C. T. Ford.

Toy Fortune-Teller.

No 71374 Patented Nov. 26, 1867.

Fig. 1.

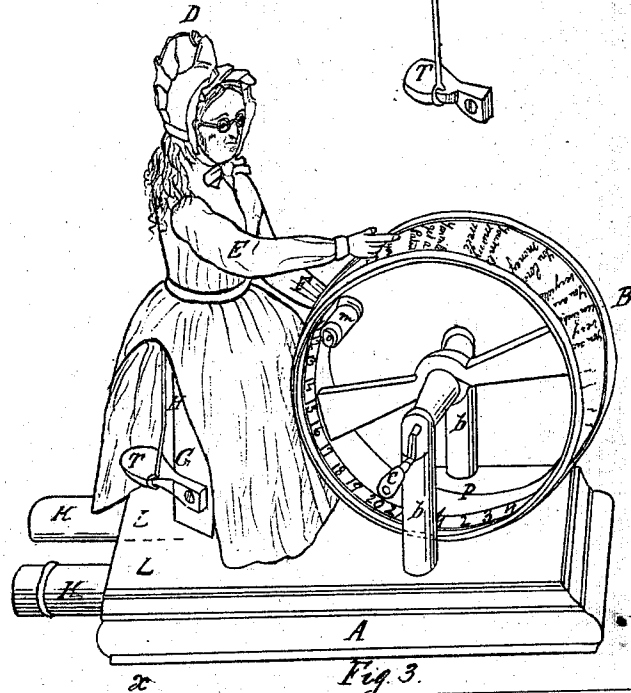

Fig. 2.

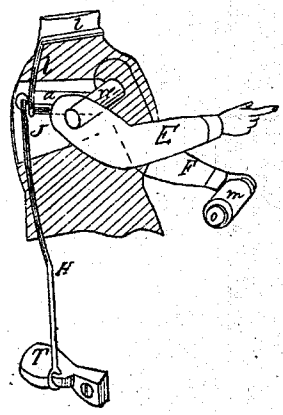

Fig. 3.

How many admirers shall I have?	A
Shall I soon get married?	B
Am I thought pretty?	C
Shall I be rich?	D
Will any one soon pay his addresses to me?	X
What will my husband be?	Y
Which of the two shall I choose?	Z

I.	
1. You will always have as much as you need	
2. As rich as you are at present.	
3. Quite wealthy	
19. Yes.	
20. Not very.	
21. No.	

Witnesses.
Thos Tusche
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CHARLES T. FORD, OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 71,374, *dated November* 26, 1867.

TOY FORTUNE-TELLER.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, CHARLES T. FORD, of Salem, in the county of Essex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and improved Toy Fortune-Teller; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the toy.

Figure 2 is a detail view of the mechanism of the figure.

Figure 3 are the scrolls.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to a toy for telling fortunes or answering questions, and consists of a revolving wheel having prophetic sentences on its periphery, at some one of which the hand of a figure points when the wheel is stopped. There are also numbers on the inner periphery of the same wheel, which relate to questions and answers to be found on the scrolls forming part of the toy.

A is the pedestal or base of the toy. B is the wheel, revolving on a shaft, having bearings in the posts *b b*. A crank, *c*, is attached to said shaft. A figure, D, facing the wheel, points with one hand to the prophetic sentences on the face thereof, while the other serves as a brake to stop the same at will. The mechanism operating these hands is shown at fig. 2, where the arms E F are shown rigidly attached to the ends of a wire, W, said wire, when the arms are in place, having a bearing in the upper part of the trunk of the figure D. The arms are raised by the action of the treadle T, which is pivoted to the post G, supporting the figure D, as shown in fig. 1. A wire, H, connects the treadle with the lever-arm *a*, forming part of the axis-wire W. The arms E F of the figure are kept down upon the surfaces of the wheel B by the tension of a rubber loop, *l*, which passes around the neck of the figure and enters a recess, J, in the body of the figure. This loop receives the end of the arm *a*, and thus forms a spring to the same, all as shown in fig. 2. A coiled or helical spring can be substituted for the rubber loop, or a solid rubber spring may be placed within the recess J to exert its tension against the said arm *a*, either above or below the same. The figure is covered with female drapery, which conceals the working mechanism. A pin, *o*, bearing a rubber roll or pad, *m*, projects from one hand of the figure partially across the inner face of the wheel B, and acts as a friction-brake for stopping the wheel when the pressure is removed from the treadle T. The base or pedestal A has holes, L, made in it to receive the scrolls K, the projecting ends of which can be seen in fig. 1. These scrolls contain a series of questions and answers relating to the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, etc., arranged on the inner face of the wheel, as shown in fig. 1.

A point, P, projecting from one of the posts *b*, indicates whatever number it is above when the wheel is stopped. An example of the manner of using the scrolls will be seen by referring to fig. 3 in the drawings, when one of the scrolls or cards K is chosen for illustration, thus: On the alphabet-card *x* are twenty-six questions, and after each a letter, which indicates that the answer to the question will be found on the certain scroll bearing the same letter. These cards, twenty-six in number, have each twenty-one different answers, which numbers correspond to the numbers on the inner face of the wheel, as before described. Supposing a question, as the one underscored with a red line, is chosen, the letter following it is I. The card or scroll similarly lettered is then produced, the wheel is turned, and, when stopped, the pin P is over a number, as 1. This number on card I is then referred to, and an answer thus obtained, as shown over the red line on that card.

When the prophetic sentences on the wheel are to be employed, it is only requisite to press upon the treadle, turn the wheel at random, and remove the pressure from the treadle, when the hands, actuated by the spring as aforesaid, will respectively clamp the wheel stationary, and point to some one of the sentences thereon, as shown at fig. 1.

This improved form of a fortune-telling toy is simple, not liable to become deranged as to its mechanism, and can be made with very little expense.

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

1. Placing the prophetic sentences upon the periphery or face of a revolving wheel, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. Employing spring mechanism to bear down the arms of the figure of a fortune-telling toy, substantially as shown, and for the objects specified.

3. The treadle T, or other equivalent device, for lifting the brake *m* from the wheel, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

4. The scrolls or cards K, with questions and answers thereon, lettered and numbered, substantially as shown and described, in combination with the numbers on the wheel B, all as and for the purpose set forth.

5. The holes L in the base A, in combination with the wheel B of a fortune-telling toy, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

6. The rubber brake *m*, substantially as and for the purpose of stopping a toy-wheel, all as set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this first day of October, 1867.

CHARLES T. FORD.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. REED,

THOMAS A. ROWELL.