W. T. FOSTER.

COMBINATION TOY.

No. 183,290. Patented Oct. 17, 1876.

Fig. 2.

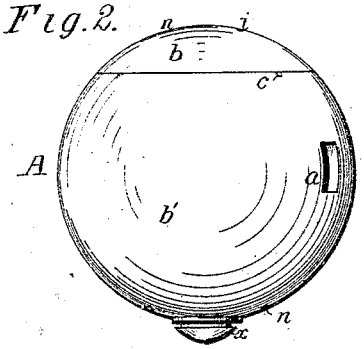

Fig. 3.

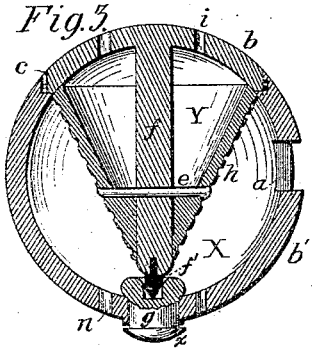

Fig. 1.

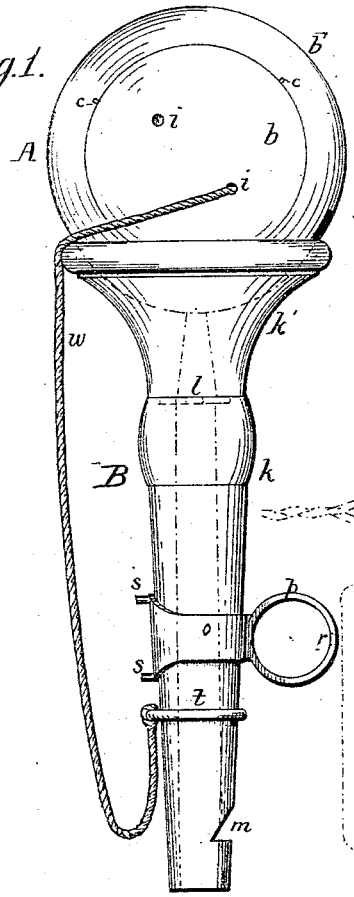

Fig. 4.

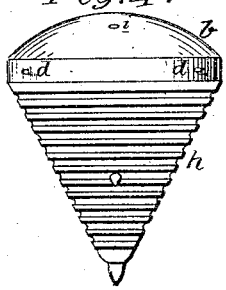

Fig. 5.

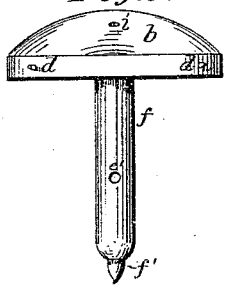

Fig. 7.

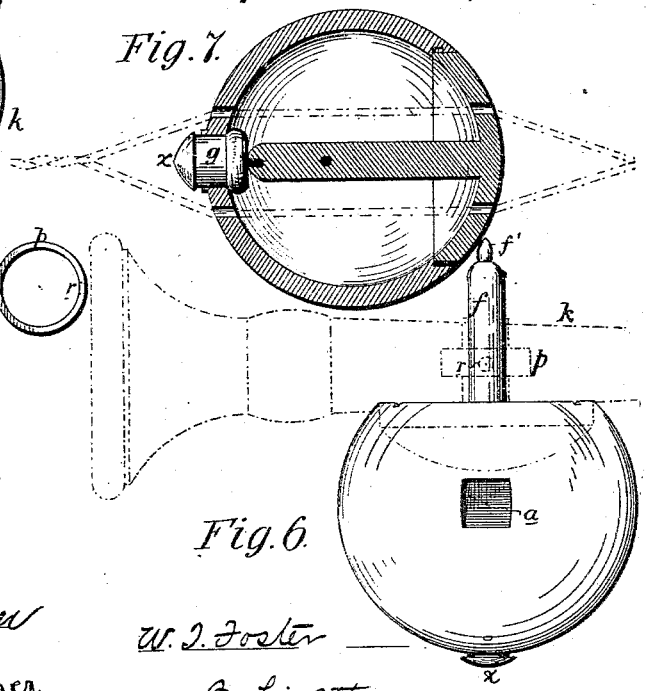

Fig. 6.

Attest:

George Thom

Courtney A. Cooper

W. T. Foster

By his atty.

