

Hoop Bell Toys, Hoop Chime Toys, & Rolling Hooples

Part III Supplement A

Hoop Chime Toy and Hoop Bell Toy Patents:

I've found 50 U.S. Patents for hoop bell or chime toys. Often the patents were filed under obscure names such as "Automatic Toy," or just "Toy." This made searching a somewhat hit or miss process, so I probably haven't found every patent. I have not seen actual examples of most of these toys. Some toys that were patented may not have been put on the market.

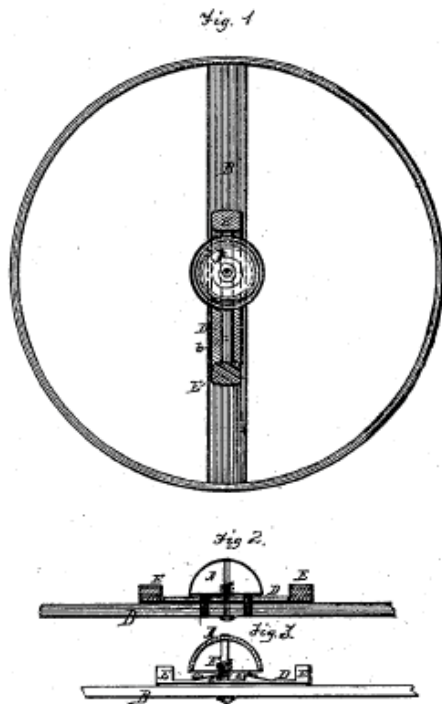
The patents show the great interest in creating these hoop chime or hoop bell toys and the broad scope of ideas around a simple concept. There were many more toys with patents applied for but not granted, and many toys were produced but never patented. There are too many patents to show them all in the space for this article.

I've limited the patents shown primarily to those having chimes or bells. A few other patents illustrate toy design evolution and competition. The patent record shows the rise in alternative trundled chime toys, usually with the chimes between two wheels. Looking at the patent dates one can see the flurry of interest increase, peak and then subside.

The Patents below are organized by date with the oldest first. The first is from 1867 and the last is from 1971, more than a hundred years later. Many of the drawings are just simply beautiful.

Below are 34 patents and other information that I deleted from the American Bell Association's, The Bell Tower, article Part III:

R. Ward,
Toy Hoop.
No. 110,519. *Patented Dec. 27, 1870.*



Witnessed
Oliver Drake
Abraham Mannerv

Rivera Ward
Inventor

K. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Patent Pat. No. 110,519, inventor Rivera Ward of Newark, New Jersey, Toy Hoop, Dec 27, 1870. As this hoop toy was rolled the chime in the center of this hoop would be struck by hammers sliding on brass bars. A spring under the bell would cause the hammer to move away from the bell, and allow the chime to be struck on the other side. If a hammer stays connected to a bell the vibration is dampened and the sound is deadened, hence the need for the spring. The model was once in the Cliff Petersen collection, and was displayed at the Cooper- Hewitt Museum of New York City in 1984 for a showing of "American enterprise: nineteenth-century patent models." "Until 1880 the Patent Office required that each application for a U. S. Patent be accompanied by a model that would demonstrate the working of the invention. Because of space limitations the models were limited to twelve inches in any dimension. After models were no longer required by the U.S. Patent Office, many models were lost in two separate disastrous fires, or discarded. Some models of great historical significance were given to the Smithsonian but, eventually, some were sold to Rundell Gilbert, an antique dealer from New York State. After his death most were acquired by Cliff Petersen of California." From paperwork included with the patent model. The author purchased this model from Andrew Humbert, a collector in Mississippi. Even if this hoop toy patent model hasn't been rolling, it did get around.

The Patent model is 11 5/8" in diameter. The red ribbon, or tape, and tag were issued by the U.S. Patent Office. Supposedly the red tape put on Patent Models was the genesis for the term, "government red tape." The model was once in the Cliff Petersen collection, and was displayed at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of New York City in 1984 for a showing of "American enterprise: nineteenth-century patent models." "Until 1880 the Patent Office required that each application for a U. S. Patent be accompanied by a model that would demonstrate the working of the invention. Because of space limitations the models were limited to twelve inches in any dimension. After models were no longer required by the U.S. Patent Office, many models were lost in two separate disastrous fires, or discarded. Some models of great historical significance were given to the Smithsonian but, eventually, some were sold to Rundell Gilbert, an antique dealer from New York State. After his death most were acquired by Cliff Petersen of California." From paperwork included with the patent model. The author purchased this model from Andrew Humbert, a collector in Mississippi. Even if this hoop toy patent model hasn't been rolling, it did get around.



