(No Model.) 4 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. A. SODERBERG.

MARINE MERRY-GO-ROUND.

No. 586,699. Patented July 20, 1897.

Fig. 1.

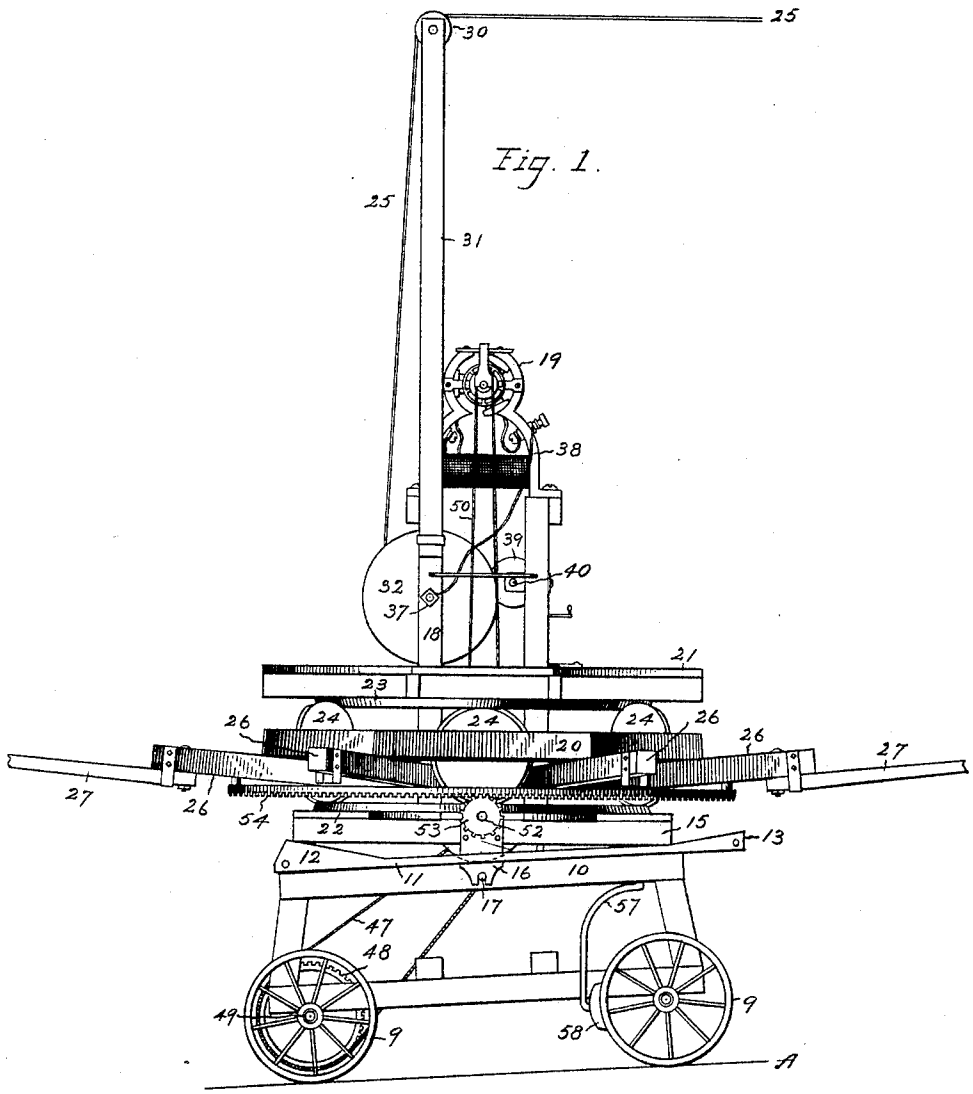

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Fig. 2.

