

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. A. GOODSON.
TOY.

No. 431,656.

Patented July 8, 1890.

Fig. 2.

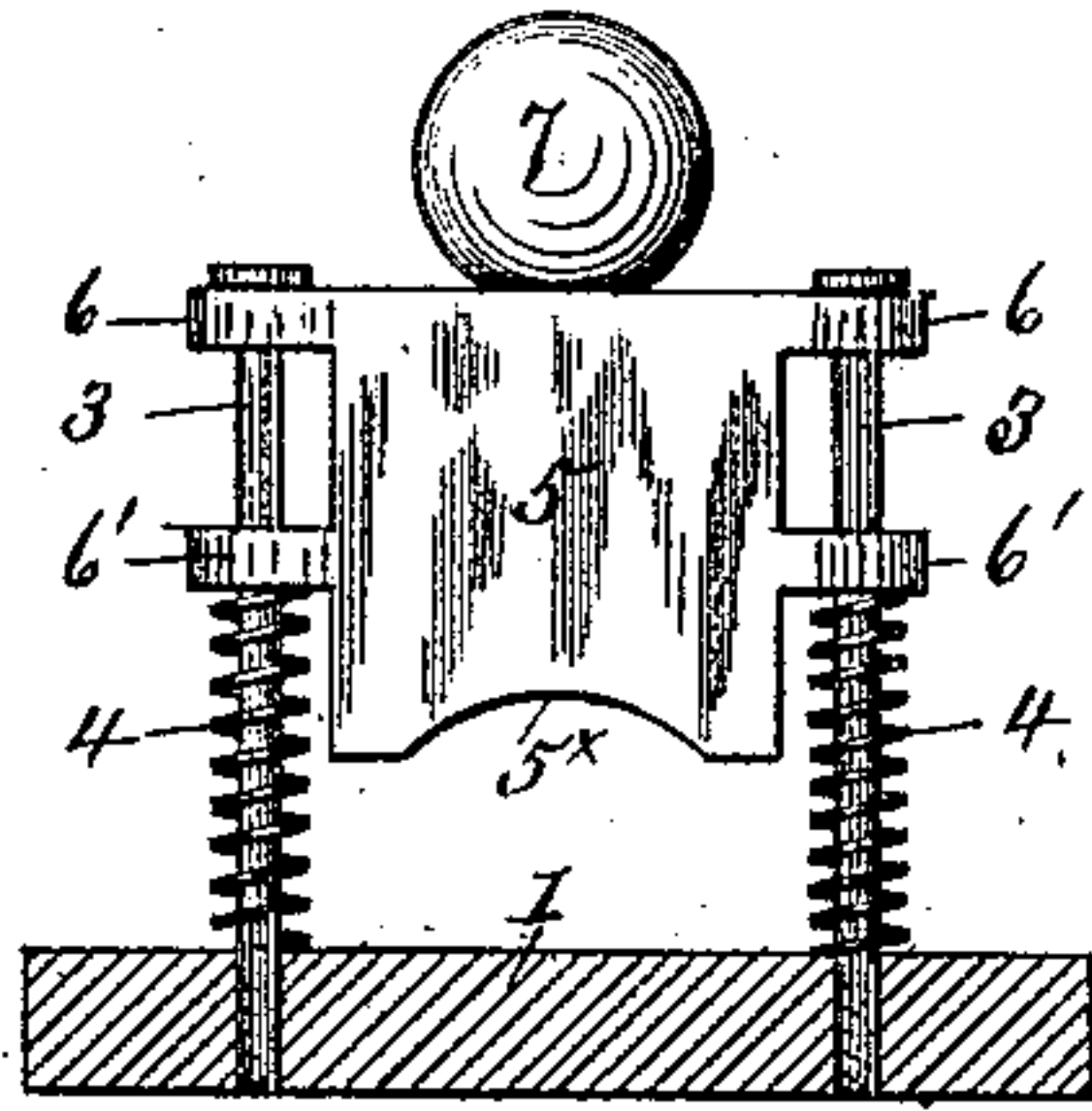


Fig. 1.