This image from a Carte de Visite shows a child with a hoop toy, possibly the chime toy hoop patented by R. Ward. Obviously the scale of the toy could be changed from that presented by the patent model.

CDV in the collection of Robert Watrous

G. WHEELER.
TOY-HOOP.

No. 178,352.

Patented June 6, 1876.

Fig: 1.

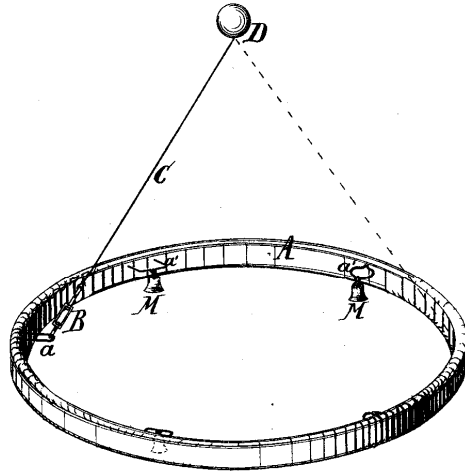
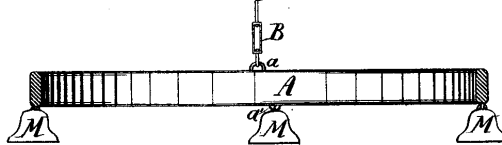


Fig: 2.



George Wheeler filed for this patent, called simply, Toy-Hoop. The patent was granted June 6, 1876. It shows numerous bells attached to the inside of the hoop.

Witnesses:

*Henry G. Kenton,
L. E. Stetson.*

Inventor:

*Geo Wheeler
by his atty,
Thomas S. Stetson*

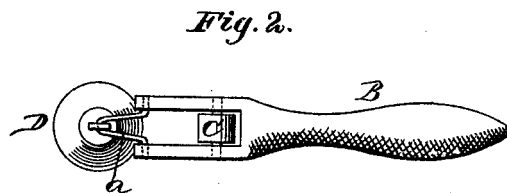
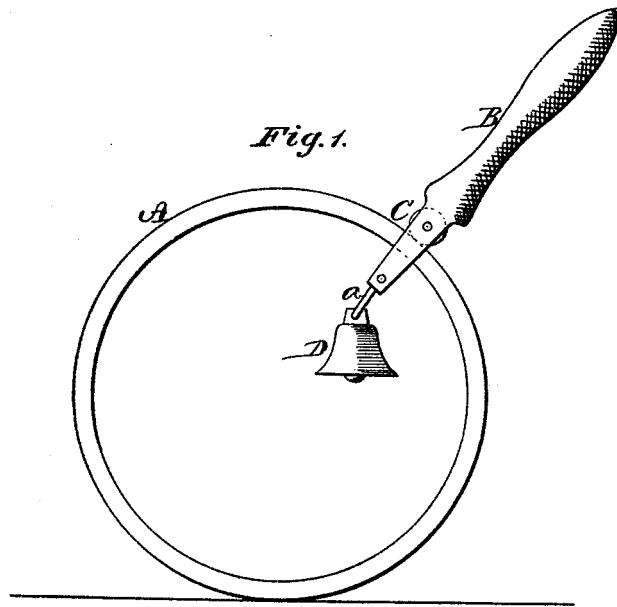
J. J. RILEY.

TRUNDLE HOOP HANDLE.

No. 182,959.

Patented Oct. 3, 1876.

John J. Riley received a patent for this handle and hoop bell toy arrangement in 1876. The handle is kept on the hoop by the bell staple and a roller on the handle runs on the outer rim of the hoop.



WITNESSES

Henry N. Miller
C. L. Eversh.

