

(No Model.)

R. M. BENT.
DUPLICATE WHIST APPARATUS.

No. 569,603.

Patented Oct. 20, 1896.

Fig. 1.

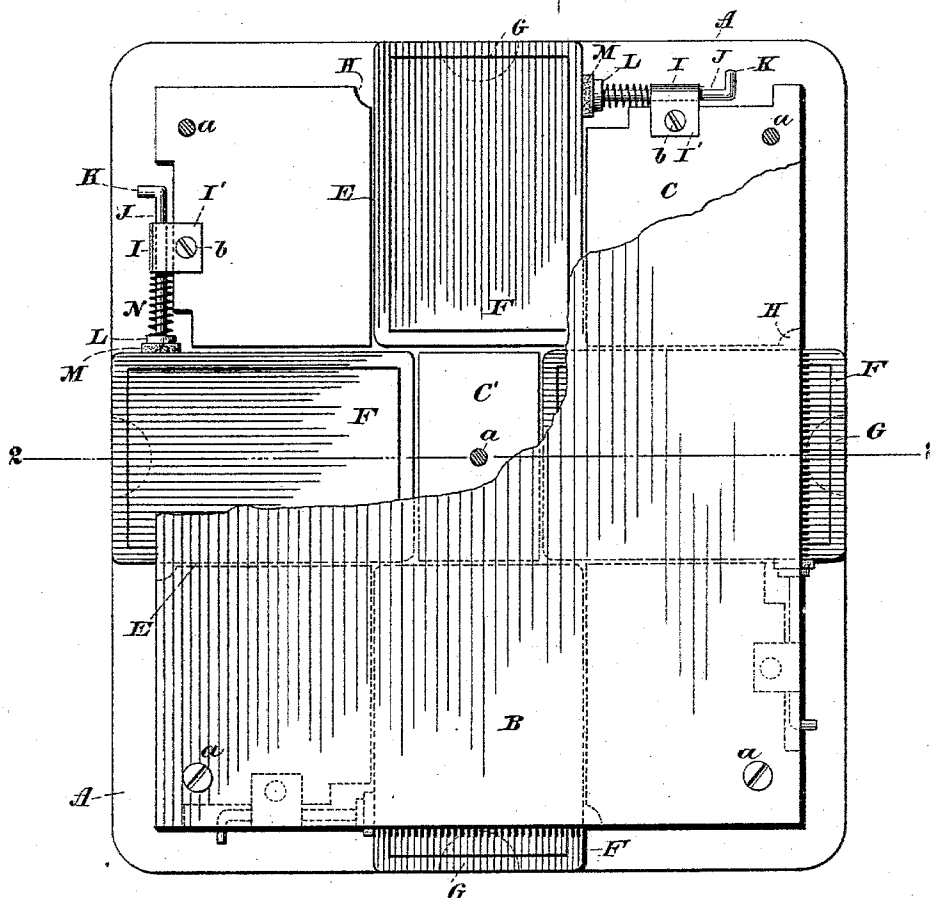


Fig. 2.

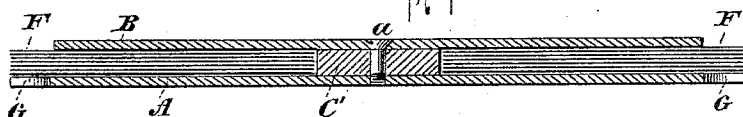
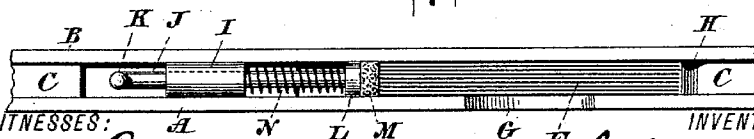


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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DUPLICATE-WHIST APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 569,603, dated October 20, 1896.

Application filed March 5, 1896. Serial No. 581,900. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD M. BENT, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Duplicate-Whist Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in apparatus for playing duplicate whist, and has for its object to provide a simple and efficient flat holder or tray wherein the cards may be firmly retained in any position when not in use, and from which said cards may be readily withdrawn, when desired, without injuring the same.

