

(No Model.)

J. S. EDMONDS.  
ANIMAL RELEASING DEVICE.

No. 520.395.

Patented May 22, 1894.

Fig. 1.

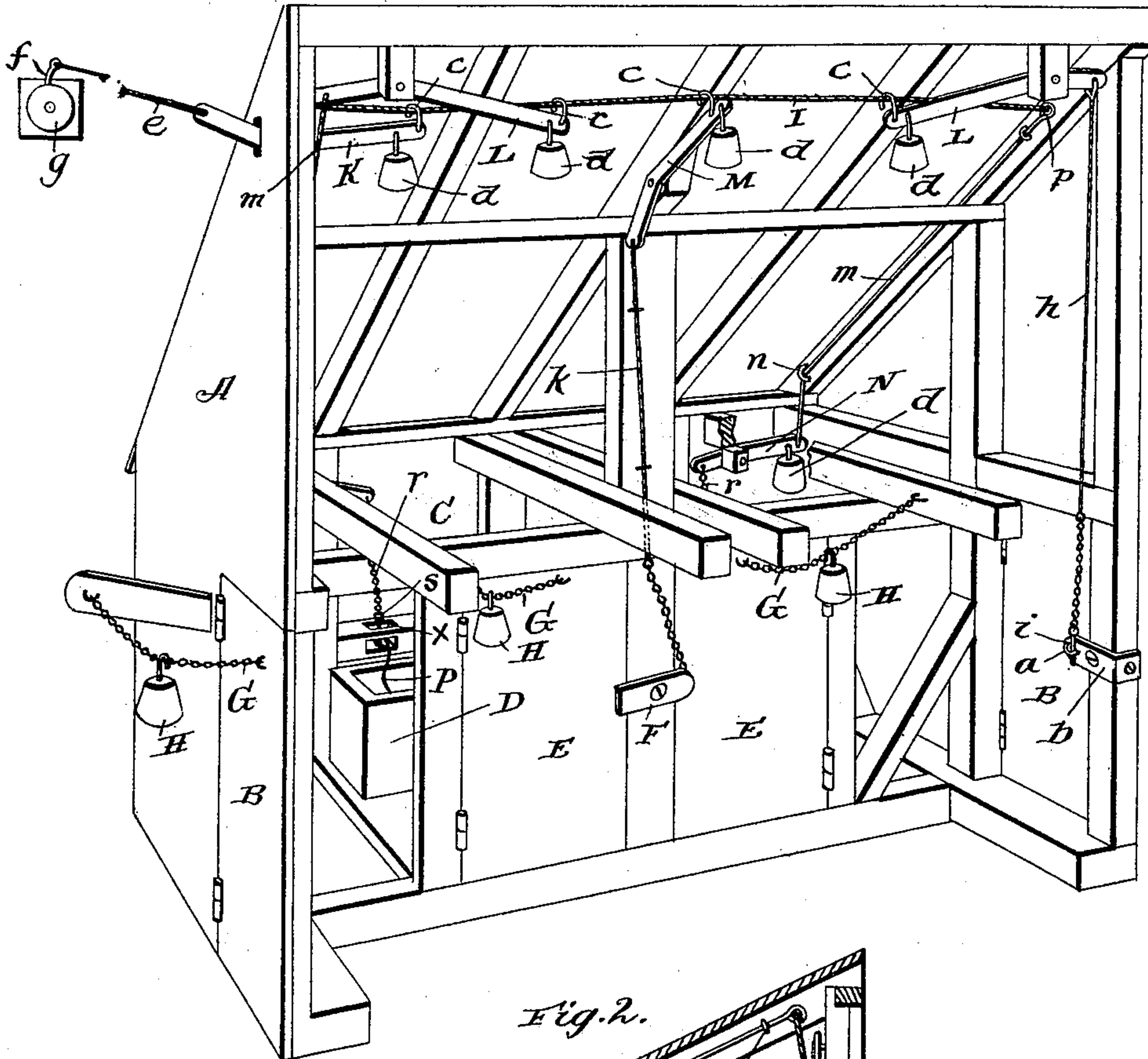
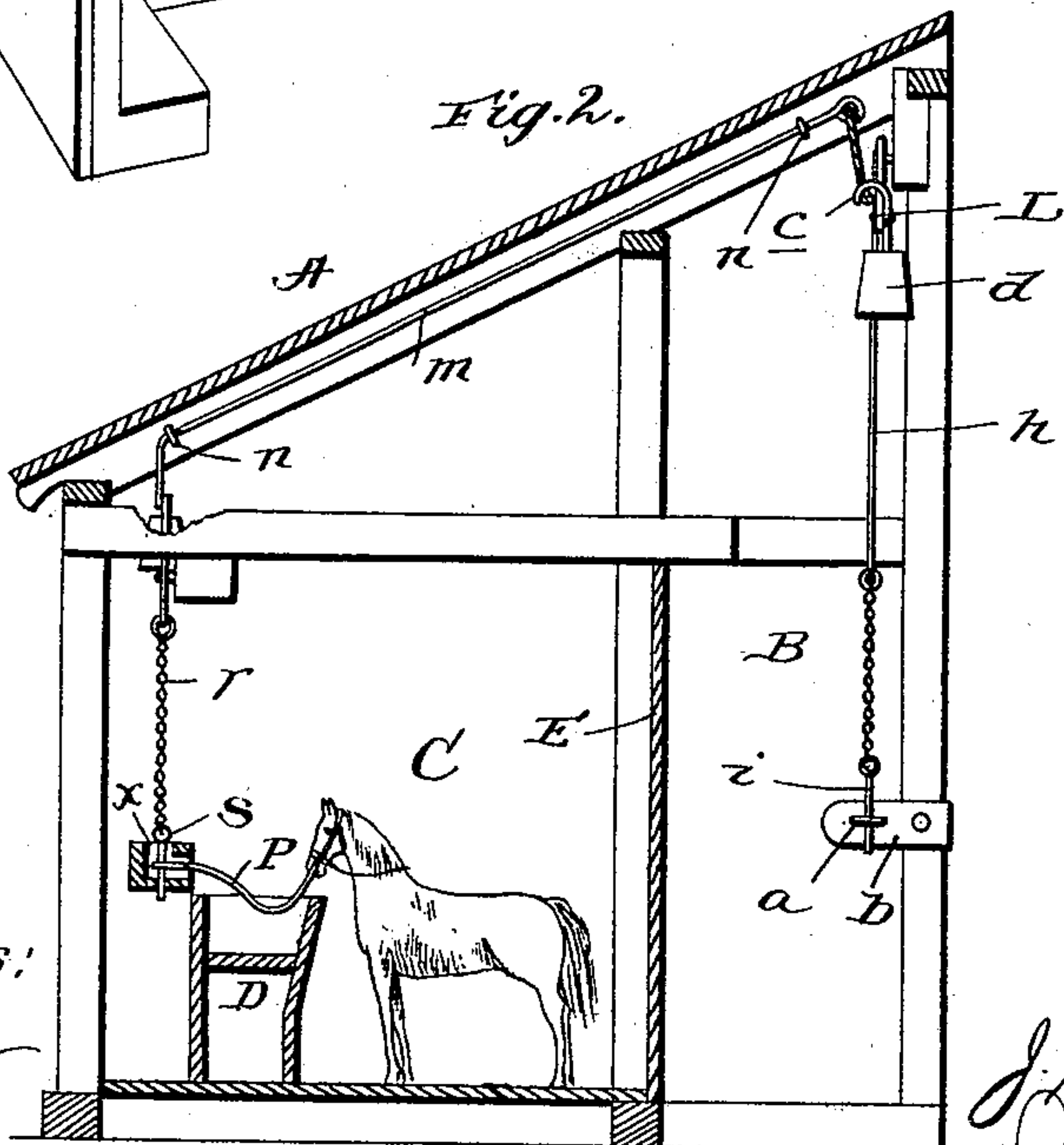