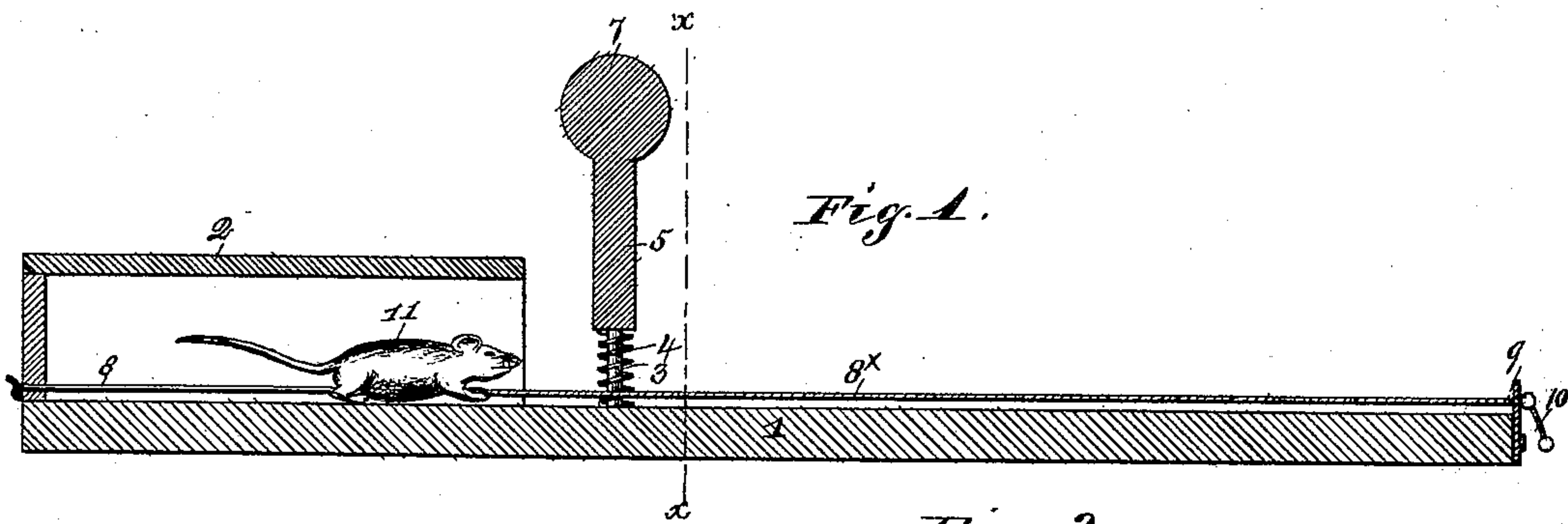
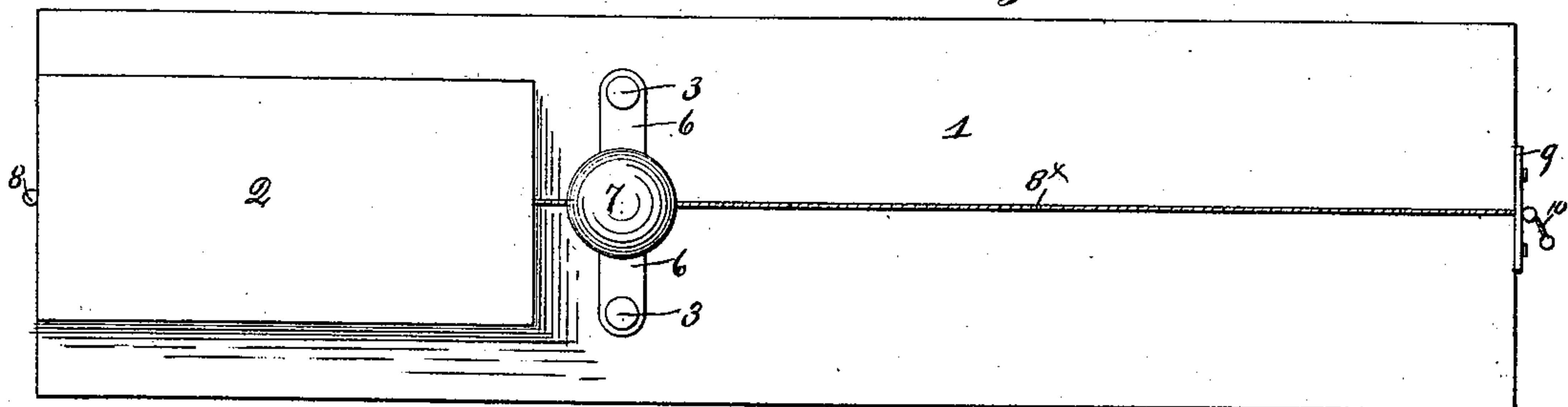