By

INVENTOR

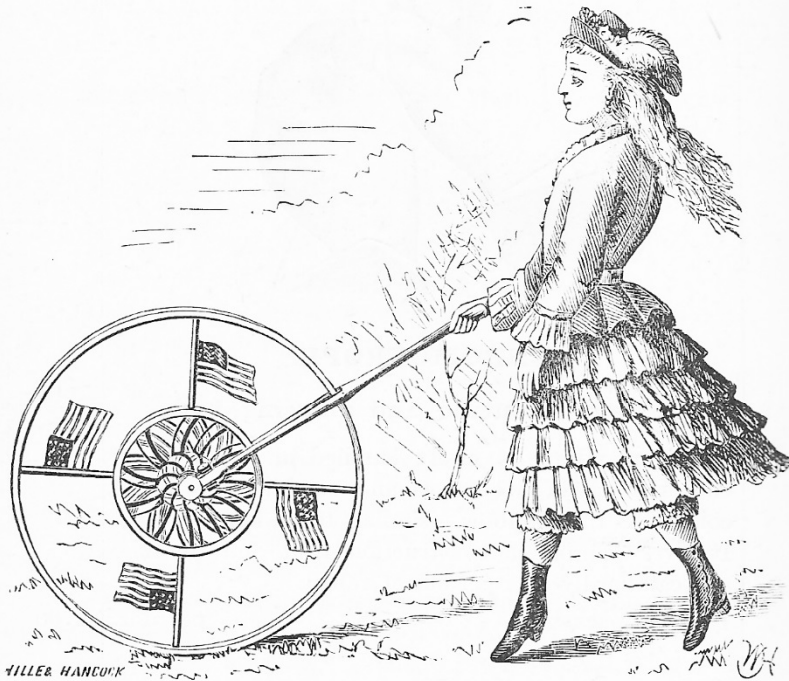
John J. Riley
Alexander D. Mason
Attorneys

Hooples.

Small, asst. sizes, from $22\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $33\frac{3}{4}$ in. in circumference, - - 1 gro. in package, per gross,
Large, assorted sizes, from $36\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $45\frac{1}{4}$ in. in circumference, - 1 gro. in package, per gross,

7.00

12.00



CHAMELEON HOOPLES.

Suits both boys and girls. A hoop fastened into a handle, by which it can be propelled. In its centre is a disc covered with bright colors in spirals. By a simple and positive cog mechanism, an outer perforated disc revolves in an opposite direction, so that when the hoop is in motion, the centre produces the brilliant effect of fireworks, appearing to throw off the brightest colors. Each spoke has a flag attached to it. The flag of any nation used.

per doz. 10.00

This image of "Chameleon Hooples" was in an 1877 catalog of Strasburger Pfeiffer & Co, (pg. 564). This is the earliest mention I've found of the word hooples. This catalog came one year after the Centennial. The toy may have been offered earlier. While it does not have bells or chimes, the ad is delightful in showing the young ladies' dress and boots style as well as the elaborate hoop.

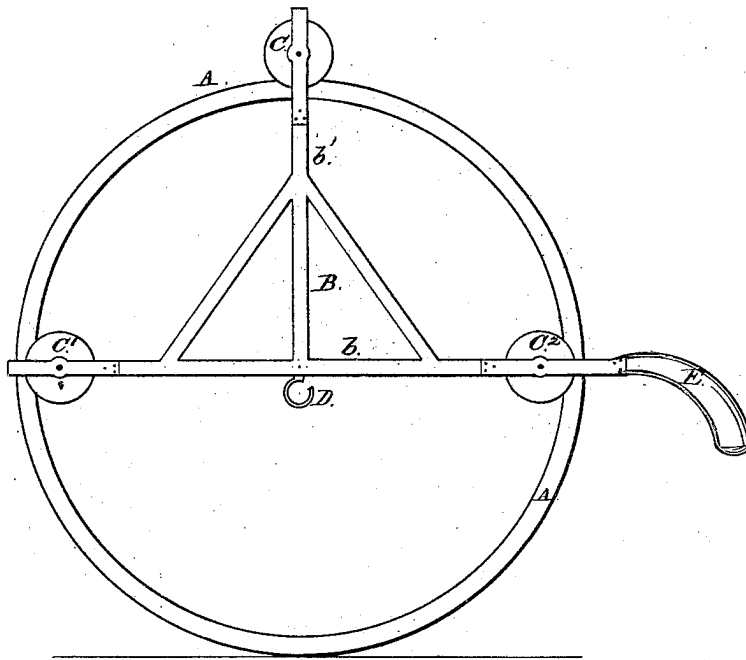
H. L. GRAVES.
Trundling Hoop.