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH S. EDMONDS, OF EAGLEVILLE, TENNESSEE.

## ANIMAL-RELEASING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 520,395, dated May 22, 1894.

Application filed August 4, 1893. Serial No. 482,402. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH S. EDMONDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Eagleville, in the county of Rutherford and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Automatic Apparatus for Sounding Alarms; and I do 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 improvements in automatic apparatus for sounding an alarm and effecting the release of stock in a barn, stable, or similar place in the event of a fire breaking out therein; and its novelty will be fully understood from the following description and claim when taken in conjunction with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1, is a perspective view illustrating a portion of a barn or stable together with my improved apparatus, and Fig. 2, is a detail section better illustrating the mechanism for releasing the halters of the animals.

In the said drawings, similar letters designate corresponding parts throughout the views, referring to which—

A, indicates a stable or barn which may be of any approved general construction; B, indicates the swinging doors thereof which are provided with staples *a*, designed to take through fixed hasps as *b*.

C, indicates box stalls provided with mangers as D; and E, indicates the swinging doors of said stalls, which are preferably retained in their closed position by the turn button F, which is mounted on a post between them as illustrated.

The doors B, and E, are designed to be released by the automatic mechanism presently described; and when so released, the said doors are pulled open so as to afford an escape for the stock, by the chains G, which have one end connected to a fixed rafter-post or the like, and their opposite ends connected to their respective doors, and which are provided at an intermediate point in their length with actuating weights H, as illustrated.

I, indicates a cord which is formed from cotton or other combustible material and is stretched taut the entire length of the barn or stable, preferably at a point adjacent to

the roof thereof. This cord I, is designed and adapted to normally sustain the weighted ends of the levers K, L, M, and N, and to permit the said ends of the levers to fall when a fire breaks out as will be presently described. The levers K, and the levers L, are preferably fulcrumed adjacent to the roof of the barn or stable and they are respectively provided at one end with a hook *c*, to engage the cord I, and with a weight as *d*, to rock them in their bearings when released. The lever K, has its opposite end connected to a wire or the like *e*, and this wire is connected to the clapper *f*, of a bell or gong *g*, which may be and preferably is located in the bed room of the farmer or stable boss so as to notify him immediately should a fire break out in the barn or stable. The elevated or unweighted ends of the levers L, are connected by wires as *h*, with pins as *i*, which take through the staples *a*, on the inside of the hasps *b*, and serve to retain the doors B, in their closed position; and thus it will be seen that should a fire break out and the cord I, be parted, not only will the farmer or stable boss be quickly notified but the entrance doors of the barn or stable will be immediately opened. The lever M, (see Fig. 1,) is also provided at one end with a hook *c*, and a weight *d*, and its opposite end is connected by a wire or chain *k*, with one end of the turn button F, whereby it will be seen that when the weighted end of said lever is permitted to fall it will pull the turn-button out of engagement with the stall-doors so as to permit of the same being pulled open by the chains G, and weights H, before described.

I have provided the levers N, which have weights *d*, similar to those of the levers K, L, M, in order to effect the release of the animals in case they should be tied in their stalls, but in case it is not desired to tie the animals, it is obvious that the said levers N, might be dispensed with. When employed however, the levers N, have their weighted ends connected to wires *m*, which take over pulleys or through eyes as *n*, and are provided at their upper ends with eyes as *p*, to receive the cord I, which serves to support the weighted ends of all of the levers. The opposite or unweighted ends of the levers N, are connected to wires or chains *r*, which carry pins as *s*, and



these pins are designed to take through a slot  $x$ , in the manger D, or in a bar adjacent thereto and also through a loop or eye at one end of the halter strap P, so as to normally fasten the said strap and the animal.

It will be readily perceived by reference to the drawings that all of the several levers K, L, M, and N, to which the bell wire  $e$ , and the fastening devices are connected have their weighted ends sustained by the cord I; and consequently should a fire break out and the cord be parted, an alarm will be immediately sounded, the halters of the animals will be released and the doors E, and B, will be opened so as to permit the animals to freely pass out of the burning structure.

I have described the combustible cord I, as being placed adjacent to the roof of the stable or barn because fire has a natural tendency to ascend and consequently the cord would be parted at the beginning of a conflagration, but I do not desire to be understood as confining myself to such location of the cord, as it might be placed at any desired elevation.

It will be noticed from the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the drawings that my improved apparatus is very simple and inexpensive and that a stable or barn may be equipped with the same at slight cost; and it will also be noticed that as soon as the cord I, is parted, all of the parts are positive

and prompt in their action, thus insuring a quick release and escape of the animals.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The combination with a barn or stable having a door as B, and also having a stall and a stall door E, fastening devices for holding the doors B, E, in a closed position, means for opening the said doors when the fastening devices are disengaged therefrom and a device for fastening the halter of the animal in the stall; of a releasing apparatus consisting essentially of the combustible cord stretched within the barn or stable, the levers L, M, fulcrumed adjacent to the combustible cord and having a weight at one end and a hook at the same end engaging the combustible cord, wires or chains connecting the opposite ends of the levers L, M, and the fastening devices of the doors B, and E, respectively, the lever N, having a weight at one end and having said end connected with the combustible cord, and a chain or wire connecting the unweighted end of the lever N, and the halter fastening device, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

JOSEPH S. EDMONDS.

Witnesses:

W. J. OWEN,

A. W. JACKSON.