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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Williamson & Blodgett

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Fig. 5.

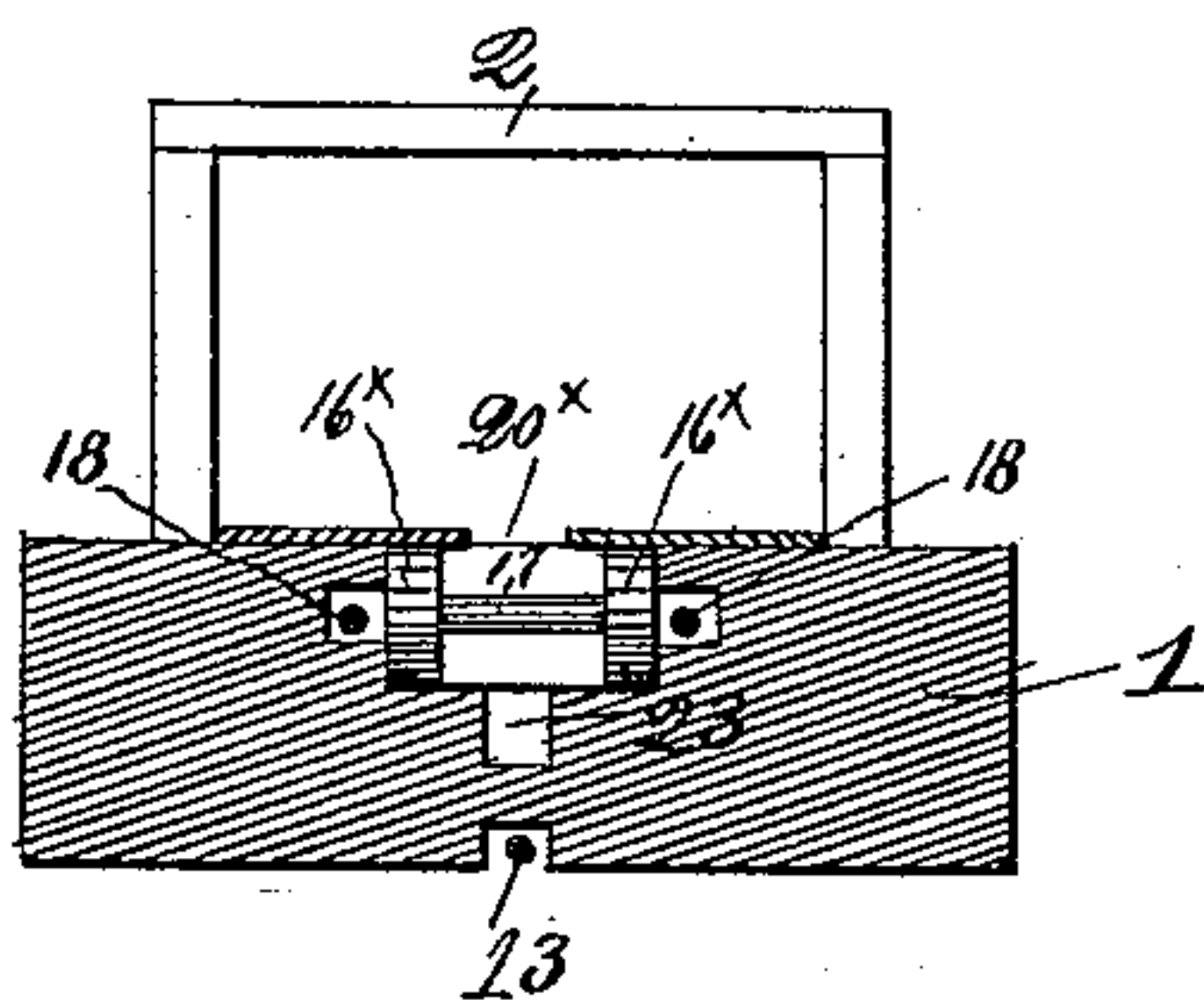
