D. J. PIERCE.

Game-Apparatus.

No. 161,983. Patented April 13, 1875.

Fig. 1

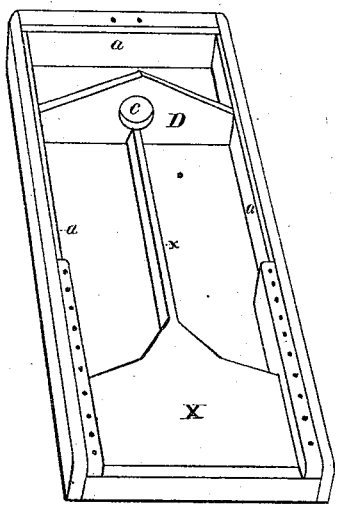
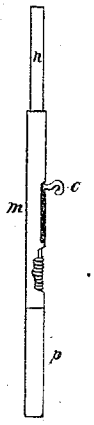


Fig. 2



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID J. PIERCE, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO CHRISTOPHER A. SCRANTON, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN GAME APPARATUS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **161,983**, dated April 13, 1875; application filed March 5, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID J. PIERCE, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven, State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Game-Board and Game-Cue; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention consists in providing a game-board with an elevated narrow way in connection with other elements, and in making a game-cue in parts, so arranged that the part striking the ball is operated by a spiral spring.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents the board provided with the covered inside pieces *a a a*, and also two pieces which are provided with holes, and are not covered. The game is kept by inserting pins in these holes. The piece X is attached to the board at its front end, and this piece may be narrowed up and extended through the center of the board to the partition D, forming the narrow way *x*, as shown in the drawing. The narrow way *x* may be made in a separate piece connected to the piece X. The partition D is placed at the end of the narrow way *x*, extends across the board, and leaves an unoccupied space at the farther end of the board for the reception of the ball as it passes through the hole *c*. The center of the hole *c* in the partition D and the center of the way *x* are arranged in the same vertical plane. The lower edge of the hole *c* and the top of the narrow way *x* are arranged in the same horizontal plane. The object of the narrow way *x* is to increase the difficulty of forcing the ball through the hole *c*, and should not exceed in width one-half of the diameter of the ball used. The hole *c* is of such size as to allow the ball to pass freely through it.

Fig. 2 represents the improved cue, consisting of the slotted cylinder *m*, the rod *n*, furnished with the finger-piece *o*, which moves in the slot in the cylinder *m*, the spiral spring, shown by the removal of part of cylinder *m*, and the end piece *p*, inserted in the cylinder *m*. The end piece *p* may be omitted, and the cylinder *m*, with its end closed, may be made of sufficient length without it.

It is obvious, with the spiral spring arranged in the cylinder *m* between the end piece *p* and rod *n*, that the force of the blow with which the rod *n* strikes the ball will vary with the distance the rod *n* is drawn back by the finger-piece *o*.

A game that may be played on this board consists in placing a ball on the piece X, and striking it with the cue. Forcing the ball through the hole *c* counts one. The game is kept by placing pins in the holes in the pieces on the front end of the board.

I claim as my invention—

1. The game-board herein-described, having the pieces *a a a*, the bottom piece X *x*, and the cross-piece D, provided with the hole *c*, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A game-cue, consisting of the slotted cylinder *m*, rod *n*, provided with the finger-piece *o*, end piece *p*, and spiral spring, all said parts being constructed and arranged to operate in the manner described.

DAVID J. PIERCE.

Witnesses:

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