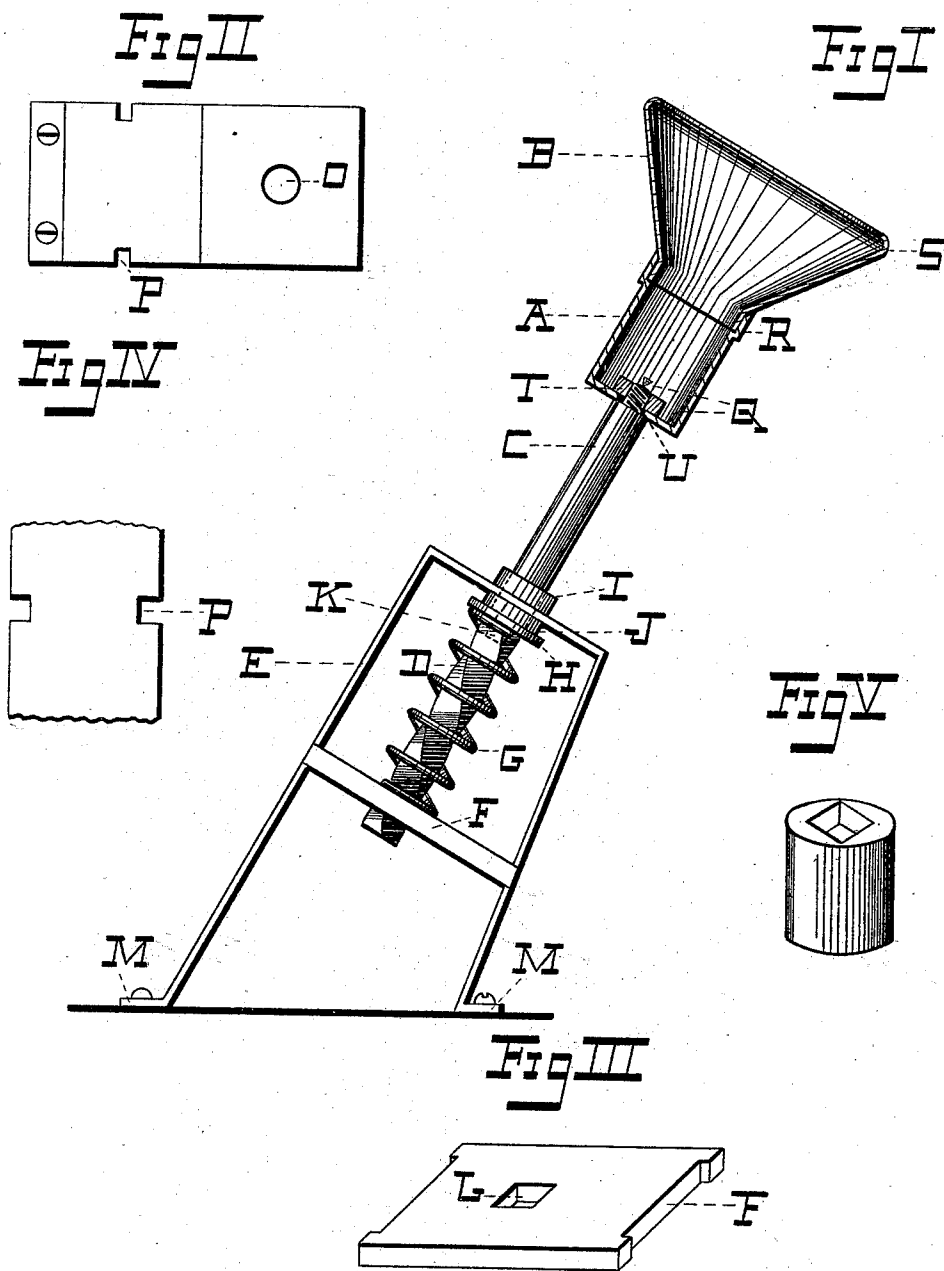


(No Model.)

G. SOUTHWELL.
BILLIARD CUE CHALKER.

No. 519,356.

Patented May 8, 1894.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE SOUTHWELL, OF WESTPORT, MISSOURI.

BILLIARD-CUE CHALKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 519,356, dated May 8, 1894.

Application filed February 10, 1893. Serial No. 461,771. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE SOUTHWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Westport, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Billiard-Cue Chalkers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to that class of billiard cue chalkers wherein the chalk is held in a revoluble holder which is operated by pressure applied to the chalk with the cue.

The object of my invention is to provide a cue chalker easily operated, efficient, and cheap to manufacture. The peculiarities of my invention are fully set forth hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrative of my invention, Figure 1 represents a side elevation view having the cue guide and chalk holder shown in vertical section. Fig. 2 represents a plan view of the guide frame with the other parts removed. Fig. 3 represents the guide plate in perspective. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view of a portion of the guide frame showing the notches P. Fig. 5 represents in perspective the form of the chalk intended to be used in my chalk holder, and is shown with its ends reversed to illustrate the opening in the bottom of the chalk.

Similar letters of reference indicate similar parts throughout the different views.

