(No Model.)

R. A. SMITH.

Toy.

No. 239,869. **Patented April 5, 1881.**

Fig. 1.

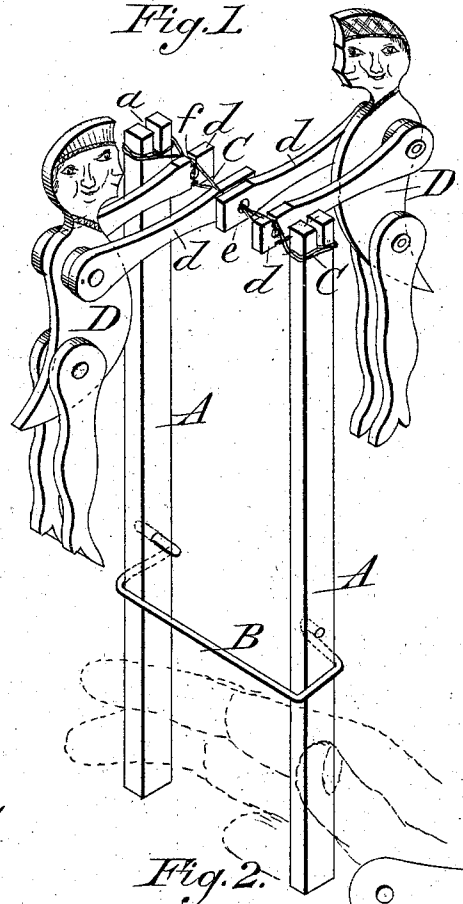


Fig. 4.

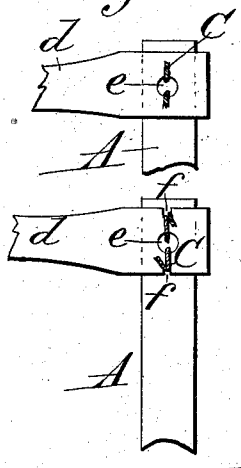


Fig. 2.

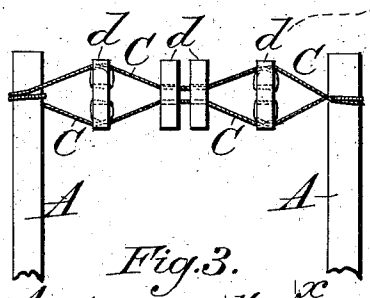
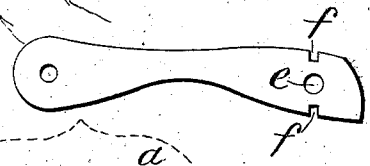


Fig. 5.



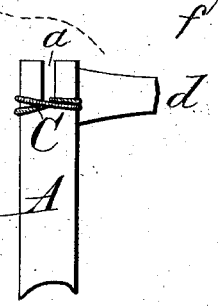
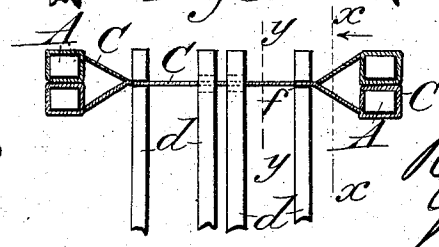


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REUBEN A. SMITH, OF EAST WEARE, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

TOY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 239,869, dated April 5, 1881.

Application filed March 9, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REUBEN A. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Weare, in the county of Hillsborough and State of New Hampshire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toys; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to toy gymnasts, or that class of toys which consist of jointed figures attached, by means of suitable cords, to a light spring-frame, so that they may be caused to perform somersaults or other acrobatic evolutions by pressure upon the lower ends of the frame, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the toy; Figs. 2 and 3 show the manner of attaching the figures to the spring-frame. Fig. 4 shows sections on the lines *x x* and *y y*, and Fig. 5 is a view of one of the attaching-arms.

A A represent two bars or levers that are connected near their lower ends by a wire spring, B, that forms a brace and fulcrum for the side bars. This spring-brace is bent or twisted around each side bar, and is attached by its ends entering a small aperture in the bar.

The upper ends of the levers or bars A are each provided with a vertical slot, *a*, for securing the cord C on which the figures are strung. These figures D are formed from thin pieces of wood, pasteboard, or other similar light material, the body and limbs being of any fanciful or grotesque outline, and connected by joints or pivots in the usual manner, so as to move freely upon each other. The ends or hands of the arms *d* are provided with a central aperture, *e*, and with notches *f f* cut in opposite edges.

In attaching the figures to the frame, the cord C is first secured in the slot *a* to one of the side bars or levers, A. It is then attached to one of the arms *d*, by passing it through the aperture *e*, and securing it in one of the notches *f*, after which it is passed loosely through the aperture in the other arm. If only one figure is to be used the cord after being secured to the slotted end of the opposite lever is then reversed and again attached, as before described. When two figures are employed, as shown in the drawings, the cord passes loosely through the central arms, and is secured to the outer ones in the manner above described. Instead of forming the arms *d* with a central aperture and side notches, the latter may be dispensed with, and three apertures made through the ends of the arms, the cord being attached, however, in the same manner as when the notches are employed. The figures are thus secured to the cord C in such a way that they will revolve around it and perform various comical evolutions when slight pressure is made on the lower ends of the levers A A, so as to cause them to approach and recede from each other.

By providing the side bars or levers with vertical slots at their upper ends for the attachment of the cords, and connecting the bars below by a spring-brace or fulcrum, as described, the parts may be made much lighter than ordinary without impairing their strength. This manner of construction also adds to the elasticity of the parts and effects considerable economy in material.

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

1. The jointed figures D, provided with arms *d*, having apertures *e*, and notches *f f*, in combination with the cord C, levers A A, having vertical slots *a a*, and spring B, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of the levers A A, having vertical slots *a a*, spring B, cord C, and figures D D, substantially as set forth.

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

REUBEN A. SMITH.

Witnesses:
A. R. BROWN,
PHILIP MAURO.