

No. 810,613.

PATENTED JAN. 23, 1906.

T. F. BURKE & T. L. VALLELY,

RETURN BALL.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1905.

Fig. 1

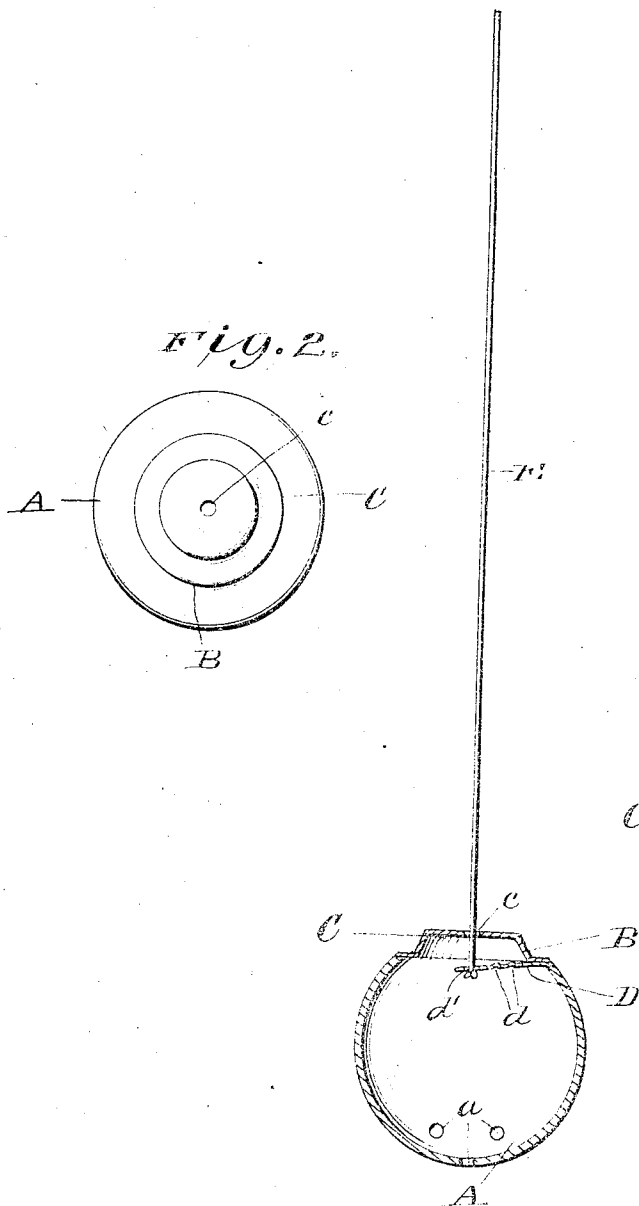


Fig. 2

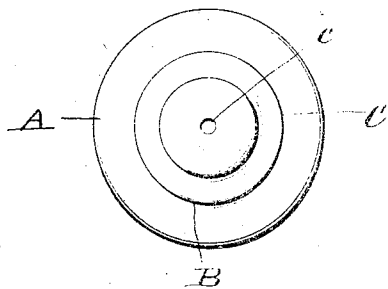


Fig. 3.

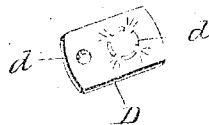
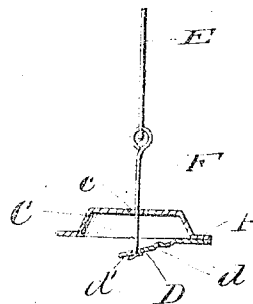


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS F. BURKE AND THOMAS L. VALLELY, OF NEWCASTLE,
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RETURN-BALL.

No. 810,613.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 23, 1906.

Application filed June 1, 1906. Serial No. 263,275.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, THOMAS F. BURKE and THOMAS L. VALLELY, citizens of the United States, residing at Newcastle, in the county of Lawrence and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Return-Balls, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to return-balls, and has for its object the improvement of toys of this nature by so constructing the ball that when in operation a clicking sound is made by the ball.

The construction and operation of our invention will be fully explained hereinafter, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a cross-section of our improved return-ball; Fig. 2, a top plan view of the ball; Fig. 3, a detail view of the clicking-tongue, and Fig. 4 a view of a modification.

In the drawings similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Our improved return-ball consists of a cup-shaped portion A, made of rubber or any other selected material and having a number of holes *a* therein.

B represents a cap made of rigid material secured to the edge of the cup-shaped portion A in any suitable manner, such as cementing. The center of cap B is raised, as shown at C, and is provided with a central opening *c*.

D represents a tongue of spring metal secured near the edge of cap B and having its central portion kinked or depressed, as shown at *d*, so that when its free end is swung toward the cap B and released a clicking sound is made. The free end of the tongue D is provided with a hole *d'*, in which is secured an elastic string E, which passing through hole *c* is adapted to be held by the operator.

In use the ball is thrown from the operator, who holds the free end of the string E. When the ball reaches the limit of the string E, its momentum causes the tongue D to be drawn toward the cap B, and when the elasticity of string E overcomes the momentum of the ball and causes it to return to the operator the tongue returns to its normal position, causing a clicking sound, which adds to the enjoyment of operating the toy.

It is obvious that, if desired, a piece of wire F or other non-abrasive material may be secured to the tongue and passed through hole *c* to be secured to string E, as shown in Fig. 4, and we do not, therefore, wish to be confined to securing the string E directly to the tongue nor to other details of construction except where limited thereto by the claims.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

1. In combination with a return-ball, a tongue of flexible material secured thereto, said tongue being buckled intermediate of its ends and a string secured to said tongue, the tongue when flexed producing a noise, substantially as shown and described.

2. In combination with a return-ball, a tongue of spring metal secured to said ball and having its central portion kinked, and a string secured to the free end of said tongue, substantially as shown and described.

3. A return-ball comprising a cup, a rigid cap secured to said cup, a tongue of flexible material secured to the inside of said cap, said tongue being buckled intermediate of its ends and a string passed through said hole and secured to the tongue of flexible material, said tongue when flexed producing a noise, substantially as shown and described.

4. A return-ball comprising a cup, a rigid cap secured to said cup, a tongue of spring metal secured to said cap and having its central portion kinked, and a string secured to the free end of said tongue, substantially as shown and described.

5. A return-ball comprising a cup, a rigid cap secured to said cup and having a hole therein, a tongue of spring metal secured to said cap inside of the ball and having its central portion kinked, and an elastic string secured to the free end of the tongue and extended through the hole in the cap, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof we hereto affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS F. BURKE.
THOMAS L. VALLELY.

Witnesses:

H. K. GREGORY,
W. W. STEVENSON.