No. 210,419.

Patented Dec. 3, 1878.

This Patent granted to Henry L Graves for a Trundling Hoop was issued Dec. 3^d, 1878. The handled hoop has three rollers. This hoop rolls along the surface of the ground, and its upper part turns in a frame, which is supported upon the hoop by friction-wheels, whose peripheries are grooved to embrace the periphery of the hoop.

No bells or chimes.



WITNESSES:

Geo. F. Knight.
Chas. J. Cooch.

INVENTOR.

Henry L. Graves
By Geo. F. Knight, Pat. Atty.

From the Specifications of Patents, April 22, 1879 pages 1072-3 (no image found for this patent)

214,627. BELL TRUNDLE-HOOPS. Francis Coghill, Brooklyn, N. Y. Filed July 11, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Framers COGHILL, of Brooklyn, in Kings county and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful improvement in Chime or Bell Hoops, of which the following is a specification.

This improvement relates to the toys known as “chime” or “bell” hoops, consisting of a hoop or wheel, handle connected to the axle thereof, and a bell or series of bells operated through the rotation of the hoop or wheel.

My improvement consists in the combination, with a hoop or wheel and a non-rotating frame or handle, of a bell and a spring-hammer formed of a single piece of wire fastened at one end to the frame, wound around the pillar or support of the bell, bent so as to form a hammer, and provided with a tripper-arm projecting in the path of the spokes or other suitable portion of the hoop or wheel, whereby the bell and its appurtenances are simplified and the article to which it is applied materially cheapened.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a chime or bell toy embodying my improvements, with the frame broken away. Fig. 2 is a plan or edge view thereof; and Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the same on the plane of the dotted line mm, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures. What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— The combination, with a- hoop or wheel and a non-rotating frame, of a bell and springhammer formed of a single piece of wire, fastened at one end to the frame, wound around the bell-pillar, bent to form the hammer proper, and provided with a tripper-arm, substantially as specified. FRANCIS COGHILL Witnesses:) HANDLER HALL, VIOLET VAUGHAN.

A designates a hoop or wheel, provided with a short axle, B, to which is secured a handle, O, which may consist of a round stick or piece of wood, split longitudinally throughout a portion of its length to form two parts, spread and held apart by an interposed block, a, and embracing the said hoop or wheel. A handle thus made has the advantage of being simple, cheap, and very durable. because it- is not so liable to be broken as one made in several parts and fastened together.

D designates a gong-bell, mounted on a pillar or support, 1), shown as fastened to and extending from one of the arms of the handle C. It may be fastened simply by driving it into the arm of the handle, if desirable.

E designates a wire, of brass or other suitable metal, fastened at one end, O, to the handle (J by a staple embracing it and driven into the handle, wound around the bell-pillar b, bent to form a hammer, d, and provided with a tripper-arm, c, projecting in the way of the spokes of the hoop or wheel, so that as the latter revolves when pushed along by the handle, the spokes will successive] y operate on the tripper-arm so as to draw back the hammer, and subsequently let it go, so as to effect the ringing of the bell.

A number of bells may be arranged to form a chime.

The hammer, hammer stock or helve, and tripper-arm, made in one and the same piece. are very much simplified and cheapened, and the toy embodying them is advantageous, because not liable to get out of order.

If- desirable, the tripper a may be made longer and bent, as represented in Fig. 3, so that the spokes of the hoop will not catch if the hoop is rolled backward.

(No Model.)

W. L. TETER.
TOY HOOP STICK.

No. 257,785.

Patented May 9, 1882.

On May 9, 1882
William L. Teter
received a patent
for this Toy Hoop
Stick. It must be
considered one of
the simplest
patents. It's simply
a sleigh bell
screwed into the
end of a stick.

