

S. Arnold,

Fly Trap,

N^o 15,452.

Patented Sep. 23, 1856.

Fig. 2

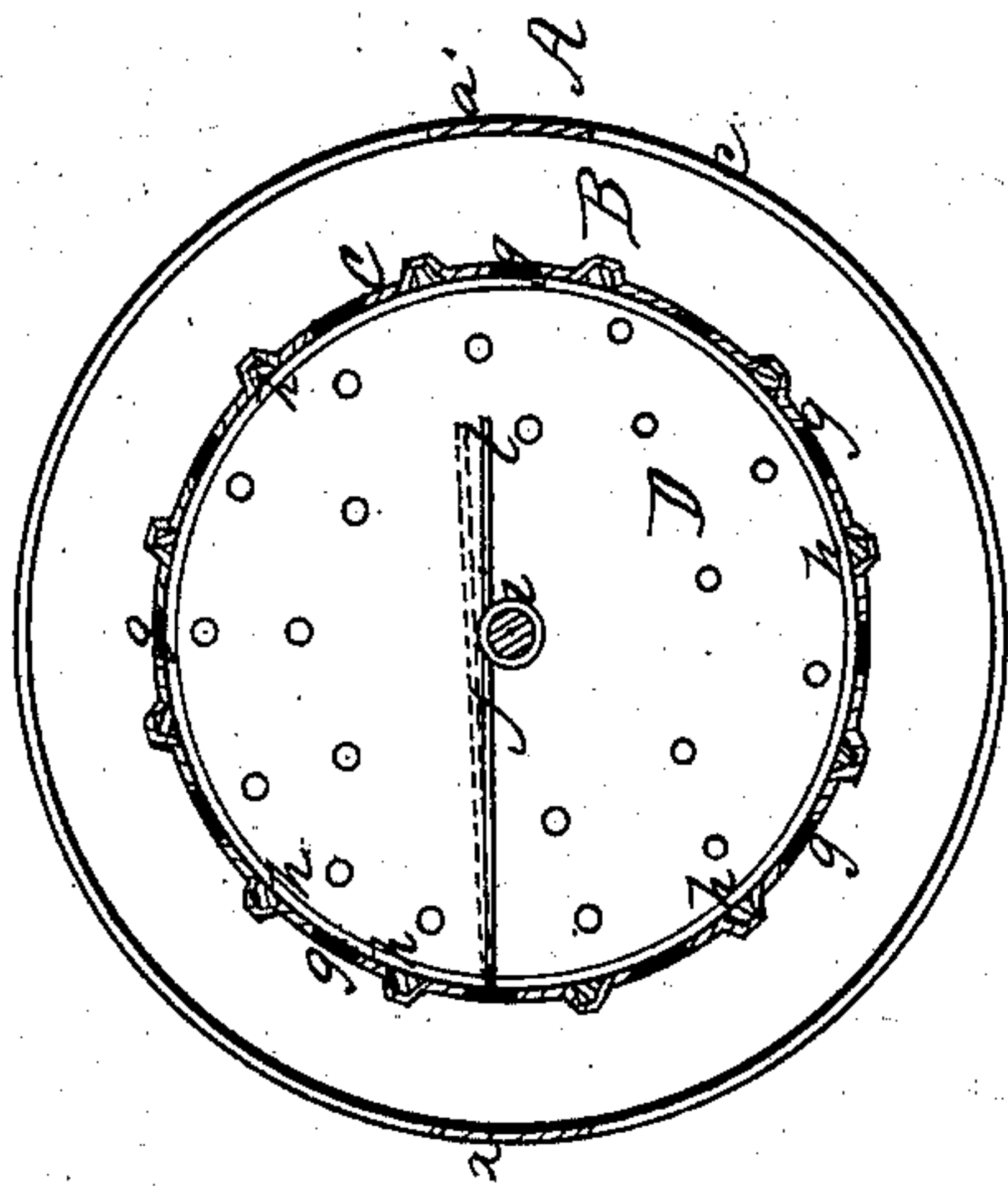
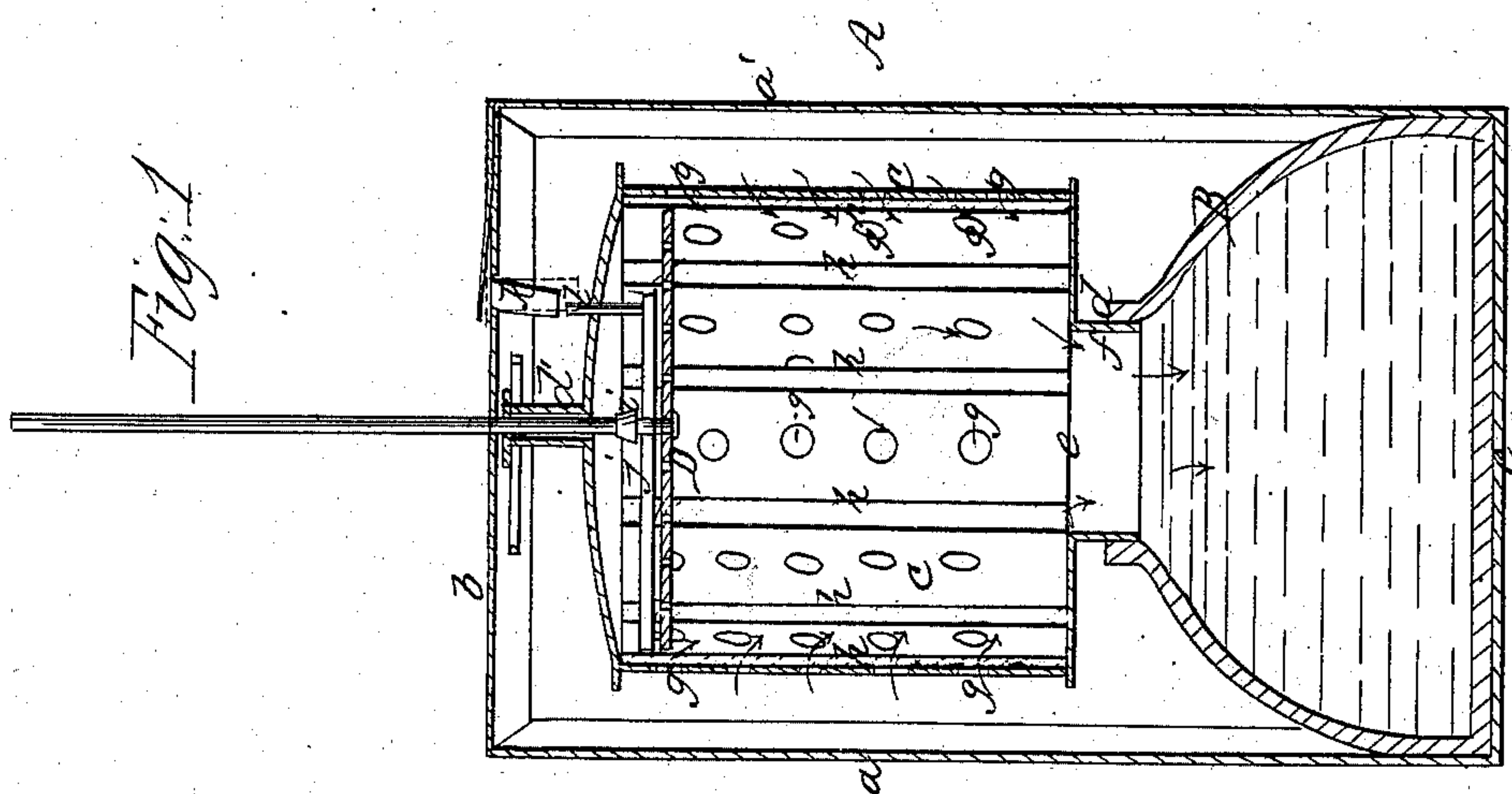


