(No Model.)

E. L. MORRIS.

TOY.

No. 245,311. Patented Aug. 9, 1881.

Fig. 1.

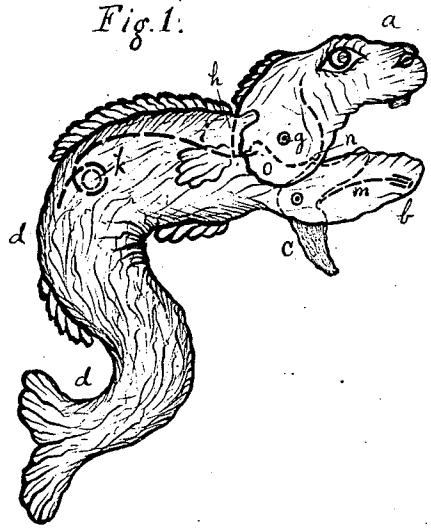
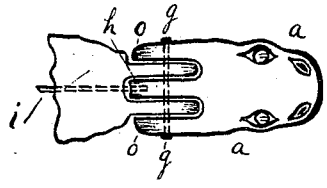


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
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Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD L. MORRIS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

TOY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 245,311, dated August 9, 1881.

Application filed April 11, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD L. MORRIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Toy, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates an improved toy; and it consists of a toy creature arranged to be held in the hand, and, by means of suitable mechanism, operated so as to imitate the action of a living creature in the working of its mouth and jaws.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings my invention is illustrated.

Figure 1 is a side view, the internal construction being shown by dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a sectional longitudinal top view, showing the junction of the head with the body of the creature.

In Fig. 1, *a* is the upper jaw of the creature, hinged or pivoted to the body at *g*. *b* is the under jaw, fixed firmly to the body. The neck *h* of the creature extends back of the pivot *g* and shuts into the body when the jaw *a* is opened. Against the neck *h* a spring, *i*, is caused to act, the said spring being coiled back into the body of the creature and fastened at *k*.

c represents a whisker or appendage pivoted to the fixed jaw *b*, and serving as a catch to operate in connection with the jaw *a*. The catch *c* is provided with a small spring, *m*, which causes it to engage with the jaw *a* at *n* when the jaw *a* is forced open. The appendage *c*, extended within the throat of the creature, serves also to represent a tongue, and the part *n*, attached to the roof of the mouth, serves to represent a gill or palate.

The cheeks *o* are constructed to overlap the body, thus giving a proper finish to the toy, and also serving to give the jaw *a* a more steady support upon the pivot *g* than would be obtained by pivoting to the palate or central support, *n*, alone.

The toy is held within the hand, conveniently for operation, by its rear parts, *d d*. Now, forcing open the jaw *a* until the catch *c* engages with the same at *n*, the spring *i* acts against the neck *h* in such a manner as, when the catch *c* is released, to throw the jaw *a* violently upon its opposite jaw, *b*, thus imitating the action of a living creature in closing or snapping together its jaws, and thereby producing a startling and amusing effect.

I do not confine myself to the precise form of toy illustrated, as other forms, hideous or attractive, as the case may be, can evidently be used embodying the same invention.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A toy having the semblance of a creature's jaws, *a b*, constructed to operate in combination with the spring *i*, pivot *g*, and catch *c*, substantially as set forth.

2. A toy having the semblance of a creature's jaws, *a b*, constructed to operate as described, and provided with overlapping cheeks or jaw-supports *o*, substantially as stated.

3. A toy creature having jaws *a b*, constructed to operate in combination with the spring *i*, pivot *g*, and catch *c*, and having its rear parts, *d d*, conveniently arranged to be grasped within the hand, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

EDWARD L. MORRIS.

Witnesses:
EDWIN W. BROWN,
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