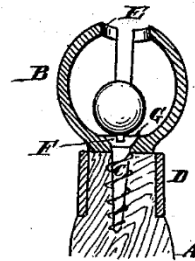
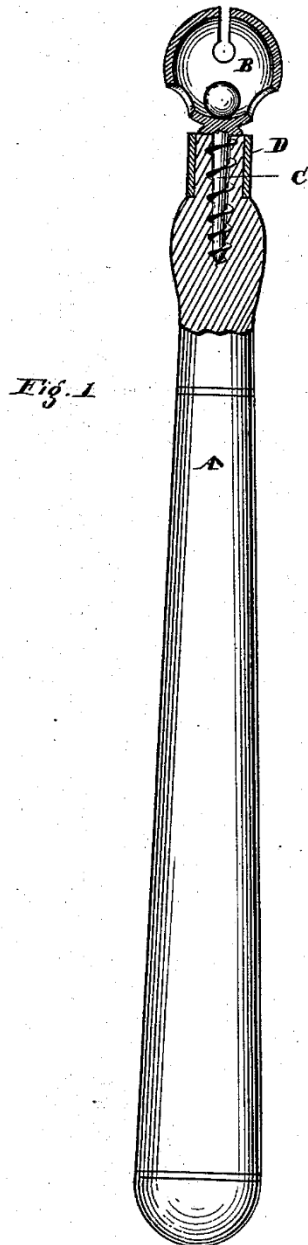


Fig. 2

Attests
Wm. H. Hunt
Clerk

Inventor
William L. Teter
By his atty.
Wm. H. Hunt

OFFICE OF
J. L. M. DUFOUR,

— MANUFACTURER OF —

IMPROVED CHIME HOOPS, MAGAZINE TOY GUN, &C.,

Bloomington

Bound Brook, N. J.,

May 9th

1887

H. B. Smith & Son:

Indebted:

On the 15th inst,

*I shall send you another check.
Will you please send me another
shipment of hoops, say 15 gross
large and 5 gross small. I hope
you will send the right a long as
they will then enable me to clear
up old scores. Should they be
later than I wish coming I will
have to hold them over until fall,
which will not be very pleasant.*

*Trusting you will attend to
this matter without delay.*

I am

*Very truly,
J. L. M. Dufour.*

This 1887 order from Joseph L. M. DuFour, manufacturer of Improved Chime Hoops, Magazine Toy Gun, &c., to H. B. Smith & Son was for another shipment of hoops in two sizes. In this order he requests 15 gross of large and 5 gross of small hoops to settle accounts already sold. This letterhead shows that DuFour had moved from Bound Brook to Bloomington, New Jersey and was manufacturing his toy hoops. Perhaps it was sometime after this that he sold the patent rights to the Princess Chime to Noble & Cooley.

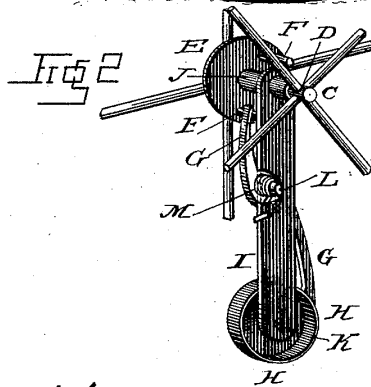
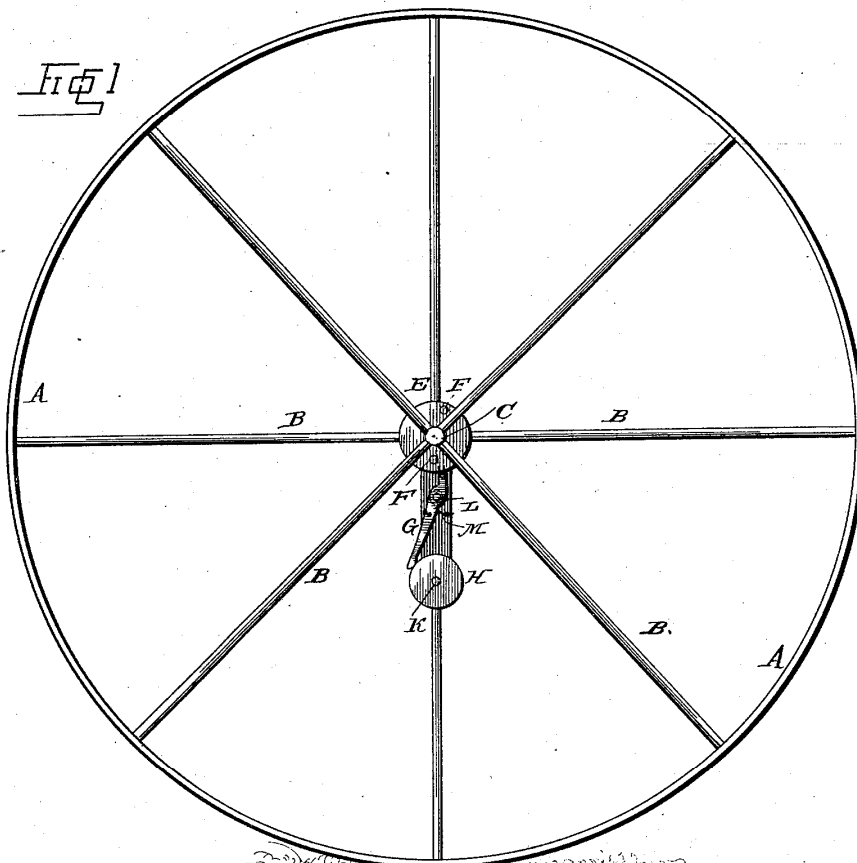
(No Model.)

