

(No Model.)

H. MITCHELL.
DUPLICATE WHIST BOARD.

No. 543,746.

Patented July 30, 1895.

Fig. 1.

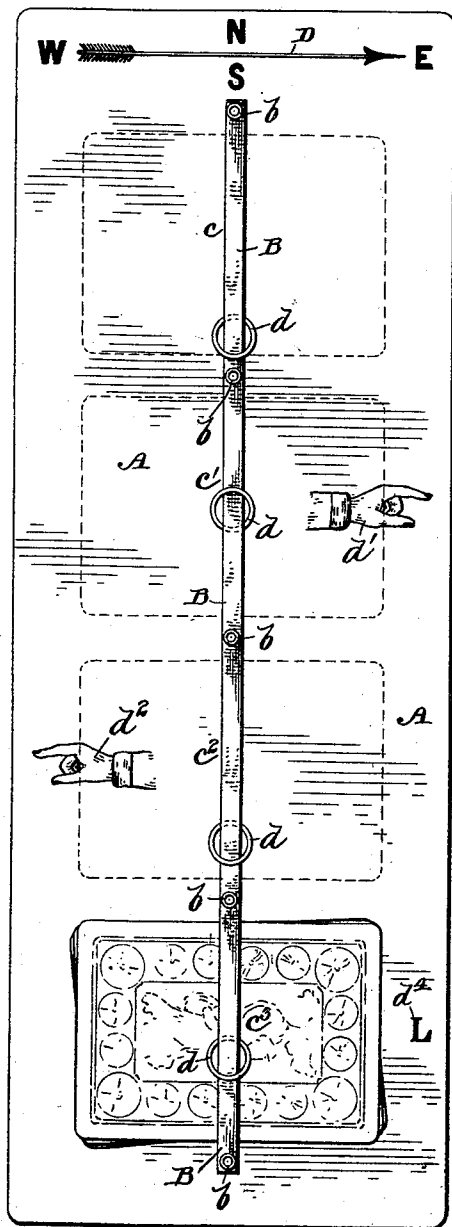
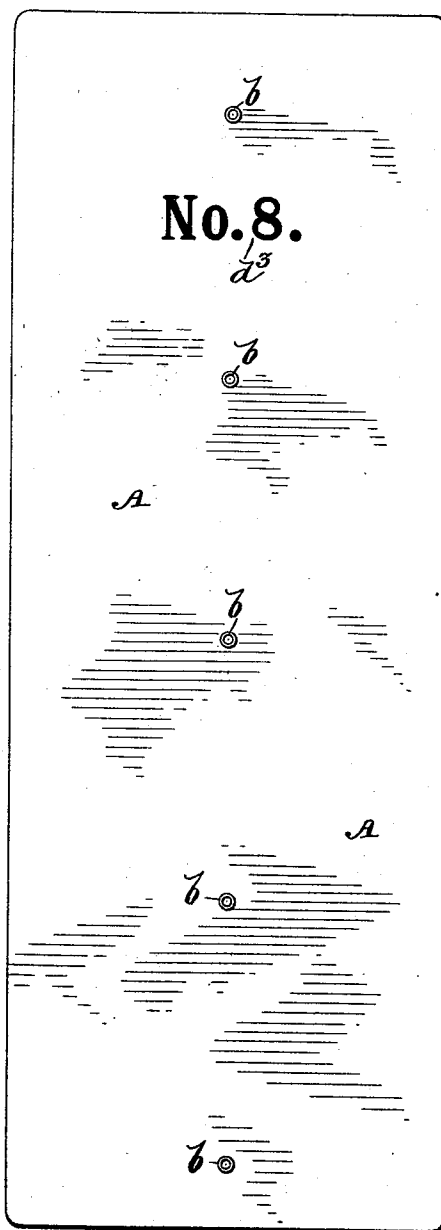


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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DUPLICATE-WHIST BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 543,746, dated July 30, 1895.

Application filed May 6, 1895. Serial No. 548,330. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH MITCHELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Duluth, in the county of St. Louis and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Duplicate-Whist Boards; 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.

My invention relates to improvements in duplicate-whist boards, and consists of a board made of suitable material and provided with an elastic band attached at intervals to said board, so as to form a plurality of card-retaining straps and means for lifting the respective straps, whereby the cards can be slipped beneath the same.

It also consists of certain other novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, all of which will be more particularly set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a top plan view of a board embodying my invention, and Fig. 2 represents a bottom plan view of the same.

A in the drawings represents the board proper, which is made of cardboard, leather, wood, metal, or in fact any suitable material. The length of this board is about three times as great as its width, and it is provided longitudinally along the middle of its upper surface with an elastic band B, secured at each end and at suitable intervals along its length to the board by rivets *b*, or any other suitable securing means. These rivets divide said elastic into four equal parts or sections *c c'* *c² c³*, and the hands of a deck of duplicate whist are slipped under said respective sections. Each section of the elastic is provided with a ring or tab *d* of metal, cloth, or any other suitable material, by which the said sections of the elastic can be readily raised to allow the cards to be slipped beneath the same.

An arrow or other indicating device D is arranged at any suitable place on the board, but at right angles to the length of the elastic B. I prefer to arrange it, as shown in the drawings, at one end of the elastic. The ar-

row, as shown in the drawings, indicates east and west, and is so marked by the letters E and W placed at its respective ends. The north and south indications, N and S, are placed at the sides of the arrow in line with the elastic, or all the indications may be placed vice versa. These indications are intended to inform the players which are the north and south hands and which the east and west hands. As shown in the drawings, the section *c* contains the north hand, the section *c³* the south, and the sections *c'* and *c²* the east and west hands, respectively.

A hand *d'* is printed or otherwise attached to the base opposite the section *c'* and points eastward, thus indicating that this is the east hand. A similar hand *d²* is opposite section *c³*, but points westward to indicate that this section contains the west hand. The back of each board is numbered as at *d³*, and any desired number of boards are used.

Any suitable indicating letter or mark *d⁴* is placed in proximity to the section containing the hand that is to lead.

In playing the players agree which of them are to first represent the north and south ends of the table, and the board is then placed with the elastic running north and south. The boards to any desired number are then used successively until they have all been used in the same manner practically as is done with other boards. Then the boards are turned so that the arrow points to the north and south of the table and the elastic east and west, and the hands are played through again, the boards being used successively as before.

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

1. In a duplicate whist board, the combination with a suitable board, of a single straight integral elastic band attached at intervals to said board so as to form a plurality of card retaining straps and rings applied on the respective straps for lifting the same whereby the whist hands can be slipped beneath the said straps and kept separated, substantially as described.

2. In a duplicate whist board, the combination with a suitable board, of a single straight integral elastic band attached at intervals to said board so as to form a plurality of card

retaining straps for holding whist hands separated from each other, rings applied on the respective straps for raising the same, and devices for indicating which are the north
5 and south, and which the east and west hands and also which hand is to lead, substantially as described.

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

HUGH MITCHELL.

Witnesses:

JAMES T. WATSON,
CHAS. B. PILLSBURY.