J. STEIN.

GAME APPLIANCE.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 16, 1910.

1,072,190. Patented Sept. 2, 1913.

Fig. 1.

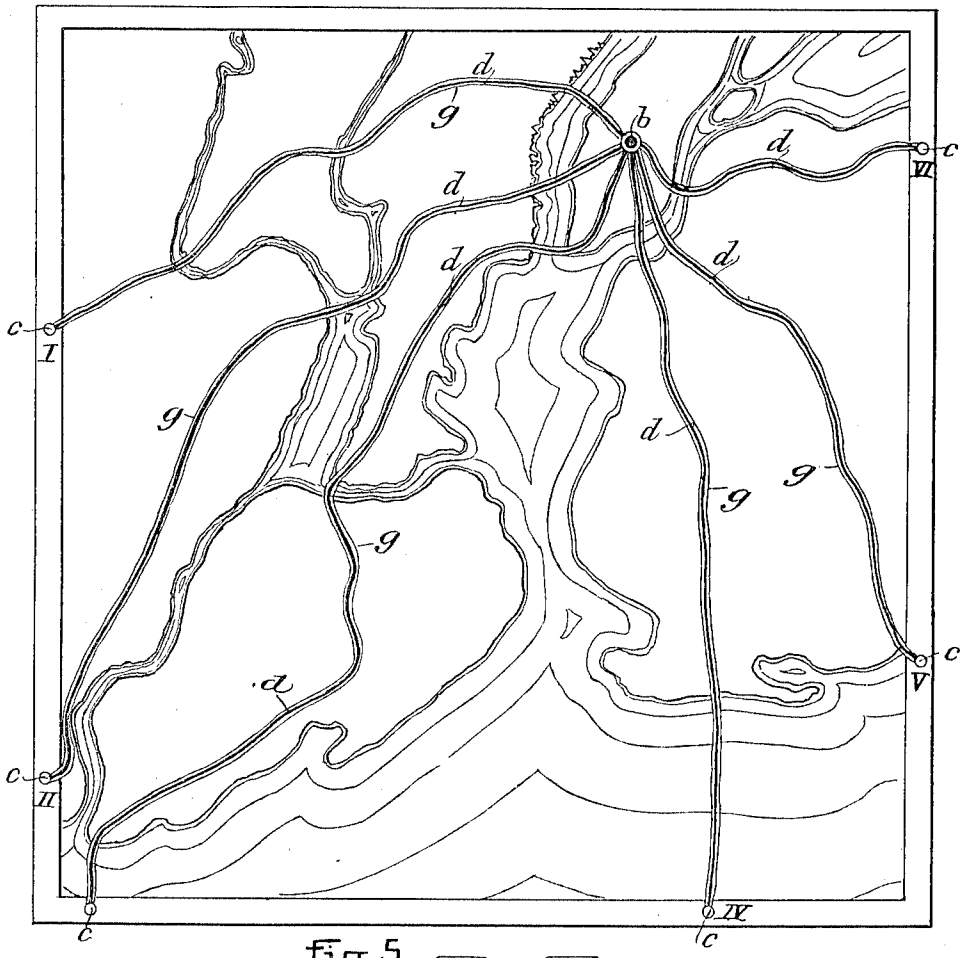


Fig. 2.

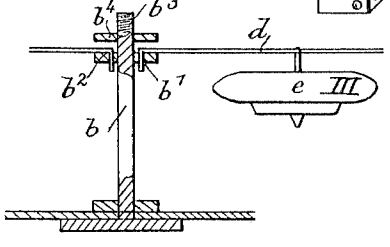


Fig. 5.

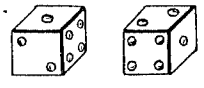
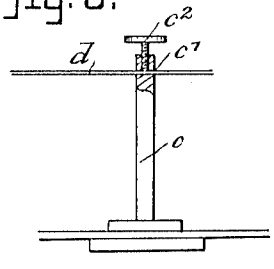


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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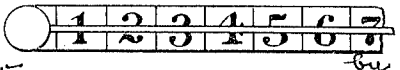

Fig. 4.

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GAME APPLIANCE.

1,072,190. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 2, 1913.

Application filed November 16, 1910. Serial No. 592,700.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHANNES STEIN, a subject of the German Emperor, and residing at Dresden, German Empire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Appliances, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to so-called table-games, of that class known as geographical or travel-games. Such games are usually played upon a surface displaying a map or similar cartographic representation, and each player has a figure or piece assigned to him, which has to be moved according to certain rules of play. Hitherto the playing-pieces have been placed directly upon the map or other base and are pushed or advanced thereon.

According to my invention I locate the figures or pieces above, instead of on, the playing-surface and move them through the air. In this manner modern means of locomotion can be closely imitated, and for instance a voyage in a balloon represented by figures having the shape of an air-ship and moving like the latter through the air at a certain distance above the ground, that is to say the playing-surface. In the same way aerial-railway games and the like can be played in an extremely realistic manner.

In the accompanying drawing the new invention is illustrated applied by way of example to a balloon-voyage game.

Figure 1 shows a playing-surface in the form of a map, while Figs. 2 and 3 are sectional views showing the means of suspension employed for the toy balloons or air-ships. Fig. 4 shows a detail to be hereinafter referred to, and Fig. 5 illustrates dice, which may be employed in playing the game.

The cartographic surface or base illustrated is a map of the United States of America. At a particular point, here represented as being New York city, a pole or mast b is erected, having at the top a flange or plate b^2 provided with holes b^1 (Fig. 2). The extremity of the mast b is furnished with a screw-thread b^3 to receive a nut b^4. Additional masts c are located at the margin of the map, each being perforated at c^1 and provided with a set-screw c^2. Between the pole b and each pole c a flexible filament d, such as a zinc wire, is extended. The one end of the wire is inserted through one of the holes b^1 and the other end through the hole c^1 in the pole c. The wire may run straight, or may be bent into any desired irregular shape. Each such wire represents a route from b to c. In the drawing six routes are shown by way of illustration. Each of these aerial lines d corresponds with a line or band g on the map, as illustrated in the general view Fig. 1, and in the detail view Fig. 4. The latter figure is a fragmental plan, showing a portion of a wire d and of an underlying line or band g, drawn to a larger scale, and indicating the manner in which each line g is furnished with numerals. In Fig. 1 these numerals have been omitted from the lines g for the sake of greater perspicuity of the drawing. From each wire d there is suspended an air-ship e, having a point, which may be in the form of an anchor, directed toward the number below. Every route has its particular number, I, II, III, &c., letter, or other designation, and the corresponding air-ship is marked with the same sign. Each player is allotted one of the routes, whereupon the dice (such as those shown in Fig. 5, for instance) are cast and the air-ships advanced along the wires above the numbered lines g, depending upon the numbers thrown.

The rules of play may be of any desired nature. They do not constitute any part of the present invention and are not, therefore, here set forth.

The poles may be secured in any suitable manner, for instance by a screw-thread and nut.

Having thus described my invention, I declare that what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States of America is—

1. In combination, a map, flexible filamentous members supported above the same in lines representing routes on the map, and miniature aerial conveyances suspended from the said members.

2. In combination, a map, uprights mounted on the same, flexible filamentous

members secured to the uprights and running in lines representing routes on the map, and slidable miniature aerial conveyances pendent from the said members.

3. In combination, a map, uprights mounted on the same, wires detachably secured to the uprights and running in deviating lines representing routes on the map, and slidable miniature aerial conveyances suspended from the wires.

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

JOHANNES STEIN.

Witnesses:
PAUL ARRAS,
CLÄRE SIMON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."