A, indicates a cylindrical thimble, preferably metallic, and having its upper open end enlarged at R. A funnel-shaped cue guide also made preferably from sheet metal, has its lower end, which is the small end, tightly fitted within the upper end of the chalk holder A. The upper end of the funnel-shaped cue guide B, is cupped inwardly as indicated by S for the purpose of preventing particles of chalk from rolling out of the funnel or guide. Secured to the chalk holder on its inside and centrally located at the lower end thereof, is a nut T which is adapted to the screw-threaded projection U, upon the upper end of a cylindrical rod C, which passes through an opening in the center of the bottom of the chalk holder. The lower end of the rod C, is provided with a projection K, that is smaller in diameter than the rod and is tightly

fitted within an opening adapted to it in the upper end of a spiral guide rod D. Between the guide rod D, and the cylindrical rod C, is secured a washer H, provided with an opening fitting the projecting end K, of the rod C. The guide frame E, is preferably formed from a metallic strip into the shape similar to the letter A, the two legs being of unequal length and the lower ends of said legs being bent so as to form the feet M, through which screws may pass to secure the framework to the floor, or other convenient place of fastening. The upper end of the guide frame E, is provided with a round central opening O, shown in Fig. 2, through which the rod C, may operate up and down. A transverse guide plate F, parallel to the top of the guide frame, is rectangular in shape and is provided with an opening L, conforming in shape to a transverse section of the spiral guide rod D, which is adapted to operate, upward and downward, through the said opening L. At each corner of the guide plate F, is a projection adapted to fit within a corresponding opening or notch P, in the edge of one of the legs of the framework E. The said notches P, are shown in Figs. 2 and 4, each of said legs being provided with two of said notches. Two elastic rings I, and J, are slipped over the rod C, one on each side, respectively, of the top of the guide frame E. These rings serve as buffers to prevent the noise of striking when the mechanism is operated. Encircling the spiral guide rod D, is a coil spring G the lower end of which has a bearing upon the upper face of the guide plate F, the upper end bearing upon the lower side of the washer H. Upon the inner periphery and near the lower end of the chalk holder A, are inwardly extending projections Q, preferably formed by indenting the sides of the chalk holder A, and adapted to serve as a means of preventing the chalk from revolving in the holder. The nut T, which is secured to the bottom of the chalk holder, may be of any shape excepting round. I prefer to make it square in shape. I also intend to have the cylinder of chalk molded with a depression in the bottom corresponding in shape to the nut T, and of a size adapted to receive the nut. This feature of construction fur-

nishes an additional safe-guard against the liability of the cylinder of chalk turning within the holder. Indeed, as against the liability of turning in the holder forming the bottom end of the chalk so as to fit over the nut T, is of itself sufficient. However, I prefer to use the projections Q, to prevent the chalk from bounding upward out of the holder, which might occur if the cue were suddenly withdrawn.

I have found by actual demonstration, that either means just described for preventing turning of the chalk in the holder, may be dispensed with if the other is retained, the best results being obtained in this respect however, when both means are employed. The guide plate F, may be made of most any material having rigidity. I prefer, however, to make it of a material that produces little noise when the guide rod D, is forced through the opening L, therein. I have found that vulcanized fiber serves admirably as a material from which to make the guide plate F. I prefer to make the guide rod D, from square brass or Bessemer steel rod, any form of spiral, however, will answer, it being necessary only that the opening L, conforms in shape to the cross section of the guide rod.

I have found that the most convenient place for using the chalk holder is to secure it to the floor underneath the billiard table. In order to make it easily accessible to the cue, and to prevent its acting as an obstruction to the feet, it is placed on the floor at an angle from the perpendicular, some little distance within the space directly under the table.

The following is a description of the manner of setting up the cue chalker:—The washer H, is placed over the projecting end K, of the rod C, said projection K, is then forced into the opening at one end of the guide rod D. For security, it may be well to solder together the rods C, and D, where they are united. The rubber washer J, is then placed on the rod C, upon the upper side of the washer H. The rod C, is then thrust through the opening O, said rod C, then being furnished with the rubber washer or ring I. The guide plate F, is fitted to the spiral rod D, coil spring G, having been previously slipped over the said guide rod D. The legs of the guide frame E, are then opened sufficiently

to permit the projecting corners of the guide plate F, to enter the notches P, in the legs of the framework. The legs of the framework E, are then forced together so as to securely clamp between them the guide plate F. The feet M, are now screwed to the floor or other place of attachment. The cylindrical piece of chalk is placed within the chalk holder in such a position that the depression in the lower side of the chalk is in proper register with the nut T. The chalk is then forced to the bottom of the holder, the projections Q, cutting a pathway in the sides of the chalk block. The chalk holder is then screwed upon the projecting end U, of the rod C, and the mechanism is ready to operate. In operating the cue chalker, the cue is inserted in the cue guide B, and against the upper side of the block of chalk, pressure being applied to the cue the chalk holder is forced downward together with the rods C, and D. During the downward motion of the rod D, it also takes a circumferential motion, due to its spiral shape, and the opening L, in the guide plate thus imparting a rotating motion to the block of chalk, by which means the tip of the cue is thoroughly chalked. Upon withdrawing the pressure of the cue from the chalk, the tension of the compressed coil spring G, causes the rod D, to be forced upward and to revolve it to its original position.

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

In a cue chalker, the combination with a chalk holder, of a spiral guide rod connected therewith, the guide frame E, provided at its upper end with a guide opening O, through which the guide rod operates, the transverse guide plate F, provided with another guide opening L, through which the guide rod passes, a projection at each corner of the guide plate F, adapted to fit within the notches P, in the legs of the guide frame E, and means for retracting the guide rod, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE SOUTHWELL.

Witnesses:

JOHN MCCRAY,
FRANK. C. WARD.