

J. WHITE LAW.
GAME-COUNTER.

No. 174,992.

Patented March 21, 1876.

Fig. 1 -

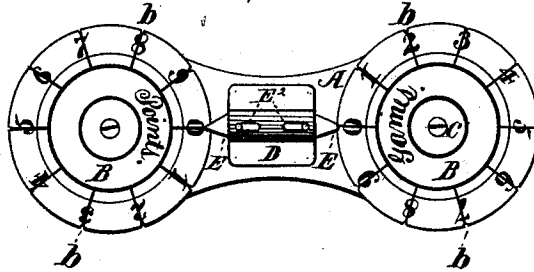
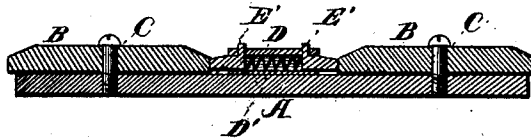


Fig. 2 -



WITNESSES

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JOHN WHITELAW, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN GAME-COUNTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,992**, dated March 21, 1876; application filed February 23, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WHITELAW, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Counters; 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an indicator or counter, designed to indicate the number of games that may have been won by either party to a game of cards, or it may be used as a counter for any other like purpose.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a counter embracing the principles of my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central vertical section of same.

My invention consists of a plate or frame bearing a counting-disk at each of its ends, one indicating the number of games played, and the other indicating the number of points that have been gained by the player in any one game; and in connection with these disks there is an intermediate frame or case, from which project spring-teeth, that as either disk is turned one space the corresponding spring-tooth will spring into a notch in the edge of said disk and prevent any further movement or displacement until again turned by the player to indicate other points gained or games won.

A is the plate or frame, bearing disks B at each end thereof. One of these disks is suitably marked for any number of points, that in the instance shown in the drawings being from 1 to 10, to indicate the number of points gained in any game, and the word "points" may or may not be printed thereon. The other disk is divided in like manner to indicate the games won, and may or may not be stamped or marked with the word "games." So, also, if desired, one of the disks may be stamped or marked with one color of ink, while the other may be stamped or marked with another color, or the disks themselves may be of different colors, or be made of the same or different material. The disks B are pivoted to pivots C, so as to turn freely upon

said pivots. D is a suitable frame containing a spring or springs, D', which force movable points E out against the edges of the disks B, and the movable points E are provided with studs E', which project through slots E² in the top of the frame D, and serve as finger-catches. The disks B are provided with notches b on their peripheries corresponding to the numbers on the said disks.

The operation of the device is apparent from the drawings. When playing is begun the disks are set so that the zero-points are opposite the spring-points E, which serve also as index-fingers. When one or more points are gained the player turns the proper disk around until the proper number is opposite the index E, which drops or springs into the corresponding notch b, and prevents the disk from turning further, or from being accidentally misplaced, until again turned by the operator. When the game is won the player turns the other disk until it indicates one game—that is, until the Fig. 1 is opposite the index-finger; and if the other disk is not already on the zero-point, he so fixes it, and proceeds as before. Instead of making the notches b so deep that the disks B can only be turned by first removing the spring catches or indexes E by pressing back the studs E', the notches may be made shallow and the spring-catches blunt, so that when the catches are in the notches they offer good protection against turning, but not so much but that the disks may be turned by exerting considerable force. In the latter case the studs E' and corresponding slots may be dispensed with. This device may be attached to a plated or other metallic frame, A, and the disks B may be of ivory, or each or all of the parts except the springs may be made of gutta-percha, or any other suitable material may be employed. So, also, instead of being made separate, as shown in the drawings, two such devices shown in the drawings may be attached to the card-box, one being upon the box and the other on the cover, so that each player or each set of players can have one of said parts, and, consequently, one of the machines.

What I claim is—

1. The game-counter, consisting of a frame, A, rotating disks B, and the spring-points or

index-fingers E located intermediate between said disks, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. The combination with the frame A and disk B, having the notches *b*, of the intermediate spring-catches or index-fingers E, provided with the projecting studs E', substantially as described and for the purposes set forth.

3. The combination, with the frame A, rotating notched disks B, and index-finger E, of

the index frame or inclosure D and the spring or springs D', substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN WHITELOW.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS TOUMEY,
JAMES P. WALSH.