Fig. 1



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

S. ARNOLD, OF GREEN HILL, TENNESSEE.

FLY-TRAP.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 15,752, dated September 23, 1856.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL ARNOLD, of Green Hill, in the county of Wilson and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fly-Catchers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section, and Fig. 2 a horizontal section, of a fly catcher constructed after my invention.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

The nature of my invention consists in the employment of a revolving perforated hollow cylinder, provided with a reticulated rising and falling piston, over a hemispherical or other shaped hollow glass vessel, said cylinder serving for entrapping the flies, being grooved on its inner periphery and coated with some condiment attractive to flies, and the glass vessel being filled with soap suds and serving by its transparency to attract the flies downward, and the piston, as the cylinder revolves, falling automatically and forcing the flies down into the soap suds in a manner to render it impossible for them to fly up again into the cylinder.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A, is a frame consisting of two vertical standards *a*, *a*¹, a top cross tie *b*, and a circular flanged base *c*.

B, is a hemispherical hollow glass vessel set in the base *c*. It is open at its top *d*, and serves to contain soap suds for destroying the flies after being entrapped. It also serves, owing to its being transparent, for attracting the flies down into the soap suds.

C, is the hollow cylinder. It has a short journal *d*¹, on its upper end and an opening *e*, in its bottom corresponding to the opening *d*; said opening being surrounded by a flanch *f*, which passes down into the neck of the glass vessel B, and serves as the lower journal and for combining the cylinder and vessel, so that they may communicate with each other, as shown.

g, *g*, are perforations in the periphery of the cylinder through which the flies enter in passing into the same.

h, *h*, are vertical grooves formed in the inner periphery of said cylinder at points close to the perforations. These grooves serve for containing some condiment attractive to flies.

D, is a reticulated piston fitting loosely the bore of the cylinder C, and having its rod passing up loosely through the short upper journal *d*, of the cylinder. This piston is reticulated so as to meet with less resistance from the air in the cylinder in its descent, and thus counteract the tendency to force the flies, by the pressure of the air, out through the perforations. It should be noticed, as a matter of importance, that as the piston rises and falls it does not interfere with or scrape off the condiment from the cylinder, owing to the same being confined in the grooves *h*, *h*.

i, is a shoulder on the rod of the piston and *j*, is a spring catch which falls under the same and holds the piston elevated as shown in black.

k, is a spring stop for effecting the release of the piston when desirable. This stop allows of the cylinder revolving while the piston is elevated and is brought into operative position by being depressed by the hand, as shown in red, and when thus depressed, as the cylinder revolves, comes in contact with a pin *l*, of the spring catch, and causes the same to recede sufficiently far to effect the release and descent of the piston.

The top of the cylinder is removable, or may be divided so as to admit of a ready insertion of the condiment into the grooves. In order to remove the top conveniently the bearings are made in a manner that by pressing a spring *m*, the upper journal of the cylinder can be set free and the cylinder taken off of the glass vessel and out of the frame.

Operation: The fly catcher properly baited is placed on the dining table or in other place and let stand until a large number of flies have entered the cylinder through the perforations, when some one around the table gives the cylinder a twirl and then depresses the spring catch with the hand and thereby releases the piston and allows it to descend. The flies by the twirling of the cylinder, descent of the piston and the delusion caused by the greater light through the transparent or glass vessel are caused to descend into the soap suds in the

glass vessel and thereby instantaneously deprived of life.

This fly catcher is very simple and compact and may be made at a slight cost quite
5 tasty and ornamental enough in appearance to be placed on a dining table while eating.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is,

10 1. The employment of the revolving perforated and grooved hollow cylinder C, applied in connection with the reticulated pis-

ton D, and glass vessel B, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The arrangement for retaining the 15 piston elevated while the flies are being entrapped, in connection with the device for releasing it when necessary, substantially as set forth.

SAMUEL ARNOLD.

Witnesses:

I. F. BUCKLEY,
I. W. COOMBS.