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(No Model.)

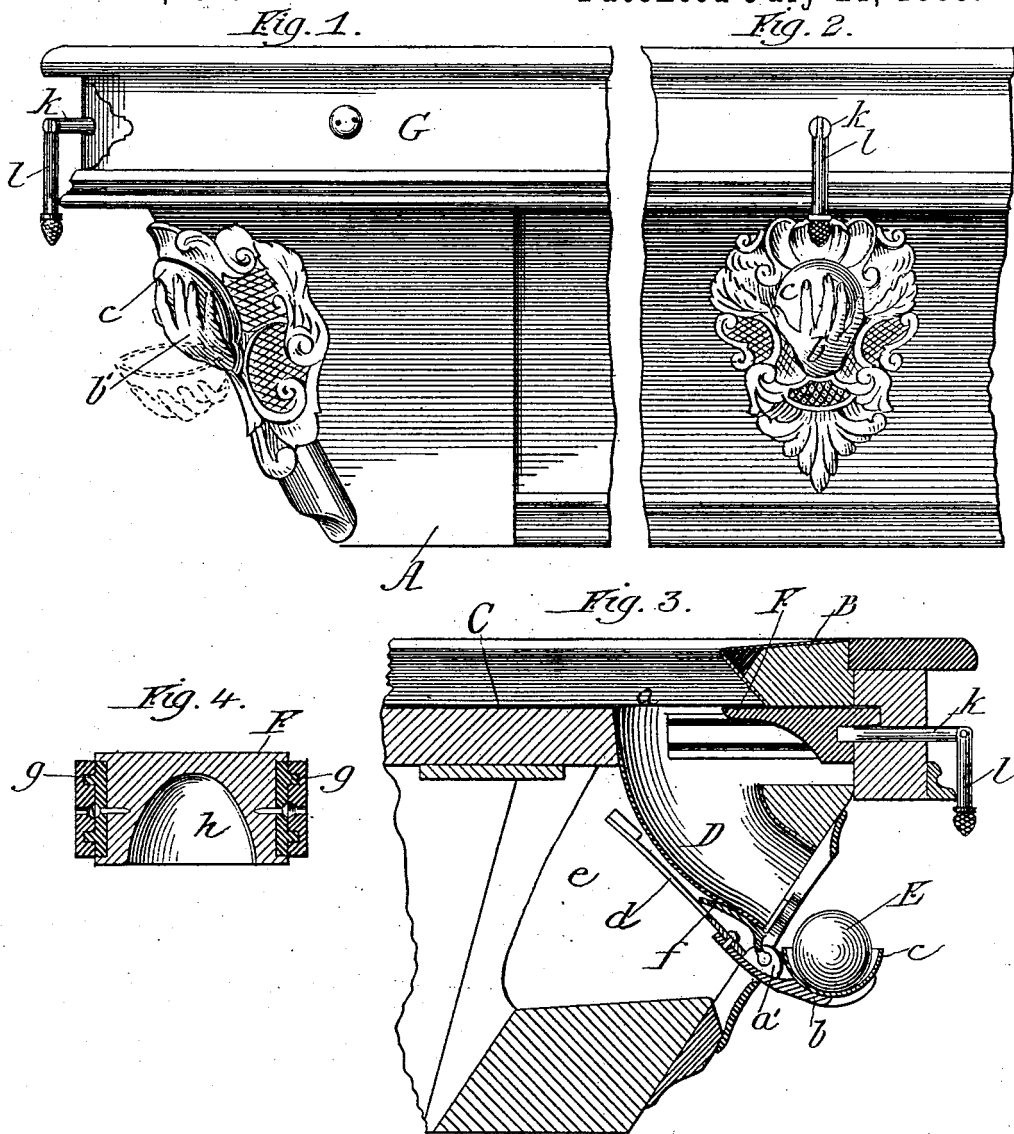
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

N. H. GANSER.

BILLIARD TABLE.

No. 322,436.

Patented July 21, 1885.



Witnesses:  
*Frank Blanchard*  
*Louis Nolting.*

Inventor:  
*Nicolas H. Ganser*  
 By *Wm. H. Lotz & Co.*  
 Attorneys.

Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

N. H. GANSER.  
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Fig. 5.

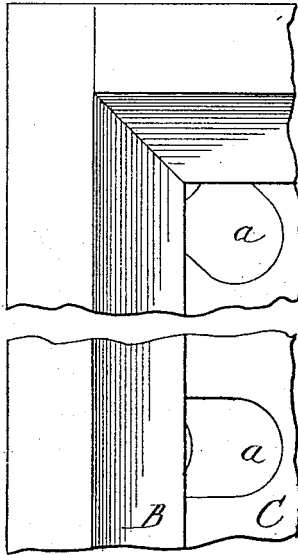


Fig. 6.

