(No Model.)

C. A. EMERSON.

PUZZLE.

No. 522,250. Patented July 3, 1894.

Fig. 1.

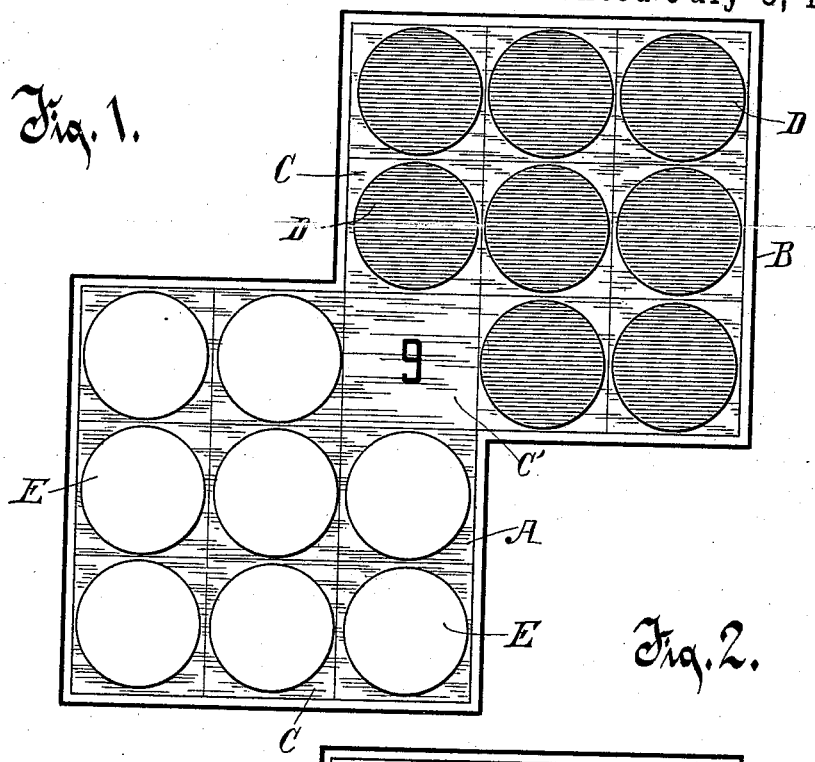
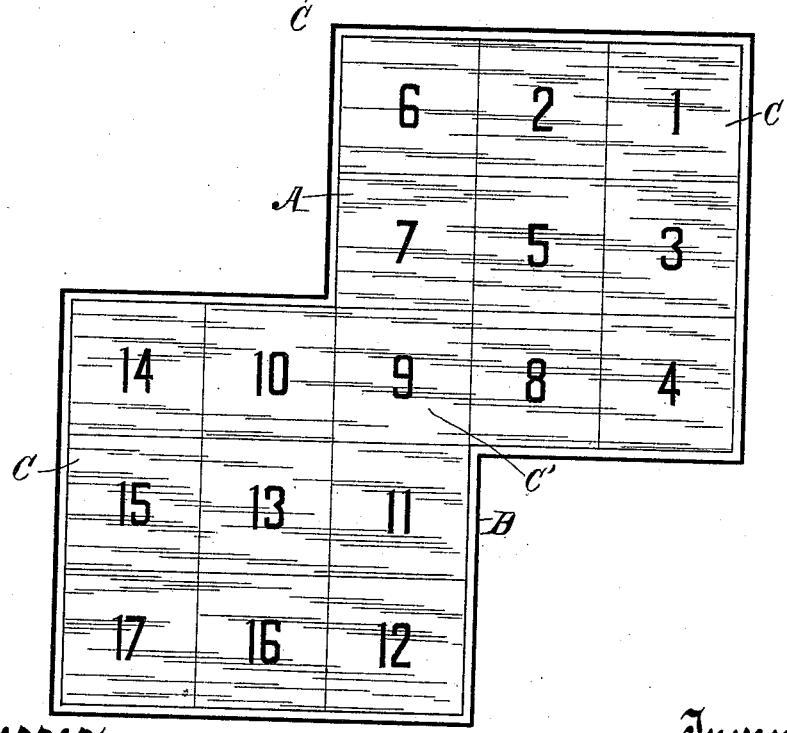


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
C. F. Kenney
Anna A. Faust

Inventor.
Charles A. Emerson,
By Benedict & Morsell
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. EMERSON, OF OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN.

PUZZLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 522,250, dated July 3, 1894.

Application filed November 3, 1893. Serial No. 489,910. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. EMERSON, of Oshkosh, in the county of Winnebago and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Puzzles, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to improvements in puzzles, and it consists of the devices and parts as hereinafter described and claimed, or their equivalents.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1, is a plan view of the puzzle showing the "men" or chips thereon in their proper initial position; and Fig. 2, is a similar view, with the men removed, to illustrate a system of numbering.