The objects above set forth I am enabled to attain by means of my invention, which consists in the novel details of construction and the combination, connection, and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and wherein like letters of reference indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a plan view of my apparatus, the cover thereof being partly broken away to show the card receptacles or pockets and the means for holding the cards therein. Fig. 2 is a section of the same, taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail edge view of a portion of the apparatus, showing one of the card-receptacles and the holding means arranged at the side thereof.

In said drawings, A designates the base, and B the cover for said base, which may be secured in position thereon by means of screws *a*, as shown, or otherwise. Upon the upper side of said base, near each of its corners, is secured a block C, and upon said base, at its center, is secured a block C', the corners of which are adjacent to the inner corners of the blocks C. By this arrangement of the blocks C C' four intervals or recesses will be formed between the cover B and the base A, which intervals or recesses constitute the receptacles E, adapted to receive the cards F. The edges of the base A, at the center of each receptacle E, are provided with a thumb-indentation G.

One of the outer corners of each of the blocks C is rounded off, as at H, and the front

edge of the block opposing the one having the rounded corner aforesaid is recessed to accommodate the holding device, which consists of a bearing I, provided with a projecting portion I', which is secured to the block C by a screw *b*. Within said bearing is carried a horizontally-movable rod J, provided at its rear end with an outwardly-projecting finger portion K, and at its forward end with a button L, having secured upon its outer face an elastic cushion M, of felt or other suitable material, and disposed upon the rod J, between the button L and the bearing I, is a convolute spring N, adapted to hold the button L and cushion M thereon against the edges of the cards when the same are in position within the receptacle.

When it is desired to insert the cards in the receptacles, or to withdraw the same therefrom, it simply becomes necessary to force back the rod J by means of the finger portion K, thereby causing the button L, which normally extends into the card-receptacle, to be withdrawn therefrom and released of its engagement with the edges of the cards.

It is to be observed that the cover B does not project beyond the edges of the blocks C, and is therefore of smaller outline than the base A, which does extend beyond the edges of said blocks, in consequence of which a portion of the cards are permitted to project beyond the edges of the cover and still be wholly within the outline described by the base, and that the holding devices act upon each card individually to hold the same in position therein, thus insuring a positive and uniform means for retaining the cards in position within said receptacles regardless of the fact whether the same are of sufficient quantity or thickness to completely fill each receptacle.

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

1. An apparatus for the purposes described comprising a tray having recesses in the sides thereof adapted to receive cards, and a spring-actuated holding device for each of said recesses adapted for contact with the edges of the cards within the recesses to maintain the same in position therein, substantially as specified.

2. An apparatus for the purposes described comprising a tray having recesses in the sides thereof adapted to receive cards, and spring-actuated holding devices arranged in the sides of said tray adjacent to the receiving ends of said recesses, adapted for contact with the edges of the cards to maintain said cards in position within said recesses, substantially as specified.

3. An apparatus for the purposes described comprising a tray consisting of a base, and a cover for said base, recesses arranged in said tray in the sides thereof between said cover and base, and spring-actuated holding devices adapted for contact with the edges of the cards to maintain the same within said recesses partly within the outline of the cover, and wholly within the outline of the base, substantially as specified.

4. An apparatus for the purposes described comprising a tray consisting of a base, and a cover for said base of smaller outline than said base, receptacles to receive the cards arranged in the sides of said tray between the base and cover, a holding device arranged at each side of the tray adjacent to each receptacle consisting of a bearing, a rod carried in said bearing provided at one end with a finger portion, and at its other end with a button having an elastic cushion secured upon its outer face, and a spring disposed upon said rod between the bearing and the button

aforesaid to hold the latter in contact with the edges of the cards to maintain the same in position within the receptacles, substantially as specified.

5. An apparatus for the purposes described comprising a tray consisting of a base having solid blocks secured thereon near its corners, each of said blocks having one of its exposed edges recessed, a block secured upon said base in the center thereof having its corners arranged adjacent to the inner corners of the first-mentioned blocks, thumb indentations in the edges of said base midway between the corner-blocks, a cover for said base extending to the edges of the corner-blocks only, bearings secured in the recessed edges of the corner-blocks, rods carried in said bearings provided at their rear ends with outwardly projecting finger portions, and at their forward ends with buttons having elastic cushions secured upon their outer faces, and springs disposed upon said rods between the buttons and the bearings substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

Signed at the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, this 3d day of March, 1896.

RICHARD M. BENT.

Witnesses:

E. F. PERRY,
E. V. RANDALL.