G. LAYNG.
TRUNDLE.

No. 285,416.

Patented Sept. 25, 1883.

George Layng received a
patent for this this
Trundle toy in 1883



WITNESSES:

Ad. L. Dietrich
Jno. G. Hinkle

George Layng
INVENTOR.
By A. Peterson & Co
ATTORNEYS

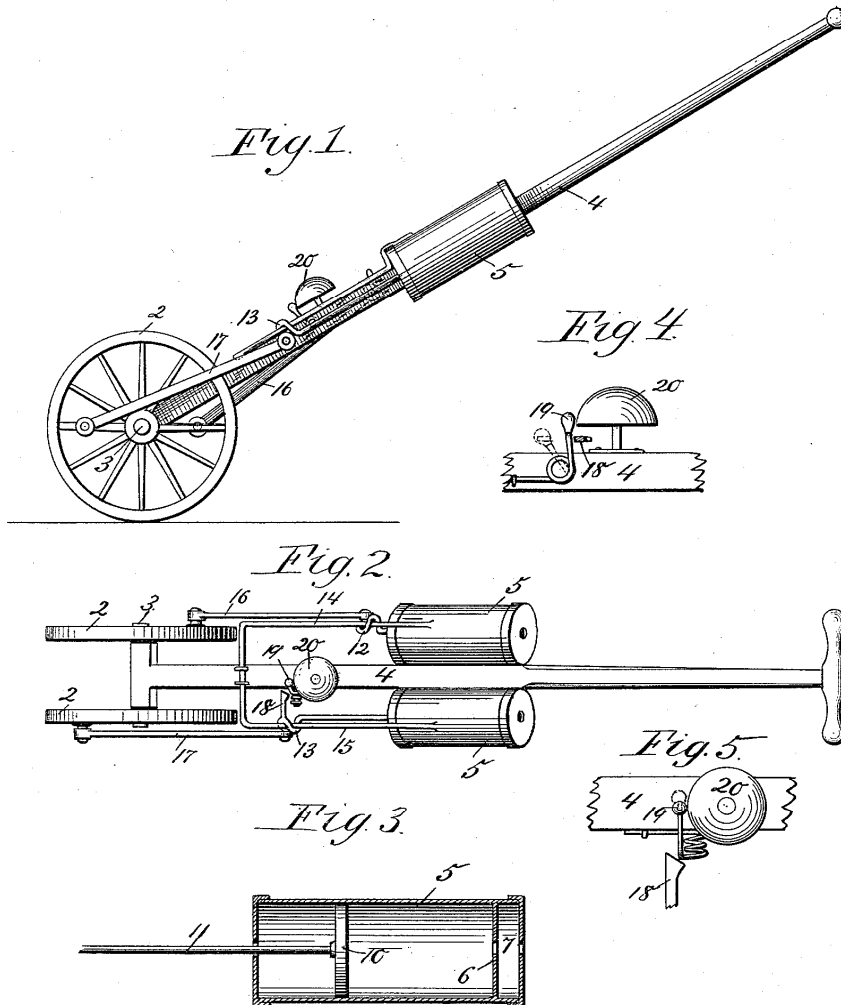
N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

(No Model.)

