

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

F. M. CHAPMAN.
THEATRICAL APPLIANCE.

No. 423,372.

Patented Mar. 11, 1890.

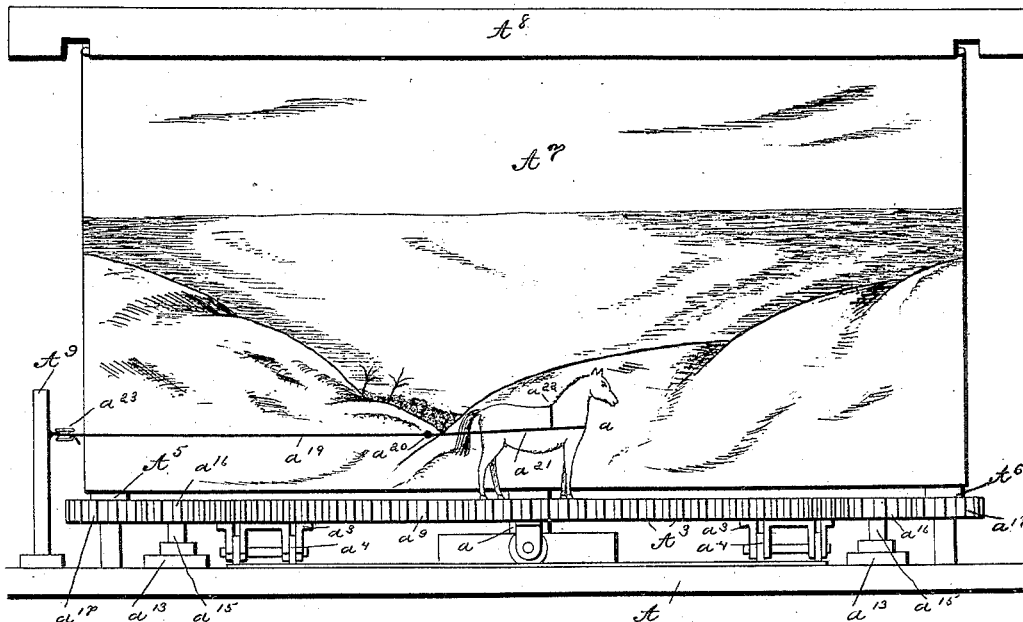
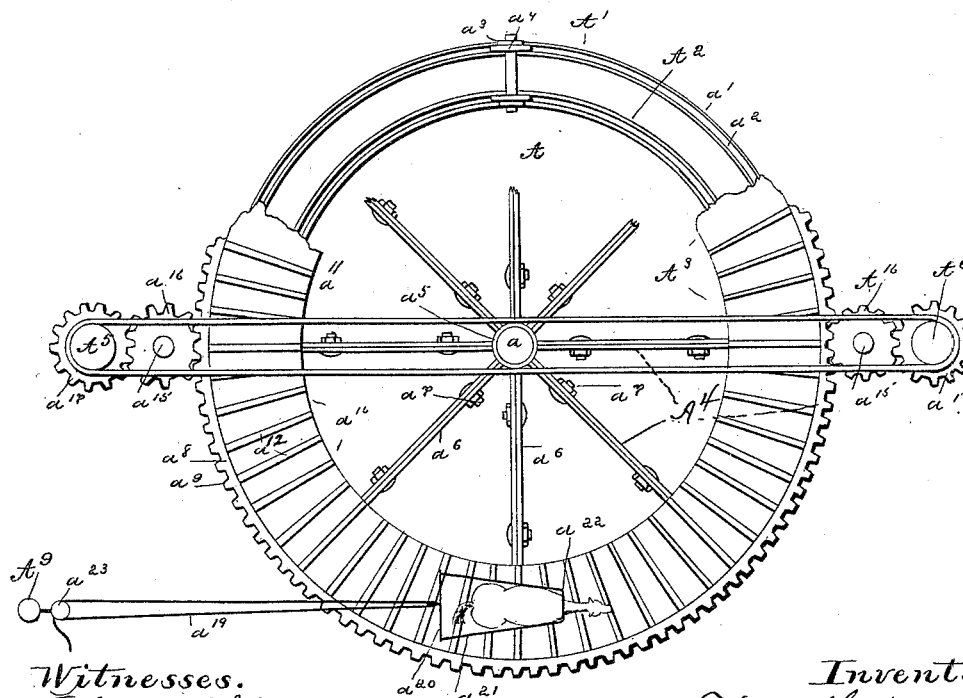


Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

Witnesses.
Arthur Ashley
[Signature]

Inventor

Fig. 2.

cc 21

Fig. 2.

