

W. GOODWIN & H. MAYER.

HUMMING TOPS.

No. 180,573.

Patented Aug. 1, 1876.

Fig. 1.

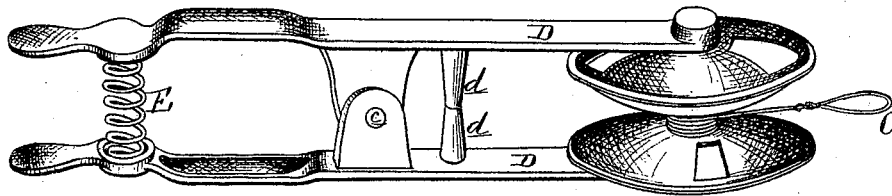
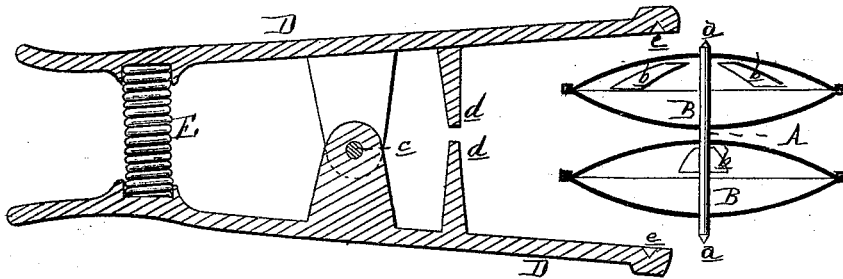


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALLACE GOODWIN AND HENRY MAYER, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN HUMMING-TOPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,573**, dated August 1, 1876; application filed May 26, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WALLACE GOODWIN and HENRY MAYER, of Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented an Improvement in Humming-Tops, of which the following is a specification:

The first part of our invention relates to a peculiar form of humming-tops, consisting of two double convex sheet-metal shells mounted on a spindle, each provided with one or more openings, so cut as to produce chord-tones when spun, and, being of equal diameter, can be spun on either end of the spindle or rolled on their peripheries.

The second part of our invention relates to a hand-clamp or holder, in which the top may be put into motion, and then be dropped onto the floor or other level surface.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the top in its holder. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section, showing the top released from the holder.

In the drawing, A represents a spindle, terminating in a point, *a*, at each end. B B are two double convex sheet-metal shells, axially mounted on the spindle, and in each is cut one or more square openings, *b*, near the perimeter, to produce the humming tone when the top is spun. These openings are cut or pitched to produce chord-tones which harmonize. The string C is wound on the spindle between the tops.

The holder consists of two levers, D D, pivoted together by a pin, *c*, passing through a lug cast on each. A spring, E, between the handles, forces the latter apart, causing the other extremities, in each of which there is a cup, *e*, Fig. 2, to close upon the end of the spindle; but the latter is relieved from end pressure by two stops, *d d*, cast upon the levers, of such length as to allow the top to freely rotate in said cups.

The top is revolved at a high rate of speed by pulling off the cord, and it may be allowed to run in the holder; or, by opening the latter, the top may be dropped upon a level surface to spin, or if dropped with the spindle in a horizontal position the top will roll a long distance on a level surface.

What we claim as our invention is—

1. The hollow double convex shells B B, of equal diameter, axially mounted on the spindle A, to form a spinning-top, substantially as described.

2. The levers D D, pivoted together, and provided with the spring E, cups *e e*, and stops *d d*, all combined to operate substantially as described.

WALLACE GOODWIN.
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Witnesses:

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