J. HANLEY.
LOCOMOTIVE TOY.

No. 439,064.

Patented Oct. 21, 1890.



John Hanley created this Locomotive Toy that emulated the look and action of pistons that drove steam locomotives of the era. He received his patent on Oct. 21, 1890. One of the rods that runs from an eccentric point on the wheel up to the cylinder strikes a bell. This wouldn't quite qualify as a hoop toy as it has two wheels, but one could see the similarities and this concept easily could have been transformed into a hoop toy, and several other patents showed just that. I don't think many children would have quibbled over the category. It's a wonderful push chime toy that would have competed for the attention of any child or adult considering the purchase of a chime hoop toy.

Witnesses:

J. Jensen.
C. Hawley.

Inventor
John Hanley.

By Paul & Merwin Attys

(No Model.)

H. DOUBLIER.
CHILD'S HOOP.

No. 464,151.

Patented Dec. 1, 1891.

Fig. 3.

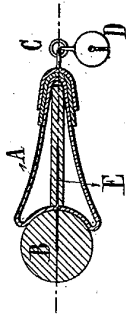


Fig. 2.

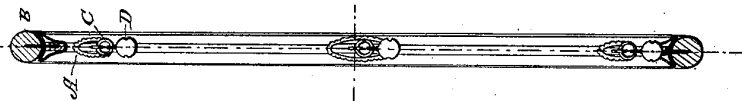
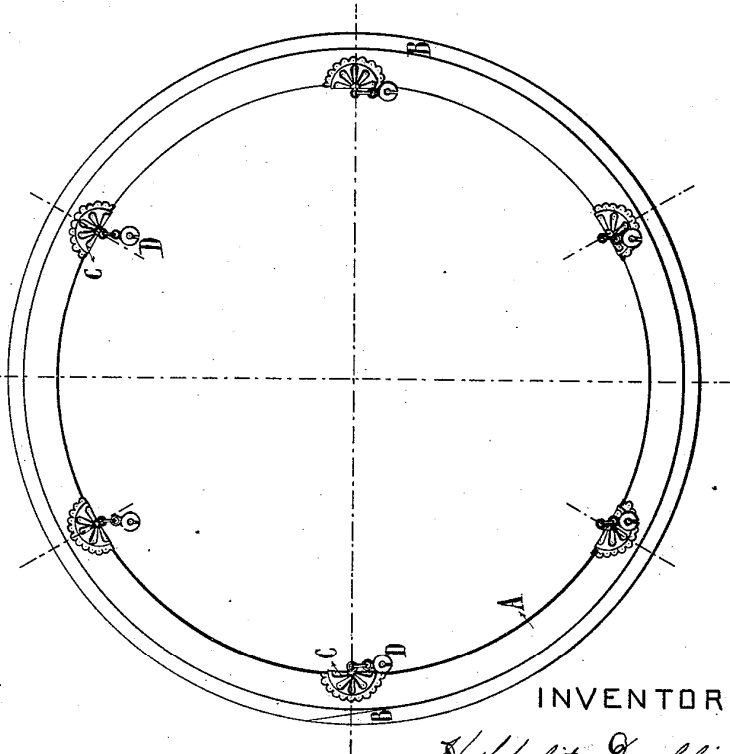


Fig. 1.



WITNESSES:

E. B. Bolton
C. L. Richards

INVENTOR:

Hyppolite Doublier
BY *Richardson*

his Attorneys.

Hyppolite Doublier's
Child's Hoop patent of
Dec. 1 1891 showed six
sleigh bells loosely
attached to the inside of
the hoop with an
ornamental base under
the screw eye.

A NEW TOY.

NEW YORK, April 1892.



Fantelnagelneues Spielzeug.

New York, im April 1892.