Charles E. Foster

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM T. FOSTER, OF TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO S. B. MARSHALL, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINATION TOYS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **183,290**, dated October 17, 1876; application filed May 13, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. FOSTER, of Trenton, Mercer county, New Jersey, have invented an Improved Toy, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is a toy consisting of a number of parts, which, separately or variously combined, constitute a number of different toys.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is an external view of the toy; Fig. 2, an external view of one portion; Fig. 3, a transverse section of Fig. 2; Figs. 4 and 5, views of parts detached; and Figs. 6 and 7, views showing different combinations of the parts, and the manner of using the same.

The main divisions of the toy are a ball, A, and a holder, B, each of which is so constructed as to combine several other toys. The ball A is hollow, containing a chamber, X, with an opening, *a*, at one side, and consisting of two sections, the smaller of which, *b*, fits a recess in the larger, the edges of said recess having L-shaped grooves *c*, for the reception of pins *d*, extending from the periphery of the section *b*. A stem, *f*, extends from the center of the section *b*, and has at the lower end a metal pin, *f'*, which, when the section *b* is in place, extends into a hollow sleeve, *g*, fitting loosely in a recess in the larger section *b* of the ball, and having externally a conical head, *x*. A hollow cone, *h*, having a grooved exterior surface, is fitted to the section *b*, and to its stem *f*, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and, when in place, is secured by a metal pin, *e*, passing transversely through the cone, and through an opening, *e'*, in the stem. In the section *b*, on opposite sides of the stem *f*, are two openings, *i*, coinciding with openings *n n* in section *b'*. The holder B consists of a hollow stem, *k*, and flaring end *k'*, having a mouth adapted to the ball A, and an opening communicating with that in the stem, forming therewith a trumpet, a reed, *l*, Fig. 1, being arranged in any suitable position across said opening. The end of the stem is notched at *m* to form a whistle, and a metal band, *o*, on the stem has at one side a ring, *p*, with an opening, *r*, and at the opposite side are two projecting pins, *s*.

When the above-named parts are arranged as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, the spherical portion A serves the usual purposes of an ordinary hard inelastic ball, and the holder B answers either as a whistle or a trumpet.

To use the parts in combination, a cord, *w*, is passed through one of the openings *i* or *n*, is knotted or otherwise secured within the ball, and is provided at its outer end with a ring, *t*, which is slipped over the stem of the holder, thus forming an ordinary ball and catch. The section *b*, with its stem *f*, serves as a top, Fig. 5, which may be spun by winding the cord *w* around the stem *f*, inserting the latter within the ring *p*, and drawing the cord rapidly through the opening. A peg-top is formed by securing the cone *h* upon the stem, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. To form a humming-top the section *b* is inverted and secured by its pins *d* in the position shown in Fig. 6, and is spun by means of the cord *w*, using the stem *k* as a holder, the pointed head *x* of the plug *g* serving as the point of the top.

By connecting the two sections *b* and *b'*, and passing the cord *w* through the openings *i n*, as shown in Fig. 7, a whirling toy is formed, which may be rotated rapidly by pulling upon the twisted ends of the cord.

It will be seen that the chamber X, within the section *b'* of the sphere, serves as a receptacle for the parts connected to the section *b*, and that the space Y, within the cone *h*, serves as a repository for the cord *w*.

The openings *i* and the pins *s* on the holder are adapted to each other, so that the section *b* may be turned by the said holder, either to secure or release the section. After the section has been turned to bring the pins *d* to coincide with the vertical portions of the openings *c*, an inward pressure upon the plug *g* will start the section *b* outward, and facilitate its removal.

It will be apparent that the sections *b b'* may be threaded, so as to screw together, or may be otherwise secured, and that other means than those described may be used for connecting the cone *h* and section *b*, that the plug *g* may be dispensed with, and other modifications may be made without departing from the main features of my invention. Without,

therefore, limiting myself to the precise arrangement and construction described,

I claim—

1. The ball or sphere A, consisting of two sections, *b b'*, the section *b* being provided with a stem, *f*, and made reversible, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the sections *b b'*, of the movable plug *g*, having a conical head, as set forth.

3. The combination of the hollow section *b'* and the detachable conical grooved section *b*, constituting a peg-top, as set forth.

4. The cone *h*, detachable from the section *b*, having a stem, *f*, extending through the cone, as specified.

5. The combination of the section *b*, its stem *f*, and hollow cone *h*, as specified.

6. The combination of the sections *b b'*, forming the ball A, and having coinciding openings *i n*, as set forth.

7. The hollow holder B, adapted to the sphere A, and provided with a reed, *l*, as specified.

8. The hollow holder B, notched at *m*, and adapted to form a whistle, as specified.

9. The perforated ring *p*, having pins *s*, and arranged on the stem of the ball holder, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM T. FOSTER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

J. HUHERSTICK,

CONRAD HORNUNG.