

L. A. CROZIER.
 BALL PUZZLE.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 22, 1910.

977,600.

Patented Dec. 6, 1910.

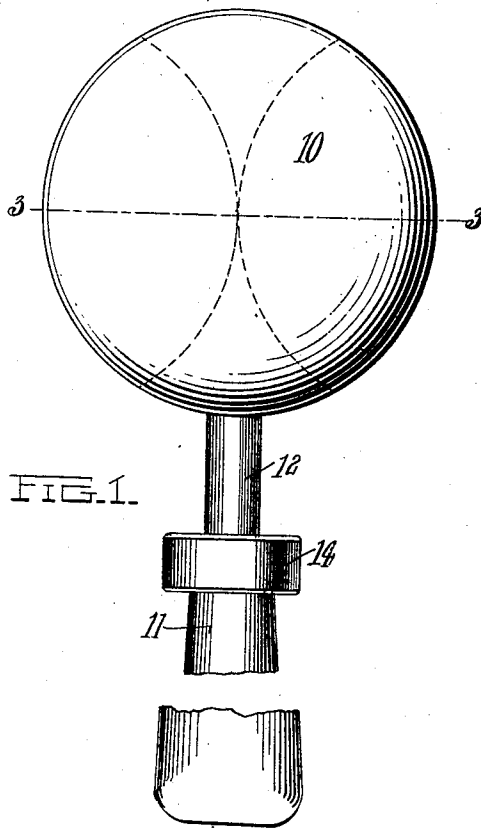


FIG. 1.

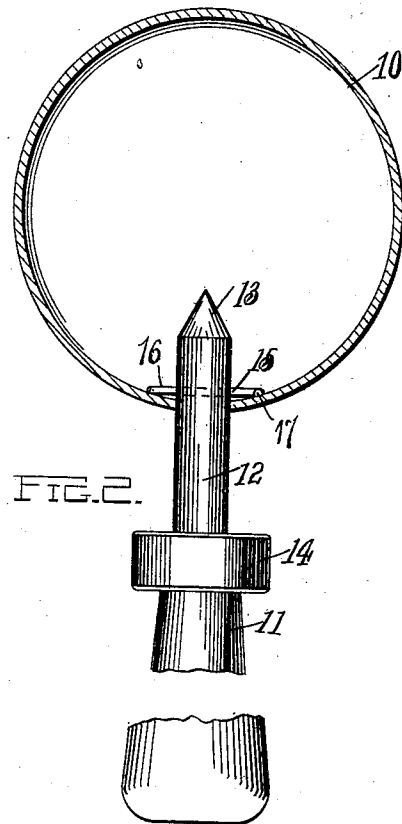


FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

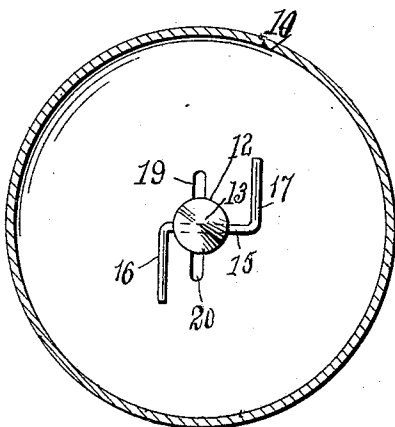


FIG. 3.

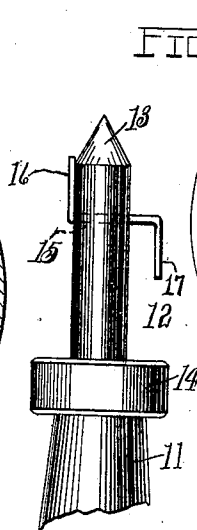
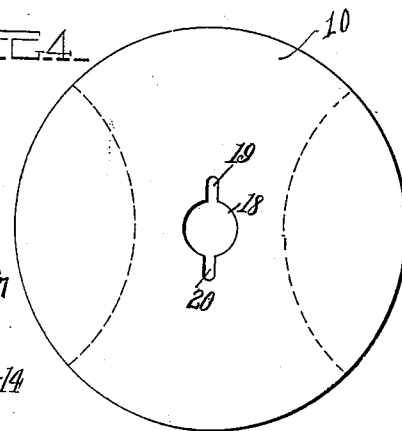


FIG. 4.



Witnesses
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BALL-PUZZLE.

977,600.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LESTER A. CROZIER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lynn, in the county of Essex, State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ball-Puzzles; and I do hereby 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.

This invention relates to puzzles, and has for one of its objects to provide a device which is calculated to instruct and amuse and to exercise the faculty of patience and perseverance.