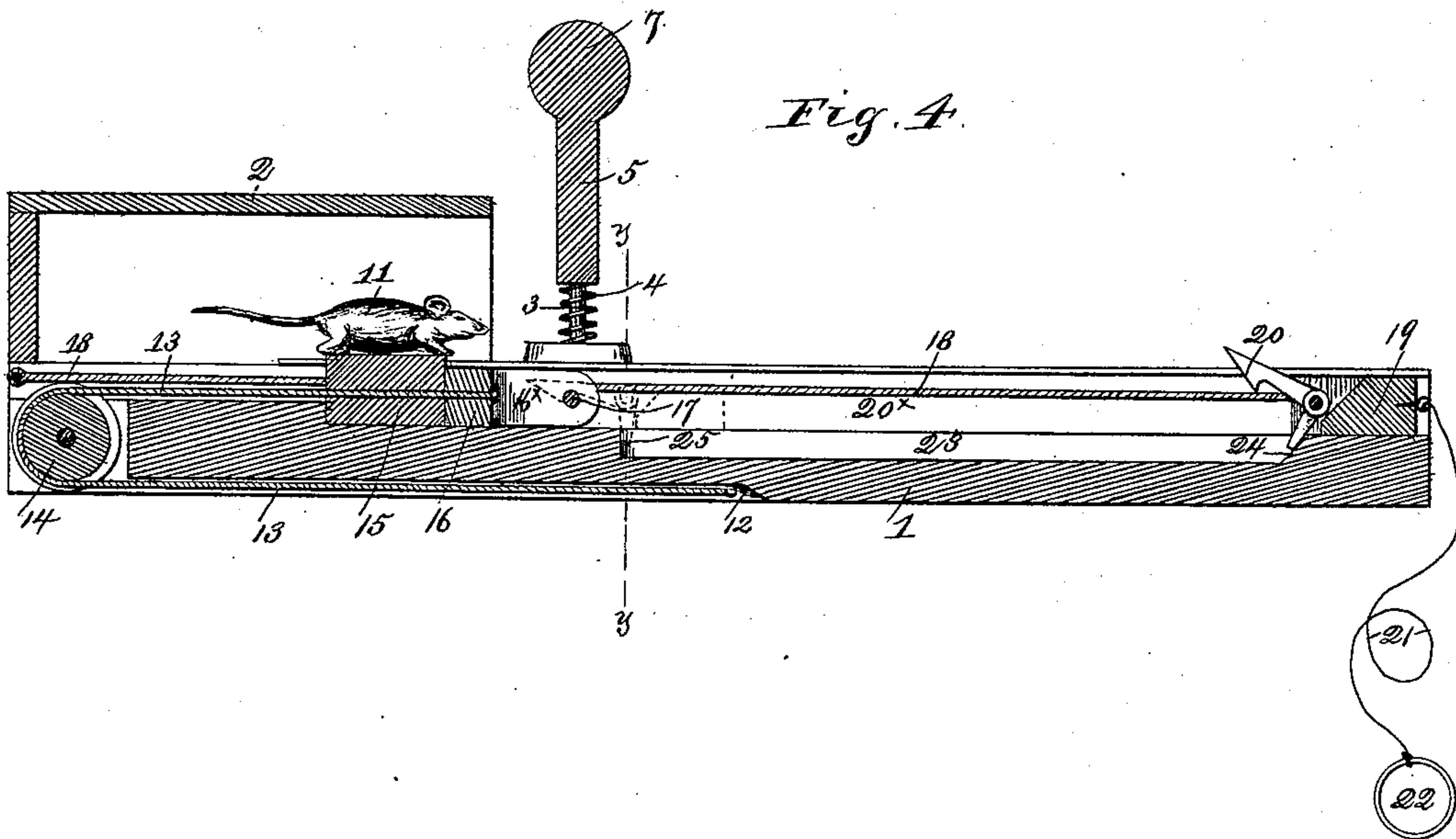


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. GOODSON, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO JAMES F. WILLIAMSON AND WILLIAM H. BLODGETT, OF SAME PLACE.