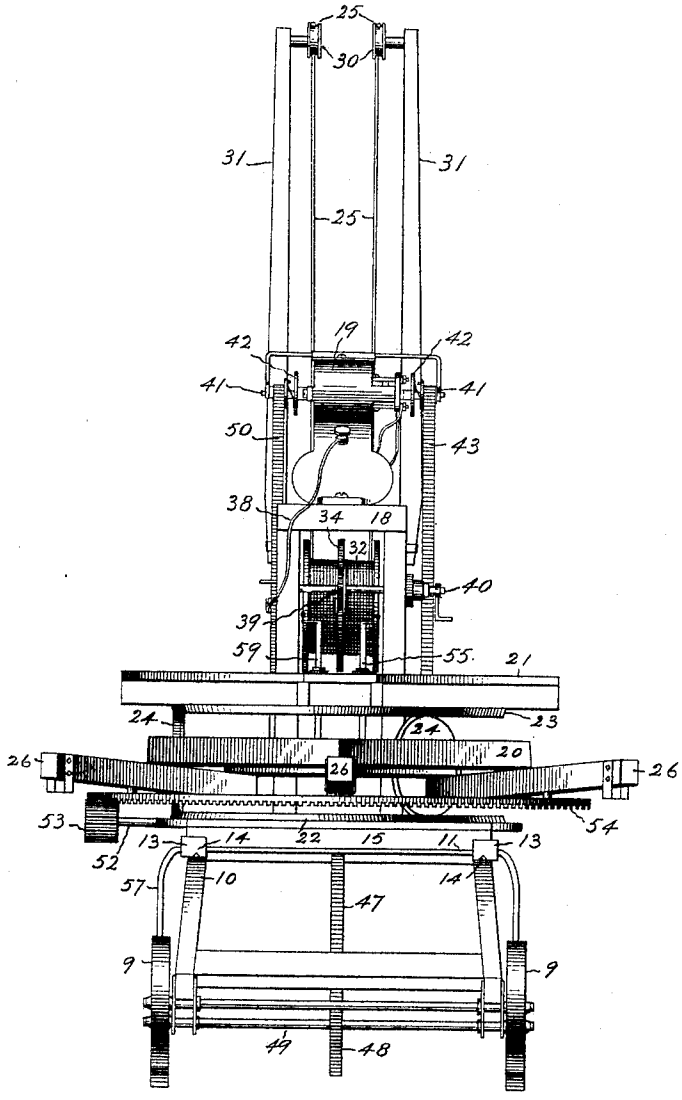

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Fig. 3.

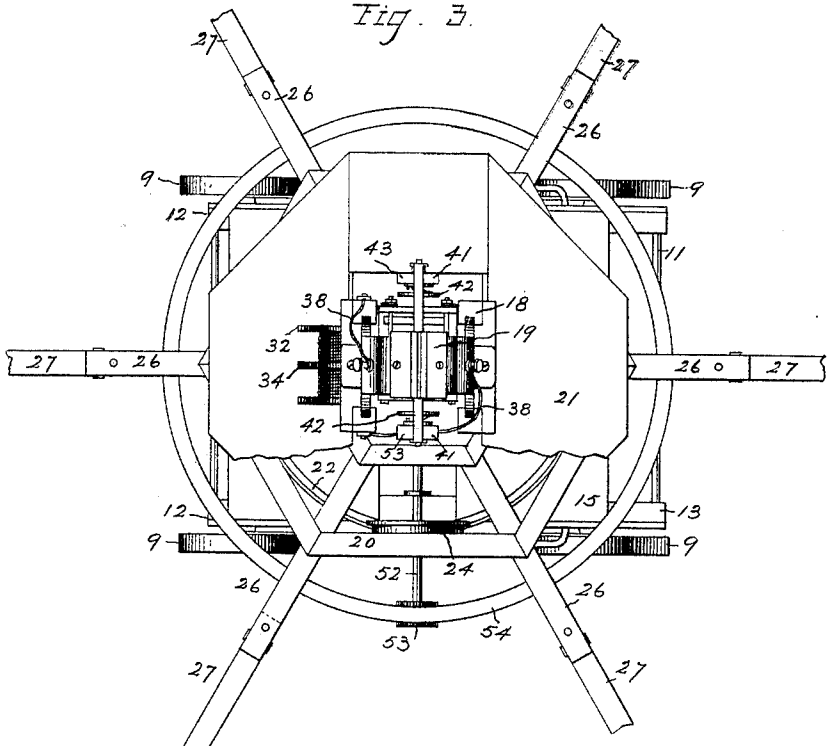
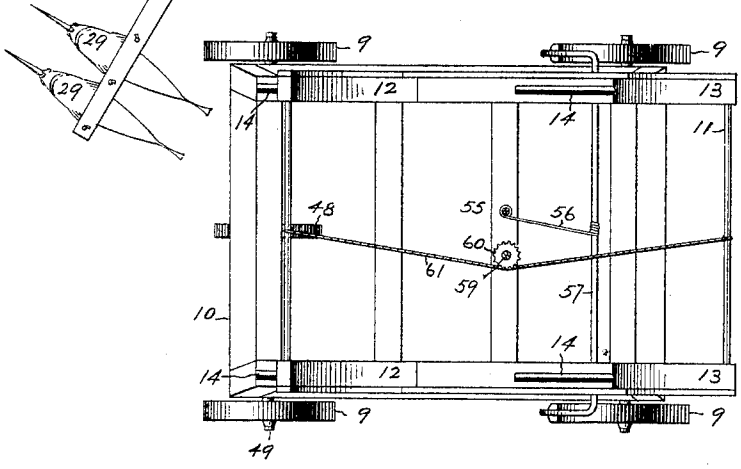