Inventor
F. M. Chapman
per Stallock & Stallock
Atty

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

F. M. CHAPMAN.
THEATRICAL APPLIANCE.

No. 423,372.

Patented Mar. 11, 1890.

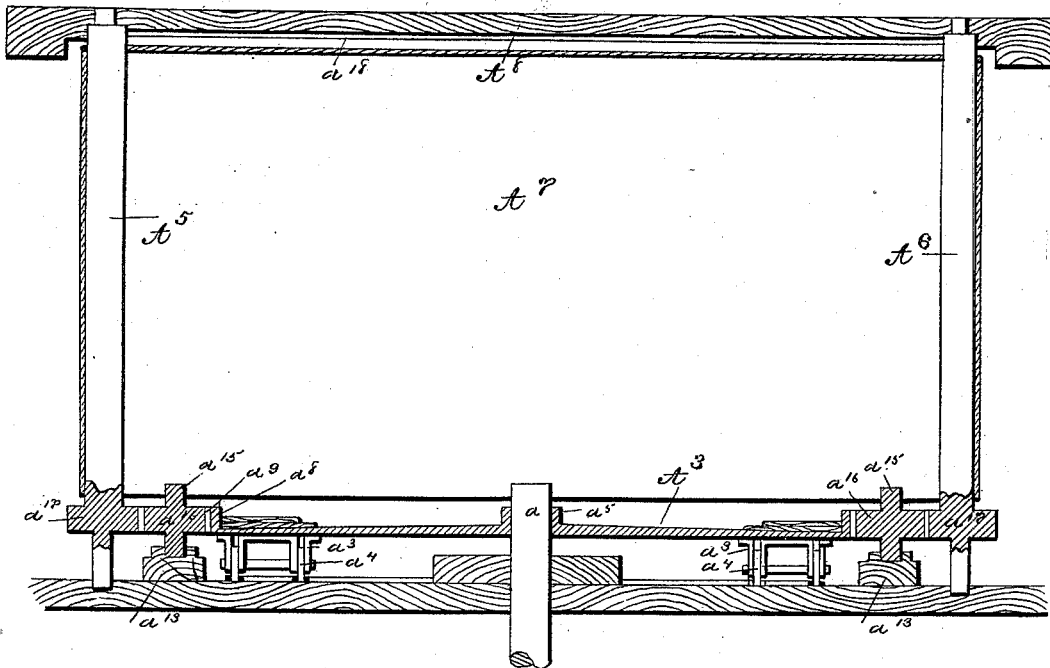


Fig. 3.

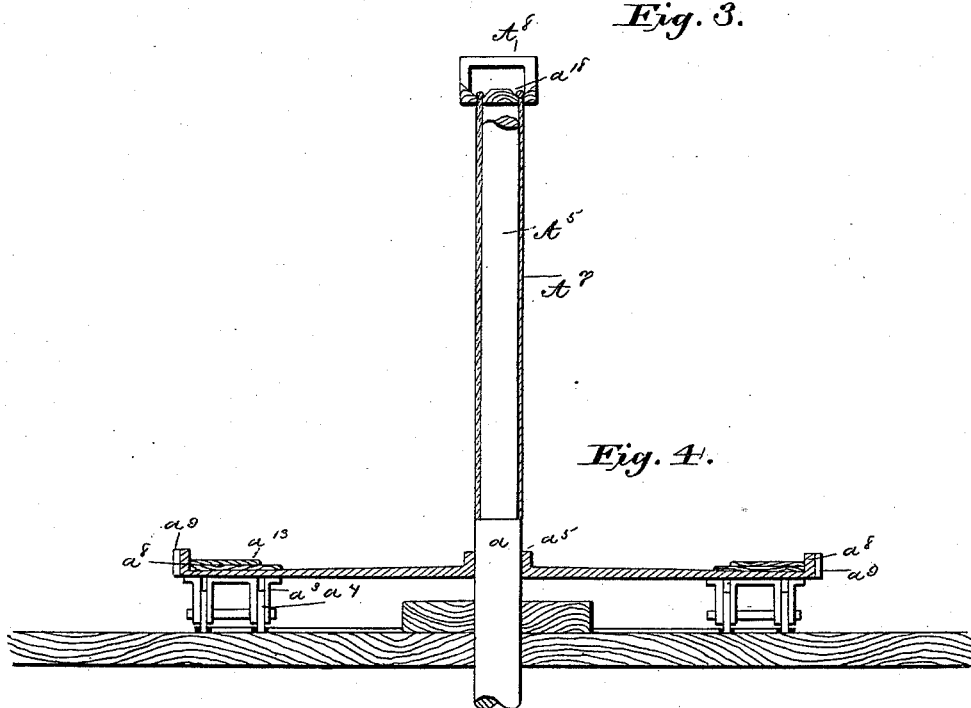


Fig. 4.