TOY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 431,656, dated July 8, 1890.

Application filed April 10, 1890. Serial No. 347,435. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. GOODSON, a citizen of the Dominion of Canada, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toys; 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 toys, and has for its object the construction of a device of low initial cost that will amuse both adult and child.

An embodiment of my invention is illustrated in the different figures of the drawings, in which Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section; Fig. 2, a cross-section on the line xx of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a plan view of one form thereof. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of a modification, and Fig. 5 is a transverse section on line yy of Fig. 4 with the catch-plate removed.

Like numerals are placed on like parts throughout the several views.

1 is a base or bed plate, which may be provided with a house or covering 2 at one end.

3 3 are standards rising from the bed-plate and each surrounded by a coiled spring 4.

5 is a catch plate or block, provided with perforated lugs 6 6' fitting over the standards 3, with a knob or protuberance 7 adapted to be struck by the hand and with a concave striking-face 5^x.

8 is an elastic cord secured to the bed-plate or house at its rear end, and 11 is the figure of an animal (shown as a rat or mouse) secured to the cord.

8^x is a non-elastic cord secured to the figure 11 at one end and passing through a perforation in a plate 9 at the other end, where it is provided with a ring or finger-piece 10.

In the modification represented in Figs. 4 and 5, bed-plate 1 is provided with a groove 12 on its under side for receiving and concealing an elastic cord 13, which passes over a roller 14, journaled in a recess at its rear end, passes through a perforation in a block 15, which carries the figure 11, and is attached at its forward end to a cross-head 16, pro-

vided with ears 16^x, connected by a transverse pin 17.

18 18 are elastic cords connected at one end with the ears 16^x and at their forward ends to a sliding block 19, provided with a pivoted catch or trigger 20.

20^x is a guideway in the base.

21 is a non-elastic cord connected in any suitable manner to block 19 and provided with a ring or finger-piece 22.

23 is a groove in bed-plate 1, provided with an inclined end wall 24 and with an abrupt end wall 25.

In its normal position catch 20 is in engagement with cross-bar 17, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4.

The form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 operates as follows: The figure is normally within the house or covering 2, but can be caused to emerge therefrom by pulling on the cord 8^x, which will cause elastic cord 8 to become distended and tend by its reactive force to pull the figure backward within its house. A series of short jerks may be given the cord, which will cause the figure to advance and just emerge from the house and then quickly retreat. This pulsatory movement of the figure will tend to confuse a person standing with his hand extended over the knob of the catch-plate in readiness to strike the same a blow to force it downward to catch the figure when it is pulled beneath the catch-plate and let go to fly backward within the house.

A very amusing game (which may be termed "Catch the rat") is afforded by this toy, as it requires great quickness—in fact, almost synchronous thought and action—to drive the catch-plate down quickly enough to catch or intercept the rapidly-moving figure. It is astonishing how often the descent of the catch-plate will fall short of the mark, and the efforts to drive it down quick enough to catch the figure are exceedingly amusing to old and young. The figure will be made of some yielding material, preferably rubber, which will not be injured by the blows of the catch-plate. As the catch-plate is forced downward, the springs are compressed, and by their reaction immediately force the plate

upward as soon as pressure is removed therefrom. As the face of the catch-plate is concave, it strikes the figure and acts to catch the same more readily.

5 In the device represented by Figs. 3 and 4, the block 19 is normally held to block 16 by catch 20, and the two blocks move together until the tail-piece of catch 20 comes into contact with incline 24, which will trip the
10 latch and permit the elastic cord 13 to exert its stress to pull the figure back within the house. After the grasp on ring 22 is released springs 18 will immediately exert their force to return block 19 to its normal position. As
15 the block moves back, the tail-piece of the latch 20 comes into contact with the end wall 25 of groove 23, and the latch is thereby rocked and made to engage cross-pin 17.