Fig. 4.



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4 Sheets—Sheet 4.

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Fig. 5

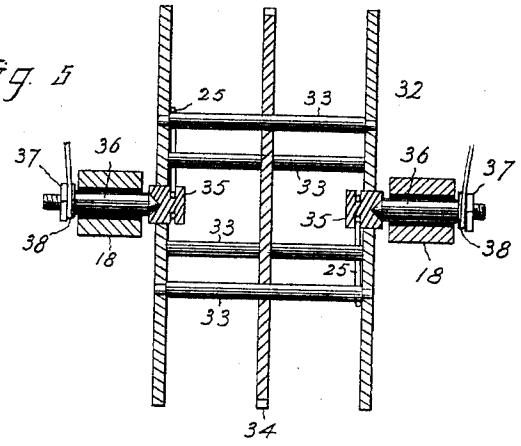

Fig. 6

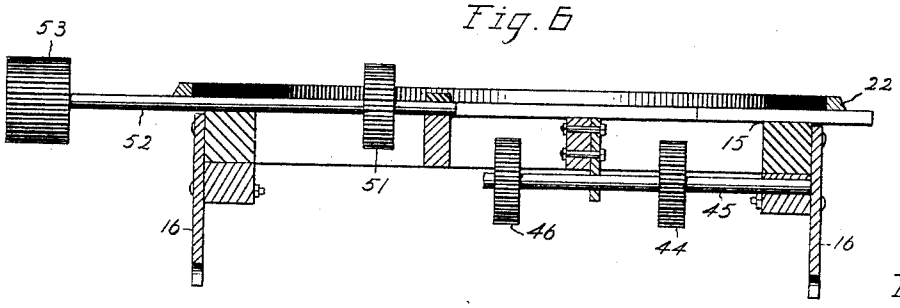

Fig. 7

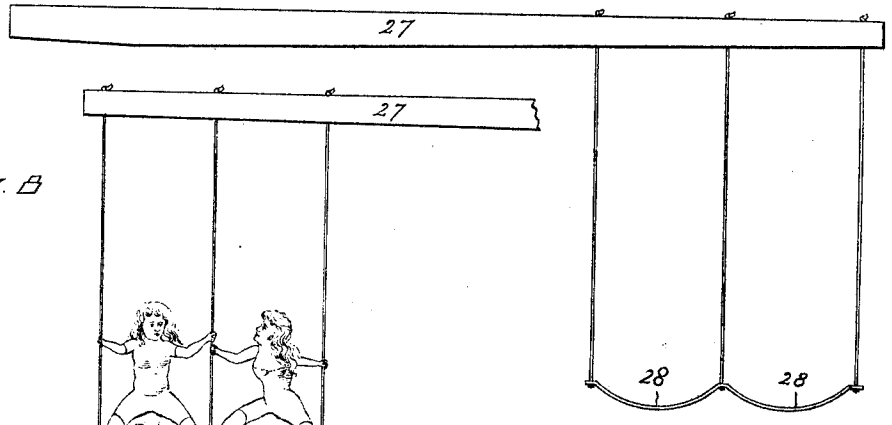

Fig. 8

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED A. SODERBERG, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HILMER SVENSON, OF SAME PLACE.