Witnesses.

Arthur Ahlberg
J. H. H. H.

Inventor

F. M. Chapman
per Hallock & Falleck
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK M. CHAPMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

THEATRICAL APPLIANCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 423,372, dated March 11, 1890.

Application filed January 23, 1890. Serial No. 337,823. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK M. CHAPMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Theatrical Appliances; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to that class of devices which are used to produce stage effects in theaters and other places.

The object and nature of the invention will more fully appear from the subjoined description, and the novelty will be pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings which form part of this application, Figure 1 represents a front elevation; Fig. 2, a plan of the turn-table with parts broken away to show the trucks and rails; Fig. 3, a vertical section, and Fig. 4 a transverse section of the device.

A represents the stage-floor, through which a spindle *a* projects. This spindle is secured below the stage-floor in any desired manner. Upon the stage are placed the circular grooved tracks *A'* and *A''*, made of sections *a'* and *a''*, for supporting the turn-table *A*³, having trucks *a*³, the wheels of which run upon the rails, preferably in the grooves of the same. The turn-table is also provided with a central opening or hub *a*³, through which the spindle *a* projects and prevents any lateral movement of the turn-table. This table is made up of sections or segments *A*⁴ of a circle, preferably eight in number, cut away, as shown in Fig. 2, to reduce their weight and to form flanges *a*⁶, having openings for the securing-bolts *a*⁷. On the outer ends of the section is a rim *a*⁸, having teeth *a*⁹, and projecting above the outer supports of the blocks *a*¹⁰. These blocks extend inwardly toward the center of the turn-table and have inclined faces *a*¹¹, upon which are fixed cleats *a*¹², also inclined like the faces *a*¹², to form a track for a horse or horses to propel the table.

Fixed upon the stage at diametrically-opposite points to each other are blocks *a*¹³ and *a*¹⁴. These blocks carry a fixed spindle *a*¹⁵,

having the idle-wheel *a*¹⁶, which meshes with and connects the teeth on the turn-table with the pinion *a*¹⁷ on the rollers *A*⁵ and *A*⁶, which carry an endless panorama *A*⁷. The rollers *A*⁵ and *A*⁶ are stepped at their lower ends upon the stage-floor and the upper ends are journaled in the frame *A*⁸, which is guyed in place by any suitable means. It is provided with grooves *a*¹⁸, through which the upper end of the panorama is inserted. The upper edge of the panorama is provided with a cord or cable properly secured thereto to prevent the end from slipping out of the same when the panorama is moved.

On one side of the stage a post or other device is secured to the floor of the stage, and from this post wires *a*¹⁹, equal in number to the horses to be used on the turn-table, are extended to a point in front of the panorama and over that part of the turn-table that happens to be in front of the panorama. These wires are secured to the horses in any desired manner, but preferably to a singletree *a*²⁰, having a continuous trace *a*²¹, which passes around the breast of the horse, and held in place by a shoulder-strap *a*²², as shown in the drawings. Each of the wires *a*¹⁹ is passed through a block *a*²³, and the end secured by any desired means.

If it be desired to draw one of the horses back or allow him to go forward, the wire can be slackened or tightened, as the case may be, to produce the desired result.

The operation of the device is as follows: One or more horses are placed upon the turn-table at any desired point between the panorama and front of the stage and started. As the horses are held back in the same manner as in the ordinary tread-mill, the horses will not advance until the wire is slackened. In the meanwhile the panorama is moving in the direction opposite to that in which the horses are supposed to be moving. This operation is accomplished by means of the gear connection between the turn-table and the rollers of the panorama and the horses acting upon the surface of the turn-table to turn the same.

What I claim as new is—

1. The combination of a stage, a turn-table having teeth in its periphery and a track upon

its upper face, and a panorama mounted over the turn-table and moving on a line substantially parallel with the front of the stage, and having its rollers geared with the turn-
5 table.

2. The combination of a stage, a section turn-table having teeth in its periphery and a track upon its upper face, a sectional track for the turn-table, a panorama-frame above
10 the turn-table, and a panorama mounted on

the turn-table and moving on a line substantially parallel with the front of the stage, and having its rollers geared with the turn-table.

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

FRANK M. CHAPMAN.

Witnesses:

GEO. R. BYINGTON,
S. J. VAN STAVOREN.