

J. PECK.
BILLIARD-TABLE.

No. 174,151.

Patented Feb. 29, 1876.

Fig. 1.

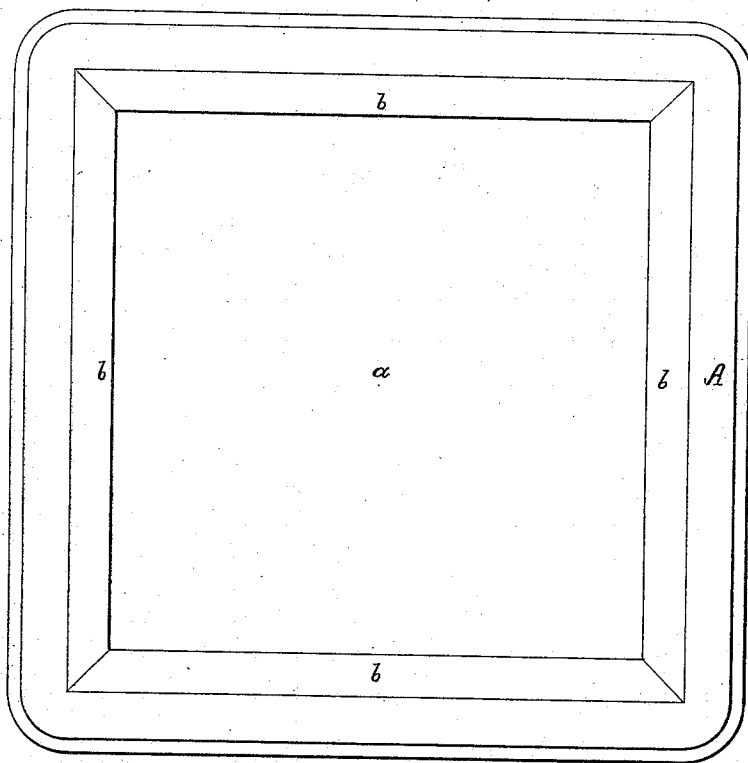
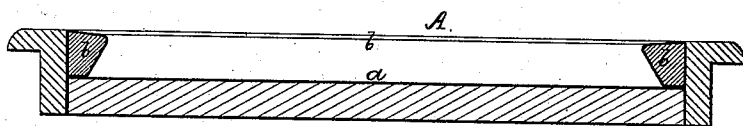


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

S. M. Cooper
L. W. Kiesel

John Peck

by his attorney.

R. M. L. S.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN PECK, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO ALONZO D. PECK,
OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BILLIARD-TABLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,151**, dated February 29, 1876; application filed January 12, 1876.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, JOHN PECK, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Billiard-Tables; and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification, and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 denotes a top view, and Fig. 2 a transverse section, of a billiard-table top, in accordance with my invention, which consists in an improved manufacture, or billiard-table top, in which the playing-surface or ball-space is square—in other words, the center thereof is substantially at an equal distance from points in the cushions situated at areal distances of ninety degrees asunder.

In the construction of billiard-tables it has heretofore been universally customary to make their playing-spaces bounded by the cushions rectangular, and generally of a length double that of the width, in consequence of which a player, when on either of the sides of the table, was much nearer its center than when at the middle of either end.

In my improved table a player has the center of the playing-surface always essentially at the same distance from him, whether he be at the middle of one or the other of its sides. Thus with such a table he will often be better able to reach and drive a ball with his cue than he could on a rectangular table when at one end of it.

The square table also presents other advantages, or is productive of other new results, as it enables a player to gain more or better or truer reflections of a ball than with a rectangular table of the ordinary kind, and, further, he can play quicker and easier, as the balls generally have less distance to travel in being reflected from cushion to cushion.

In the drawings, A denotes a billiard-table top, of which *a* is the cloth or playing-surface, and *b b b b* the cushions, these latter being equal in length, and each arranged at a right angle with each of the two next adjacent ones. The playing-space for the balls thus has a square boundary.

It frequently happens that a room may be more than wide enough, though not of sufficient length, for a rectangular billiard-table of the ordinary kind. In such instance a square table of equal superficial area might be employed, or such room be of sufficient dimensions therefor.

A billiard-table a trifle less than nine feet square would have a superficial area of playing-surface equal to that of a table six feet in width and twelve feet in length. With the square table a player at the middle of either side would be eighteen inches nearer the center than he would be from that of the rectangular table when standing at the middle of either end thereof.

Most, if not all, persons skilled in the manufacture or use of billiard-tables, I think, will not fail to readily perceive the advantages possessed by the square over the usual rectangular or oblong table, and that with the former new and more beneficial results can be obtained. Therefore,

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, a billiard-table top in which the playing-surface or ball-space is square, substantially as described and shown.

JOHN PECK.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,
J. R. SNOW.