MARINE MERRY-GO-ROUND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 586,699, dated July 20, 1897.

Application filed November 9, 1896. Serial No. 611,511. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED A. SODERBERG, a citizen of Sweden, but having declared my intention of becoming a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Marine Merry-Go-Rounds, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in merry-go-rounds; and the main object of my improvements is to adapt the same for use in water at seaside resorts.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the main portion of my merry-go-round, the arms which carry the passengers being represented as broken off. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same with the outer section of the arms removed. Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan view with portions broken away. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the truck, the shafts of the slide-shifter and the brake being shown in horizontal section. Fig. 5 is a still further enlarged axial section, partly in elevation, of the reel for carrying the feed-wires. Fig. 6 is a vertical section, partly in elevation, of parts of my machine, showing the counter-shafts for driving the truck and the turn-table. Fig. 7 is a side elevation of one of the passenger-carrying arms as provided with simple swing-like seats. Fig. 8 is a side elevation of the outer end of one of said arms as provided with floats for the passengers to sit on.

A, Fig. 1, designates a base-line, which represents any suitable or ordinary tramway for the truck-wheels 9 to run upon and which may extend from any desired place on the seashore down into the water, so that the complete machine may be run from the shore as far into the water as occasion may require. Upon the top of the truck-frame 10 is a sliding frame 11 with wedge-shaped pieces 12 13 at its ends, said frame being held in place laterally by a suitable track or way 14, Figs. 2 and 4. Above this sliding frame is the turn-table platform 15, the two ends of which rest upon the wedge-shaped pieces 12 13, while the middle portion of the said platform is partly supported and balanced on the slotted ears 16 and pins 17, Figs. 1 and 6.

Extending upwardly from the middle portion of the turn-table platform 15 is a motor-frame 18, on the top of which is an electric motor 19, of any ordinary construction. Surrounding said motor-frame on the top of the platform 15 is a circular track 22 for the turn-table 20 or revolving frame. At a point above this turn-table, rigidly secured to the motor-frame, is the operator's platform 21. I prefer to place under this platform a second circular track 23, of the same diameter and concentric with the circular track 22. I have shown the turn-table or revolving frame in the form of a hexagonal frame provided with three wheels to fit the tracks 22 and 23 and support the same as it is revolved in the manner hereinafter described. The upper circular track 23 should be low enough or the wheels 24 large enough so that the upper track will prevent the turn-table from tipping. This turn-table is provided with a series of arms 26, (six arms in the form shown,) and I prefer to make these arms in two parts, so that the arms' ends 27 may be attached to and detached from the main portion for convenience of transportation. The arms as a whole radiate from the circular supporting-trucks, as shown, and carry at their outer ends means for carrying or drawing passengers—as, for example, suspended swing-like seats 28, as shown in Fig. 7, or floats 29 of any desired design, as shown in Figs. 3 and 8. Although the design of the floats is immaterial, it would be appropriate to have them represent various sea-monsters.

The motor is supplied through the feed and return wires 25 from any proper source, said wires extending over the pulleys 30 on the top of the supports 31, Figs. 1 and 2 only, that extend upwardly from the frame 18 to the take-up reel 32. This reel, as shown, is composed mainly of three disks and rods 33, (see Fig. 5,) the middle disk 34 being of some insulating material. One of the wires 25 is connected to the metal hub 35 on one side of the reel and the other of the wires 25 to the other metal hub 35 at the opposite side of the reel,

and the reel has its metal hubs 35 supported on metal centers or points 36, set in the frame 18 and having their threaded outer ends provided with nuts 37 to form binding parts by which to fasten the respective wires 38, that lead to the positive and negative poles of the motor. The middle disk 34 of the reel is toothed and engages with a pinion 39 on the crank-shaft 40, whereby the operator may turn said reel through said crank-shaft to wind up the wires when desired. The pinion-shaft may be provided with an ordinary ratchet and pawl to prevent the reel from accidentally unwinding.