The block 15, on which the figure is mounted,
20 is provided with a perforation snugly fitting the cord 13, and thereby holding the block thereto with sufficient binding force to cause it to move therewith. If the catch-plate should be depressed and catch the figure be-
25 fore the block 16 has completed its forward movement, the cord will slip through the perforation, thereby overcoming all danger of breakage of any of the parts.

It is of course to be understood that two
30 persons are required to play the game, one to pull and release the figure and the other to strike the catch-plate.

The particular form of catch-plate described is one among many that could be employed,
35 and the invention is not limited thereto. It is obvious that other resilient or elastic material could be employed as a substitute for the elastic bands shown and described without departing from my invention, and that it
40 could be embodied in other forms than those shown.

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

45 1. A toy comprising a rapidly-movable figure and a manual device adapted to intercept the path of movement of the figure and to catch the same, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

50 2. A toy comprising a base, a figure, means for causing the figure to make a back-and-forth movement on the base, and a manual striking device adapted to intercept or to catch and retain the figure, substantially as
55 and for the purpose specified.

3. A toy comprising a base, a figure having an elastic connection with one end of the base, a cord for pulling the figure, and a device for intercepting its path of motion, sub-
60 stantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. A toy comprising a base having a house or covering, a figure normally concealed within said house, a spring-connection, a pull-cord for moving the figure, and a device adapted
65 to be depressed by a blow to intercept the path of motion of the figure, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. A toy comprising a base, a figure, means for causing the figure to advance and retreat on the base, and a movable catch-plate lo- 70 cated in the path of motion of the figure, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

6. A toy comprising a base provided with a house or covering at one end, a figure normally concealed within the house, resilient 75 means connecting the figure with the base, a pull-cord, a plate having a guide for said cord, and a catch-plate on the base and in the path of motion of the figure, substantially as and for the purpose specified. 80

7. A toy comprising a base, a figure movable thereon, and a catch-plate located in the path of motion of the figure, adapted to intercept or to catch and retain the same.

8. A toy comprising a base, a figure movable thereon, standards on the base, a catch-plate guided by said standards, and means 85 for returning said plate to its normal position, substantially as and for the purpose specified. 90

9. A toy comprising a base provided with vertical standards, springs surrounding said standards, a catch-plate having perforated ears fitted on the standards, and a figure movable beneath the catch-plate, substantially 95 as and for the purpose specified.

10. In a toy of the character set forth, a catch-plate provided with a concave striking-surface, and with a knob or protuberance, upon which the blow is to be delivered, sub- 100 stantially as and for the purpose specified.

11. A toy comprising a base, a block carrying a figure movable on said base, and a device adapted to intercept the path of motion of the figure and to catch and retain the 105 same, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

12. A toy comprising a base provided with a guideway, a block carrying a figure adapted to move in said guideway, and a striking de- 110 vice located in the path of motion of the figure and adapted to intercept and to catch or retain the same, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

13. A toy comprising a base having a guide- 115 way, a series of blocks movable in the guideway and detachably connected to move in unison in one direction and to be released, as set forth, one of said blocks carrying a figure, a pull-cord, and elastic cords connected with 120 the blocks, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

14. A toy comprising a base having a guide- 125 way, a cross-head provided with a cross-bar, a block elastically connected with said cross-head and carrying a latch, an elastic cord connected to the rear end of the cross-head, and a figure movable with said cord, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

15. In a toy, the combination, with a strik- 130 ing device, of a block provided with a perforation snugly fitting and moving with a cord and carrying a figure, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

16. In a toy, the combination, with a striking device, of a cross-head movable in a guideway, an elastic cord connected to said cross-head, and a block carrying a figure provided
5 with a perforation snugly fitting the cord, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

17. A toy comprising a base with a guideway having an inclined front wall, a cross-head movable in said guideway, a block provided with a pivoted latch or trigger elastic-
10

ally connected with the cross-head, and a figure adapted to move with the cross-head, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

GEORGE A. GOODSON.

Witnesses:

EMMA F. ELMORE,

FRANK D. MERCHANT.