disappear from view. This pocket is adapted to lightly retain a coin, so that it may be readily removed therefrom when required, and in the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 6, inclusive, is employed only for delusive purposes—that is, to convey the idea that the said pocket is intended to pick up the coin apparently contained within the ring. The shoulder 6, in addition to retaining the cover in place upon the ring, is designed to serve as a striking-surface.

The element 4 comprises a head 9, having a depending flange 10 of a size and depth to snugly cover the block 3 to a point approximately in line with the upper surface of the shoulder 6, and thereby forms a cup employed to conceal the body of the block or cover 3 in the performance of the trick. The cover 3 is provided with a knob or boss 10<sup>a</sup>, adapted to be received in an opening 11 in the head 9 of the cup 4 and to be engaged by a thumb and finger to enable these parts to be conveniently manipulated. The head 9 projects beyond the flange 10 to form a rim 11<sup>a</sup> to rest upon the upper edge of the side wall of the box or case 1, and thus forms a cover to close the case.

In performing the trick care is taken to con-

5    ceal the fact that the ring 2 is provided with the  
 the disk or diaphragm 5, and in beginning the ex-  
 hibition the block or cover 3 is first exhibited  
 and attention called to the fact that the same  
 10   is provided with the pocket 7, which has the  
 appearance of being adapted to receive a coin  
 which fits so lightly within said pocket that  
 it may be released therefrom if the cover 3 is  
 15   struck down on the ring. This is intended to  
 increase the perplexity of the observers in af-  
 terward determining where the coin is con-  
 cealed by leaving them to infer that the coin  
 may be picked up by the pocket 7 when the  
 20   cover 3 is pressed down or struck against the  
 ring 2. A sheet of paper or other suitable  
 material 12, matching in appearance and color  
 the disk or diaphragm 5, is placed in position  
 for use, the coin or other article which is to  
 25   be caused to disappear laid thereon, and the  
 three elements 2, 3, and 4 removed in a group  
 from the box or casing 1 and placed down  
 over the coin, the cover 3 and cup 4 at the  
 same time being given a slight independent  
 30   movement and brought into forcible contact  
 with the ring 2 to delude the beholders into  
 believing that the parts are being manipulated  
 to cause the coin to be taken up within the  
 pocket 7. The cup 4 and cover 3 are then  
 35   lifted separately from the ring and placed  
 upon the paper 12 in close proximity to the  
 ring 2. The observers are then invited to  
 state the location of the coin. Owing to the  
 fact that the coin is concealed by the disk or  
 40   diaphragm 5, which latter matches in appear-  
 ance and color the sheet of paper or other ma-  
 terial on which the ring is placed, the ob-  
 servers are led to believe that the coin is con-  
 cealed by the element 3 or the element 4, as  
 the ring 2 apparently rests directly upon said  
 45   paper or surface, the disk or diaphragm 5 ap-  
 pearing to be a part thereof and the ring to  
 be entirely open. In a majority of cases the  
 answer will be that the coin is beneath the ele-  
 ment 3 and retained within the pocket 7, owing  
 50   to the prevailing impression that in the opera-  
 tion of the parts before described the coin was  
 picked up and retained within the pocket.  
 The exhibitor may then, however, pick up the  
 element 3 and show that the coin is not held  
 55   within the pocket 7 and may cause the coin to  
 again appear by placing the parts 3 and 4 in  
 position upon the ring 2 and lifting said parts  
 and the ring together, thus again exposing  
 the coin. Of course in all of these operations  
 60   the fact that the ring is provided with a dia-  
 phragm is studiously concealed, and none of  
 the observers is allowed to handle any of the  
 parts of the toy, and the simple expedient of  
 providing the ring with the disk or diaphragm  
 5 enables the operation of causing the coin to  
 disappear to be carried out in a majority of  
 cases without detection and with great inter-  
 est and amusement to the onlookers, who are  
 unable to arrive at the solution of the trick.

It will of course be understood that the ele- 65  
 ment 4 is not essential and may be dispensed  
 with, as the trick may be performed by the  
 use simply of the two elements 2 and 3. The  
 element 4 is, however, preferably employed  
 as being conducive to greater mystification in 70  
 the performance of the trick.

The trick may be made more deceptive and  
 bewildering by the use of a modified construc-  
 tion of the toy (shown in Figs. 7 and 8) in con- 75  
 junction with the construction previously de-  
 scribed, so that in the event the operation of  
 the toy when the covered ring 2 is used is  
 known to one or more of the observers a dif-  
 ferent type of device may be used to cause the  
 disappearing of the coin by the actual pick- 80  
 ing up of the coin by the element 3. In the  
 said modification shown in Figs. 7 and 8 the  
 ring 2<sup>a</sup> is entirely open—that is to say, is a  
 simple ring unprovided with a disk or dia-  
 phragm 5—while the cover element 3<sup>a</sup> is pro- 85  
 vided with suitable means for holding or pick-  
 ing up the coin, the same consisting in the  
 present instance of wax or other suitable ad-  
 hesive material 13, filling a chamber or rec-  
 90   cess in the under side of said element 3<sup>a</sup>. In  
 the performance of the trick with this modi-  
 fied construction of the toy the coin will be  
 actually taken up by the cover 3<sup>a</sup>, thus mys-  
 tifying those familiar with the operation of  
 the covered ring and supposing the coin to be 95  
 concealed beneath the disk or diaphragm of  
 such a ring.

From the foregoing description, taken in  
 connection with the accompanying drawings,  
 the construction and mode of operation of my 100  
 improved trick toy will be readily understood,  
 and it will be seen that the invention provides  
 a trick device which will afford interest and  
 amusement and which in the preferred form  
 of the invention operates on the principle of 105  
 optical delusion in causing the disk or dia-  
 phragm 5 to appear as part of the surface on  
 which the ring is laid, thus causing the per-  
 sons before whom the trick is done to believe  
 that the ring is entirely open. Of course the 110  
 construction may be varied in minor particu-  
 lars from the construction herein shown, as  
 in the preferred form of the invention the  
 pocket or recess 7 may be dispensed with, if  
 desired, as the trick may be performed with- 115  
 out the same, such pocket or recess being  
 simply used to enhance the mystery attend-  
 ing the disappearance of the coin and to pri-  
 marily create in the minds of the observers  
 the impression that the coin will be picked up 120  
 by the element 3. As before stated the cup  
 member 4 need not absolutely be employed,  
 while the parts 2 and 3 or their equivalents  
 are essential.

Having thus described my invention, what 125  
 I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters  
 Patent, is—

1. A trick toy comprising a ring provided

with a coin-shielding disk or diaphragm upon the under side thereof, and a device to cover the opposite or open side of the ring, said device having a shoulder to fit the ring and a deluding coin-holder, substantially as described.

and a cup to inclose said cover, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

TIMOTHY W. McGRATH.

Witnesses:

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ALETHA B. STEBBINS.