One end of the motor is provided with a loose driving-pulley or sprocket-wheel 41 and a clutch 42, by means of which it may be connected to and disconnected from the motor. I have not shown a shipper for the clutch, as any ordinary clutch and shipper may be employed. From said pulley or sprocket-wheel a belt or chain 43 extends to a wheel 44 on the counter-shaft 45. (See Fig. 6.) This counter-shaft carries a second wheel 46, over which a chain 47, Fig. 1, runs to the wheel 48 on the shaft 49 of the truck, whereby the truck may be driven to run the machine to any desired part of its tramway. At the other end of the motor is a like wheel 41 and clutch 42, from which the chain 50 runs to the wheel 51 on the counter-shaft 52. This counter-shaft carries the pinion 53, that engages the rack 54 on the under side of the turn-table for driving it. The operator's platform is provided with a vertical brake-shaft 55, provided with any ordinary crank or wheel for turning it, and a chain or cable 56, Fig. 4, extends from the lower end of said brake-shaft to the lever 57 of the brake 58. Another vertical crank or wheel shaft 59 on the operator's platform extends downward to a level with the sliding frame and carries a sprocket-wheel 60 at its lower end. A chain 61, stretched from end to end of this frame and engaging said sprocket-wheel, enables the operator to move said frame in either direction, as may be desired.

The reel will have wire wound on it of a length to enable the machine to travel the whole length of the tramway. This is practicable because the tramway will never be of any great length. If the machine is to run down the inclined tramway, the operator releases the brake from the truck-wheels and the machine runs down by gravity, the operator meanwhile permitting the wire to unwind from the reel as the machine moves along. The wider wedge 12 of the sliding frame will be at the downhill end of the truck, and the operator may adjust said frame to bring the turn-table platform level notwithstanding that the truck stands on an incline.

The passengers will be dressed in bathing-suits or otherwise prepared for bathing and may be seated on the seats or floats while the machine is out of the water or afterward, as may be desired. When the machine has entered the water sufficiently to have the bathers strike the water to the desired depth, the brake is applied to hold the truck, and the power is applied from the motor to the wheel or pulley carrying the chain 50 and thus revolves the frame of the turn-table and draws the bathers through the water as they sit on the swing-seats or the floats. If there is a good surf, moving around in a circle will carry the bathers at all angles to the waves, and thus bring them alternately into and out of the surf. In case the water is still, or for other reason, the operator can set the platform, and consequently the turn-table frame, on an incline, so that as the bathers are carried around they will alternately be dipped down into and lifted out of the water. To run up the incline, the operator puts the power of the motor in operation to drive the chain 43 and truck-shaft 49, thereby moving the truck-wheels 9 of said shaft for driving the truck. The truck may, if desired, be moved along in either direction on the tramway without stopping the revolution of the turn-table. By the addition of another driving-wheel and clutch to the motor the machine may be made to travel in both directions by power instead of traveling one way by gravity.

I claim as my invention—

1. A merry-go-round turn-table, a tilting platform on which said turn-table is mounted and means for adjusting said turn-table relatively to said platform, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

2. A merry-go-round turn-table, a tilting platform on which said turn-table is mounted and a truck for carrying the entire machine from place to place, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

3. A merry-go-round turn-table, a truck for carrying the entire machine, a motor and means for connecting said motor with the mechanism for moving the truck and separate and independent means for connecting said motor with the mechanism for revolving the turn-table, whereby both the truck and the turn-table may be simultaneously operated or either may be operated while the other is at rest substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

4. A merry-go-round turn-table platform having a circular track fixed thereon, a motor-frame rising from the central portion of said platform and fixed thereon, an operator's platform supported on said motor-frame above said turn-table platform and bearing on its under side a companion circular track which is also fixed to said platform, and a turn-table frame surrounding said fixed motor-frame and mounted on wheels running between the said two fixed circular tracks to revolve the turn-table frame about the said

fixed motor-frame, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

5. A merry-go-round turn-table arranged to revolve around a fixed supporting-frame, upper and lower circular tracks fixed to said supporting-frame for engaging respectively the upper and lower sides of the wheels of said turn-table, and radiating arms rigidly fixed to said turn-table and extending outwardly beyond the said upper and lower circular tracks whereby said tracks hold the turn-table against tipping when the said radiating arms are unevenly loaded substantially as described.

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