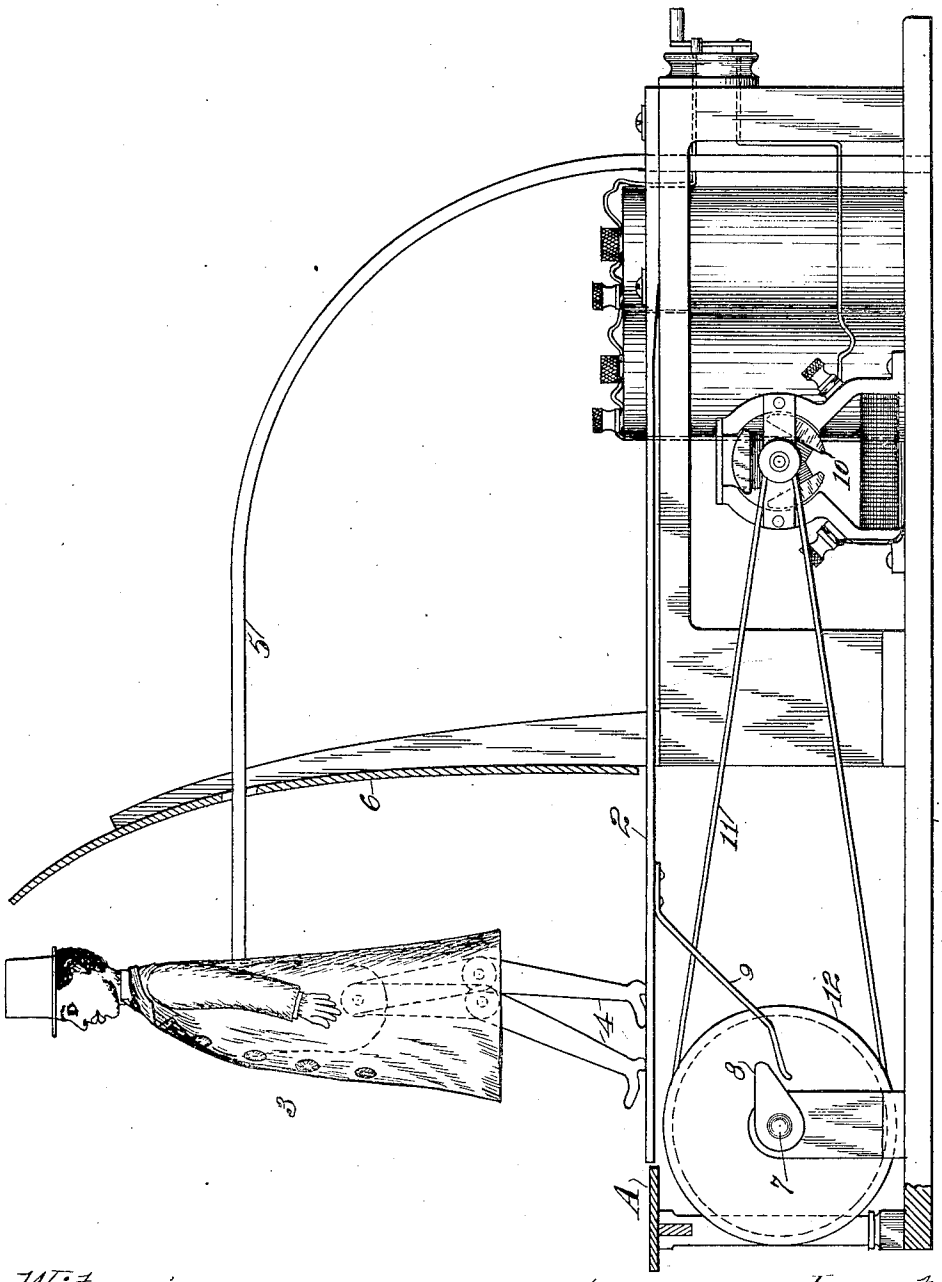
No. 832,196. PATENTED OCT. 2, 1906.