Like letters of reference denote like parts in both figures of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, the letter A indicates a flat board, preferably provided with a raised rim or flange B. This board is of the peculiar shape shown, viz, consisting of two partly rectangular figures, disposed diagonally with respect to each other, and merging at adjacent angles, so as to have an angle in common. This board is preferably divided off into a series of blocks or spaces C, so that an equal number of blocks or spaces will be disposed in each partly rectangular division of the board, and a central square C′ is left connecting the squares of the respective divisions. The blocks or spaces may be marked off directly on the board, or on canvas, paper, or like material, of corresponding shape to the board, and fastened thereto in any suitable manner. Or a diagram on canvas, paper or like material, of the shape shown, may be provided, so as to be in convenient form for attachment to a table, or other suitable supporting medium, or to a permanent board of rectangular shape, instead of to a board conforming exactly to the outline of the puzzle. In the upper division is shown as arranged a series of dark chips or men D, of circular, or other desired form, and in the lower division a series of similar chips E, of light or other distinguishing color. There are eight chips of each color. And all the spaces of the respective divisions are filled in with said chips, leaving the central space C′ vacant, as shown in Fig. 1.

After arranging the men or chips on the board or diagram in the manner above explained, the object is to transfer the men of black, or other distinguishing color, to the diagonally opposite side of the board and the white men vice versa. This is to be accomplished by a series of moves, in each of which a man is moved one block or space over one man only. It is necessary however to move and jump the men square, in contradistinction to diagonally, without getting blocked at the central space and without moving or jumping backward, so that when all the moves have been completed, the black men will occupy the position of the white men in Fig. 1, and the white men the position of the black, finally leaving the central space vacant. This can be accomplished in 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52 moves, figuring of course a jump as one move.

If the diagram is of the peculiar shape shown, it is not absolutely necessary that the blocks or spaces should be ruled off, inasmuch as when the chips are arranged to fill up the spaces of the board or diagram, as shown in Fig. 1, the moves can be readily made without reference to any ruling. This latter, however, in practice, is found convenient. I also prefer to number the spaces as indicated in Fig. 2, whereby a combination of moves is more conveniently indicated.

While I have shown in the drawings the partly rectangular divisions of the board or digram as each is capable of accommodating eight men or chips, I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself, to a board or diagram adapted to receive only that particular number, as it is obvious that the size of the board or diagram may be increased, so as to permit each division to receive therein chips or men to the number of fourteen, twenty, and so on indefinitely, the puzzle being capable of being worked so long as each division is increased six squares or spaces.

Instead of distinguishing the men by color, it is also obvious that they can be properly distinguished in any other convenient manner, as for instance by making the two sets respectively, of different shapes.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A puzzle comprising a diagram, of a shape to form two partly rectangular figures, disposed diagonally with respect to each other, said figures merging at their adjacent angles, so as to have an angle in common, the respective partly rectangular divisions adapted to receive therein a series of men or chips, the space at the point of merging of the two figures being left vacant, said chips or men adapted to be transferred by a series of square moves or jumps from one division to the other, leaving the central connecting space finally vacant, substantially as set forth.

2. A puzzle, comprising a diagram of a shape to form two partly rectangular figures disposed diagonally with respect to each other, said figures merging at adjacent angles, so as to have an angle in common, the diagram being divided into a series of blocks or spaces, leaving a central space at the point of merging of the two divisions, the respective blocks or spaces of the rectangular divisions adapted to receive therein a series of men or chips, the space at the point of merging of the two figures or divisions being left vacant, said chips or men adapted to be transferred by a series of square moves or jumps from one division to the other, leaving the central connecting space finally vacant, substantially as set forth.

3. A puzzle comprising a diagram, of a shape to form two partly rectangular figures, disposed diagonally with respect to each other, said figures merging at adjacent angles, so as to have an angle in common, the diagram being divided into a series of blocks or spaces, leaving a central space at the point of merging of the two divisions, all of said blocks or spaces distinguished severally by a certain number, and the respective blocks or spaces of the rectangular divisions adapted to receive therein a series of men or chips, the space at the point of merging of the two figures or divisions being left vacant, said chips or men adapted to be transferred by a series of square moves or jumps from one division to the other, leaving the central connecting space finally vacant, substantially as set forth.

4. A puzzle board consisting of a series of blocks or spaces arranged on a rectangular field or base, and another series of blocks or spaces also arranged on a rectangular field or base, the two series of blocks or spaces being so disposed that a corner block or space of one series is the corner block or space of the other series, substantially as set forth.

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

CHARLES A. EMERSON.

Witnesses:
W. H. FRAWLEY,
A. H. LEIDIGER.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 522,250.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 522,250, granted July 3, 1894, upon the application of Charles A. Emerson, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, for an improvement in "Puzzles," an error appears in the printed specification requiring the following correction, viz.: In line 62, page 1, after the word "space" the following words should be inserted: *or is jumped;* and that the Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed, countersigned, and sealed this 10th day of July, A. D. 1894.

[SEAL.]

JNO. M. REYNOLDS,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Countersigned:

JOHN S. SEYMOUR,
Commissioner of Patents.