(No Model.)

F. T. O'SHAUGHNESSY.

TOY PUZZLE.

No. 426,569. Patented Apr. 29, 1890.

FIG. 1.

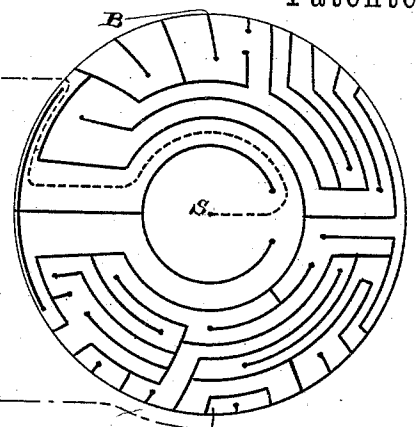


FIG. 4.

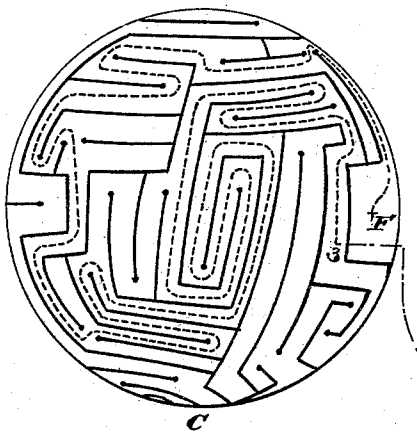


FIG. 2.

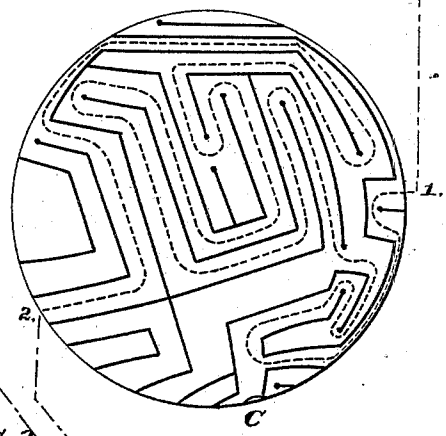
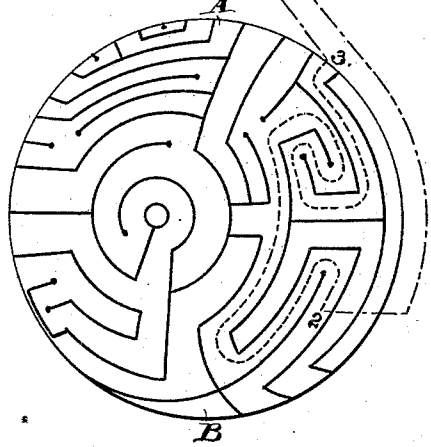


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOY PUZZLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 426,569, dated April 29, 1890.

Application filed December 2, 1889. Serial No. 332,217. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK T. O'SHAUGHNESSY, of the city of Camden and State of New Jersey, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Toy Puzzles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention has relation to toy puzzles; and it consists in a series of irregular paths gated or connected one with the other, forming a labyrinth, whereon numerous of the paths terminate blindly with no exit after leading in and out, or lead circuitously back into the direct course or to the starting-point. One path, at least, however, is continuous, and leads from the given starting-plat to the goal or terminus sought.

I preferably employ the surface of a ball or oval upon which to lay out the tortuous paths of my invention, as the tracing of the direct path becomes more difficult when the entire course is not exposed to the eye at one time, as it would be were the paths laid out on a flat surface.

In the accompanying drawings, similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout.

Figure 1 is a plan or top view of a ball with the paths laid out upon it. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of Figs. 1 and 3, viewing it from the point indicated by B. Fig. 3 is a bottom view or inverted plan, viewing it from the point indicated by C in Figs. 2 and 4. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of Figs. 1 and 3, viewing it from the point indicated by A.

S in Fig. 1 is the plat which indicates the starting-point of the path to be traced and the dotted lines indicate a correct path to be followed. The point 1 in Fig. 1 is supposed to correspond with the point 1 in Fig. 2, showing the continuous course of the journey. The point 2 in Fig. 2 is supposed to correspond with the point 2 in Fig. 3, showing the continuous course, while point 3 in Fig. 4 is also supposed to correspond to point 3 in Fig. 3, and the correct path is continuously indicated until the finishing-goal F is reached, as shown in Fig. 4. The other numerous paths indicated are blind, or lead circuitously into the direct course or back to the starting-point, and being more numerous than the correct paths induce more readily the traveler to follow them, and in many instances considerable distances before being brought to a sudden stop by a blind path, or back to the starting-point, as may be plainly seen from the drawings.

The walls of the paths may be simply indicated by marks, or they may, if desired, be raised or the paths grooved to guide the pointed instrument which is preferably used in endeavoring to trace the course.

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

1. A ball having described thereon a series of tortuous paths, having a starting-plat and a finishing-plat connected by one or more continuous but intersected tortuous paths and paths which terminate blindly, substantially as set forth and described.

2. A ball having described thereon a series of tortuous paths leading from a starting-point, one or more of which by circuitous courses connect with the finishing-plat and intersected by numerous blind paths calculated to mislead, substantially as set forth and described.

3. A ball having described on the surface thereof numerous tortuous paths leading from a starting-point thereon intersected by misleading paths, one or more of which lead to a finishing-point, substantially as set forth and described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 30th day of November, A. D. 1889.

FRANK T. O'SHAUGHNESSY.

Witnesses:

HORACE PETTIT,

JAMES B. GIVIN.