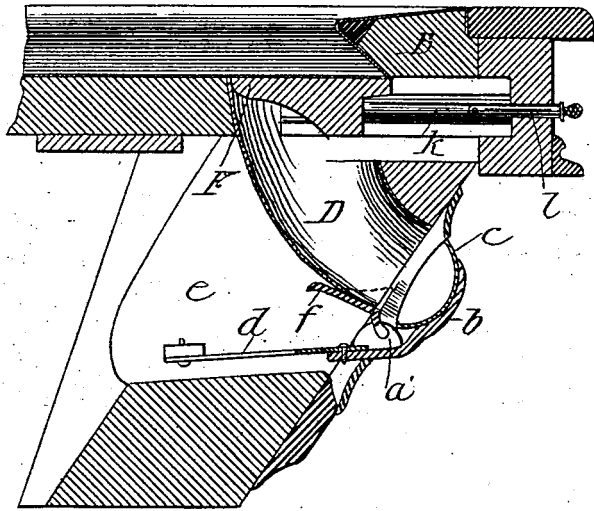
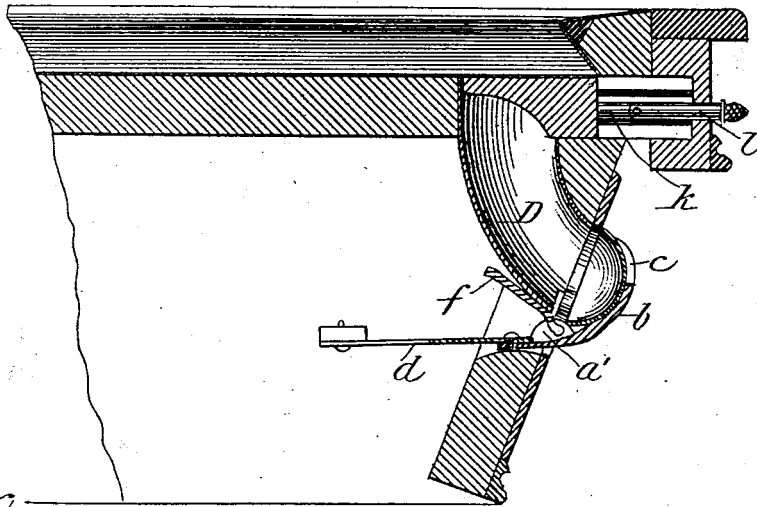


Fig. 7.



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NICOLAS H. GANSER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## BILLIARD-TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 322,436, dated July 21, 1885.

Application filed October 22, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NICOLAS H. GANSER, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Billiard-Table and Carrom Combined, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to certain improvements in combined billiard and pool tables.

The object of the invention is to provide improved means for closing the pockets with which the table is provided, and thereby adapt it to use for the game of billiards, and further, to improve the arrangement of such pockets, whereby the withdrawal of the pool-balls therefrom can be conveniently accomplished.

To the accomplishment of the above the invention consists of the novel devices and combination of devices to be described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of the table broken away and showing one corner pocket; Fig. 2, a similar view showing one side pocket; Fig. 3, a sectional view through the corner pocket; Fig. 4, a detail of the slide for closing the pockets; Fig. 5, a plan of parts of the table; Figs. 6 and 7, sections showing the pockets closed.

Like letters refer to like parts in each view.

A represents the frame of the table; B, the cushions, and C the floor or playing-surface. At each corner and midway of each side of the table there is formed through the floor C an opening, *a*, of sufficient size to allow of the passage therethrough of the balls used in the game of pool, these openings being substituted for the ordinary openings heretofore formed by cutting away the cushions at the points named. Openings *a* communicate each with a spout or tube, D, said spouts at their lower ends communicating each with an opening formed in the side or corner of frame A, as shown clearly in Figs. 3, 6, and 7. Pivoted to the lower and outer end of spout D, as at *a'*, is an arm, *b*, upon the outer end of which is formed a cup-shaped receptacle, *c*. To the inner end of arm *b* there is secured a weighted arm, *d*, which moves in a space, *e*, formed in the frame A, and adapted at suitable times to

contact with a stop, *f*. (Shown in Fig. 3.) The weight of arm *b* is sufficient to cause the receptacle *c* to occupy the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and close spouts D unless a ball, E, has been forced down said spout, in which case the weight of the ball will be sufficient to change the position of the parts, as shown in Fig. 3, and allow of its removal from the receptacle when desired, the position of the ball in receptacle *c* being such that, should a second ball be driven into the same spout before it is desired to remove the first it will be prevented from escaping from the spout by contacting with the first. The outer end of arm *b* may be formed in the shape of a hand, as at *b'*; or any other suitable ornamentation may be used. The strip *f* limits the movement of arm *b* and prevents the balls from falling from receptacle *c*.

To adapt the table to use in billiards, it becomes necessary to close the openings *a*, and this I accomplish in the following manner, to wit: I provide a sliding block, F, provided upon each side with projections *g*, said projections adapted to enter and move in grooves formed in each side of an opening made in the rails G of the table and below the cushions. Blocks F are adapted to move flush with floor C, and thereby present a perfectly smooth surface when in position to close openings *a*. Upon their under faces and at their inner ends these blocks are preferably hollowed out, as shown at *h*, the object of which is to allow of the pool-balls remaining in spouts D while the table is being used for billiards. To the opposite end of each block F there is secured a rod, *k*, passed through the rail G, and hinged to a second rod, *l*, by means of which the blocks are operated, the rods being thus broken to prevent their protruding beyond the table.

What I claim, is—

1. In a combined billiard and pool table, a floor or playing-surface provided with a series of openings, in combination with a series of sliding blocks and broken rods secured thereto, as set forth.

2. In a combined billiard and pool table, a floor or playing-surface provided with a series of openings, in combination with a series of spouts communicating with such open-

ings and receptacles pivoted at the lower end of such spouts, as set forth.

3. In a combined billiard and pool table, a floor or playing-surface provided with a series of openings, in combination with a series of spouts communicating with such openings, and weighted receptacles pivoted at the lower ends of such spouts, as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

NICOLAS H. GANSER.

Witnesses:

M. J. CLAGETT,  
LOUIS NOLTING.