With this and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereinafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims; and, in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved device with the parts connected, Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 with the ball portion in section, Fig. 3 is a plan view with the ball in section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the ball portion of the device, Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the "bat" portion of the device, detached.

The improved device comprises a hollow representation of a base ball 10 and the representation of a base ball bat 11, and the puzzle is to couple the bat to and disconnect it from the ball. The bat is provided at one end with a reduced portion 12, which may be of any suitable material, but is preferably of metal and with its free end conical, as shown at 13, to facilitate its insertion into the ball. The "bat" portion of the device is also preferably provided with a collar 14 between the reduced portion 12 and the body of the bat 11, as shown. Slidably disposed through the reduced portion 12 is a rod 15 having oppositely directed terminal portions 16—17. The ball 10 is provided at one side with an aperture 18 and oppositely disposed slots 19—20 communicating with the aperture. The material of the ball is relatively thin, as shown, so that the rod 12 is sufficiently loose to permit a swinging movement thereto upon the edges of the aperture, and the rod 15 is of slightly greater length than the combined lengths of the aperture

18 and the slots 19—20, as represented in Fig. 3. With a device thus constructed the puzzle is to insert the reduced portion 12 of the bat together with its rod 15 and offsets 16—17 through the aperture 18 and its slots 19—20, and then extract the same. The reduced portion 12 of the bat and its slidable rod 15 together with its oppositely directed terminals 16—17 may readily be inserted through the opening 18 and the slots 19 by first moving the rod 15 endwise to bring one of the right angled terminals, for instance the terminal 16, against the side of the rod 12 and pointing away from the collar 14, as shown in Fig. 5. The operator then inserts the conical point 13 of the rod 12 through the aperture 18 and the terminal 16 through one of the slots 19 or 20. The operator then turns the "bat" with its rod 12 sidewise to a sufficient extent to move the bend between the member 15 and its terminal 16 beyond the inner face of the material of the ball so that the member 15 can be moved endwise through the rod 12 to bring the terminal 17 against the side of the rod and in position to be passed through the other slot 19 or 20 as the case may be and thus permitting the rod with its members 15—16—17 to be inserted into the ball with the collar 14 against the same. The bat is then shaken or agitated to cause the member 15 to turn transversely to bring the members 16—17 crosswise of the bat, as shown in Fig. 3. This couples the bat to the ball, as will be obvious. The member 15 of course it will be understood is sufficiently loose in the aperture of the rod 12 to permit it to freely rotate when the bat is agitated or shaken about. After the reduced portion together with the rod has been inserted into the ball the terminal 15—17 will naturally assume a position at right angles to the bat, and effectually prevent the withdrawal of the bat and its reduced portion, and the bat can only be detached by manipulating the member 15 and its lateral terminals 16—17 and with one of the terminals 16 or 17 against the rod 12 to bring them in alinement with the longitudinal plane of the bat in such manner that one of the terminals 16 or 17 lies against and extends longitudinally along the rod 12. The ball may then be rotated to such position as will adapt this terminal to enter one of the slots 19 or 20 when the ball and bat may readily be separated with the same

movements by which the bat was coupled to the ball except that the movements are in reversed order. When the bat has been manipulated, as above stated, to bring the terminals 16—17 in alinement with the rod 12 and with one of the terminals against the rod 12 and pointing toward the collar 14 this last mentioned terminal can be readily disposed in one of the slots 19 or 20 and thus permit the rod 12 to be withdrawn to a sufficient extent to enable the member 15 to be drawn through the rod to release the other terminal 16, as above described.

The ball 10 will preferably be formed to represent an ordinary base ball and will have the usual stitching therein as represented in Figs. 1 and 4, and may be of any required size and of any suitable material. The portion 11, as above stated, is preferably in the form of a conventional base ball bat.

The stop wire 15 with its oppositely extending terminals 16—17 is balanced, so that it will retain whatever position it may assume, but the ends 16—17 will assume a position at right angles to the bat when an attempt is made to remove the "bat," as shown in Fig. 2.

What is claimed is:—

1. A puzzle comprising a hollow body having an aperture in one side and with oppositely arranged slots communicating with the aperture, a connecting member including a portion adapted to pass through said aperture, and a rod slidable and rotatable in said connecting member with the outer portions bent at right angles to and in opposite directions from the same.

2. A puzzle comprising a hollow body having an aperture in one side and with oppositely arranged slots communicating with the aperture, a connecting member including a portion adapted to pass through said aperture, a stop collar carried by the connecting member and spaced from its free end, and a rod slidable and rotatable in said connecting member with the outer portions bent at right angles to and in opposite directions from the same.

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

L. A. CROZIER.

Witnesses:

M. F. REES,

HAROLD CROZIER.