W. J. HUSTED.

DANCING TOY.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 2, 1906.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. HUSTED, OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.

DANCING TOY.

No. 832,196. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 2, 1906.

Application filed January 2, 1906. Serial No. 294,167.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. HUSTED, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sacramento, in the county of Sacramento and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Dancing Toys, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in dancing and like mechanical toys.

It consists, in combination with an elastic vibratory platform and a figure supported above said platform, of mechanism by which the platform may be operated mechanically.

It also comprises details of construction, which will be more fully explained by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which the figure is a side elevation of the device.

Various devices for amusement comprising suspended figures with loosely-jointed legs have been constructed, such devices being usually operated by the aid of the fingers either to move the figure itself or in other ways to cause the necessary movement to imitate dancing.

It is the object of my invention to provide a means by which the operation is carried on without any other attention than to start the apparatus.

As shown in the drawing of the present construction, A is a fixed platform, and 2 is an elastic platform fitted into an opening in the main stationary platform A, so that it may be caused to vibrate, as will be hereinafter described.

The figure 3 has loosely-jointed legs 4, and it is supported by a curved or equivalent bar 5, fixed at some point in the rear and entering the back of the figure, so that the figure is supported at such a point that its feet will just touch the vibratory platform.

6 is a shield or guard extending up behind the figure and serving to cut off the view of the operating mechanism. In order to vibrate the platform above which the figure stands, and thus cause the feet and legs to move so as to simulate dancing, I have shown a revoluble shaft 7, having upon it a cam 8. This shaft is journaled beneath the front and free end of the platform 2 and at some distance below the platform.

9 is an elastic spring-arm fixed to the lower surface of platform 2 and having its end extended out so that the cam when revolved will contact with this end of the arm, and by reason of the elasticity of the platform and the spring-arm the action of the cam will cause the platform to move with a peculiar life and elasticity.

In order to rotate the cam or crank and actuate the platform, various mechanical contrivances are employed. In the present case I have shown a small motor, as at 10, and a suitable battery by which the motor may be energized, and by means of a belt 11, extending from the motor to a wheel 12 on the crank or cam shaft, the device will be operated so as to keep the movable platform constantly in motion, and the contact with the feet of the figure produces the imitation of dancing desired. It will be understood that in place of the motor clockwork or other mechanism may be suitably disposed with relation to the platform to operate it, or it may be operated by a hand-crank upon the cam-shaft.

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

1. The combination with a figure having a fixed support and loosely-jointed legs, of an elastic vibratory platform with which the feet of the figure contact, a revoluble cam or crank contacting periodically with the platform, said platform having a member fixed to it and projecting into the range of action of the cam or crank and a motor by which the cam is actuated.

2. The combination with a figure having a substantially fixed support and loosely-jointed legs of an elastic platform, with the free end of which the feet of the figure contact, a cam and means by which said cam is revolved beneath the platform, and a contact device fixedly secured to the platform and extending into the range of action of the cam, and by which the movement of the cam is transmitted to the platform.

3. The combination with a figure having a substantially fixed support and loosely-jointed legs, an elastic platform with the free end of which the feet of the figure are in contact, a revoluble cam or crank mounted beneath the platform, an arm fixed to the platform between its point of support and free end, said arm projecting into the line of motion of the cam.

4. The combination with a figure having a substantially fixed support and loosely-jointed legs, a flexible elastic platform, with the free end of which the feet of the figure contact, of an elastic arm fixed to the lower surface of the platform between its ends and extending forwardly, a cam or crank mounted

upon a revoluble shaft and adapted to contact with the end of the elastic arm.

5. The combination with a figure having a substantially fixed support and loosely-jointed legs, a flexible elastic platform fixed at one end having an elastic arm fixed between its ends extending forwardly beneath the platform of a cam mounted upon a shaft and adapted to contact with the end of the spring-arm, and a motor by which the cam-shaft is revolved.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM J. HUSTED.

Witnesses:
S. H. NOURSE,
HENRY P. TRICOU.