After months of arduous endeavor a true friend of children has succeeded in getting up a cheap toy which not only gladdens eye and ear, but also the very soul of our darlings. Attached to the hoople, which children have been so fond of to drive since the earliest times, there are pieces of tin which produce a loud and harmonious ringing while being rolled. The hoople is supplied with many colored spokes, star-shaped, to which flags and gayly fluttering streamers are fastened. A cord passes through the hoople's centre, by means of which the hoople (even without a stick) can be driven on, so as to run alongside the child like a little dog. Thus, too, the hoople cannot fall down and get soiled so readily, and the child need not stoop down for it every minute.

The inventor foresees the jubilation of the children when they will rejoicingly be running along the streets with their star-hoople, with its chimes and merry streamers, leading their rolling little dog by the string.

The inventor does not apply for a patent for the mere sake of gain, but mainly with the intention to produce a cheap toy for the little ones. He is well aware that the little folks are not in possession of millions, and that his toy can be furnished at a low price only when manufactured on a large scale. He, therefore hopes, that the public will favorably meet his well-meant intentions to manufacture a cheap, excellent, and safe toy.

Yours truly,

JOSEPH SUTTER,

AUG. F. REINHOLD,

Factory: 79 East 3. Street.

Nach Monate langem Bemühen ist es einem wahren Kinderfreunde gelungen, ein billiges Spielzeug zu erfinden, das nicht nur Auge und Ohr, sondern auch das Herz der kleinen wie der großen Kinder erfreut.

An dem Reifen, den die Kinder so gern rollen, sind hohl gepresste Blechstücke angebracht, um beim Rollen ein lautes und harmonisches Geflingel zu erzeugen. Ferner besitzt der Reifen buntfarbige Speichen, in Sternform geordnet, an denen Fähnchen und lustig flatternde Bänder befestigt sind. Durch den Mittelpunkt des Reifes geht eine Schnur, vermittelst deren der Reifen (und zwar ohne Stock) so angetrieben werden kann, daß er wie ein Hündchen am Bande neben dem Kinde herläuft. Der Reifen wird so auch vor dem häufigen Umfallen und Verschmutztwerden bewahrt; und man braucht sich nicht jeden Augenblick darnach zu bücken.

Der Erfinder sieht im Geiste den Jubel der Kinder voraus, wenn sie unter Geflingel mit ihrem Stern- und Fähnchenrade, dem gleichsam Leben verliehen ist, die Straße dahin springen und juchhe! jauchzen, das rollende Hündchen am Schnürchen führend, und ha, ha, hi, hi! jubelnd.

Der Erfinder sucht nicht nur Gewinnstes willen um ein Patent nach, sondern um das Spielzeug möglichst billig, recht billig für die Kleinen herzustellen. Er weiß wohl, daß die kleinen Leute keine Millionäre sind, und die Sachen nur durch großen Fabrik-Betrieb billig geliefert werden können. Deshalb hofft er, daß das Publicum seinen guten Willen, den Kleinen eine billige Freude zu bereiten, unterstützen wird.

Mit Hochachtung

Joseph Sutter,

Aug. F. Reinhold,

Fabrik: 79 Ost 3. Straße.

PATENT APPLIED FOR.

This April 1892 notice for a new toy star hoople by Joseph Sutter and Aug. F. Reinhold claims a patent was applied for. I've not found a Patent for this toy. The text is in English and German and indicates the inventors were looking for manufacturers both in the U.S. and abroad. The notice was found in the archive of Noble & Cooley, NCCHP. The novelty of this invention was the elastic cord through the hub.

The text reads in part, "...a true friend of the children has succeeded in getting up a cheap toy which not only gladdens eye and ear, but also the very soul of our darlings. Attached to the hoople, which children have been so fond of to drive since the earliest times, there are pieces of tin which produce a loud and harmonious ringing while being rolled. The hoople is supplied with many colored spoke, star shaped, to which flags and gayly [sic] fluttering streamers are fastened. A cord passes through the hoople's centre, by means of which the hoople (even without a stick) can be driven on, so as to run alongside the child like a little dog. Thus too, the hoople cannot fall down and get soiled so readily, and the child need not stoop down for it every minute. The inventor foresees the jubilation of the children when they will rejoicingly [sic] be running along the streets with their star hoople with its chimes and merry streamers, leading their rolling little dog by the string."