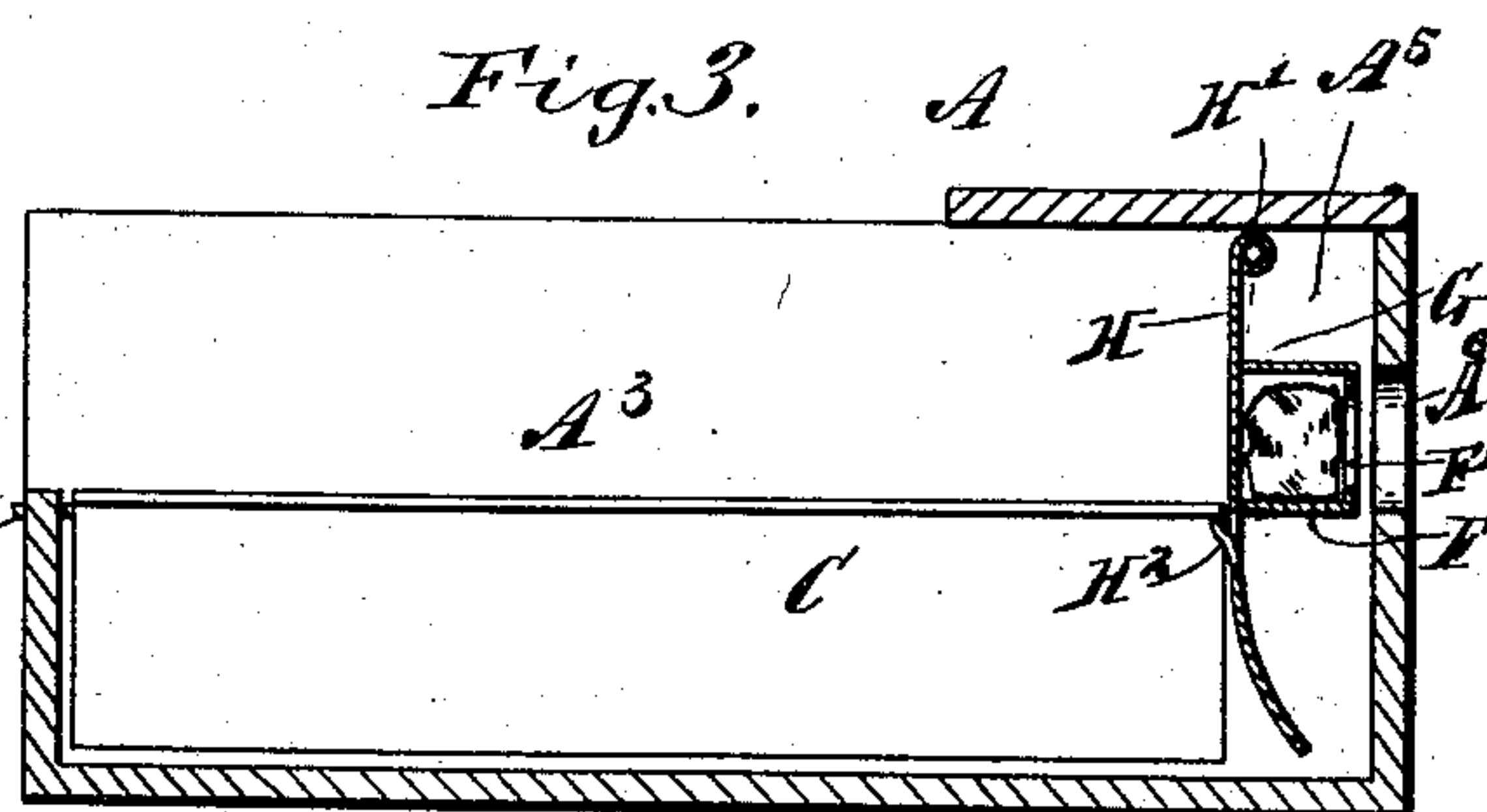
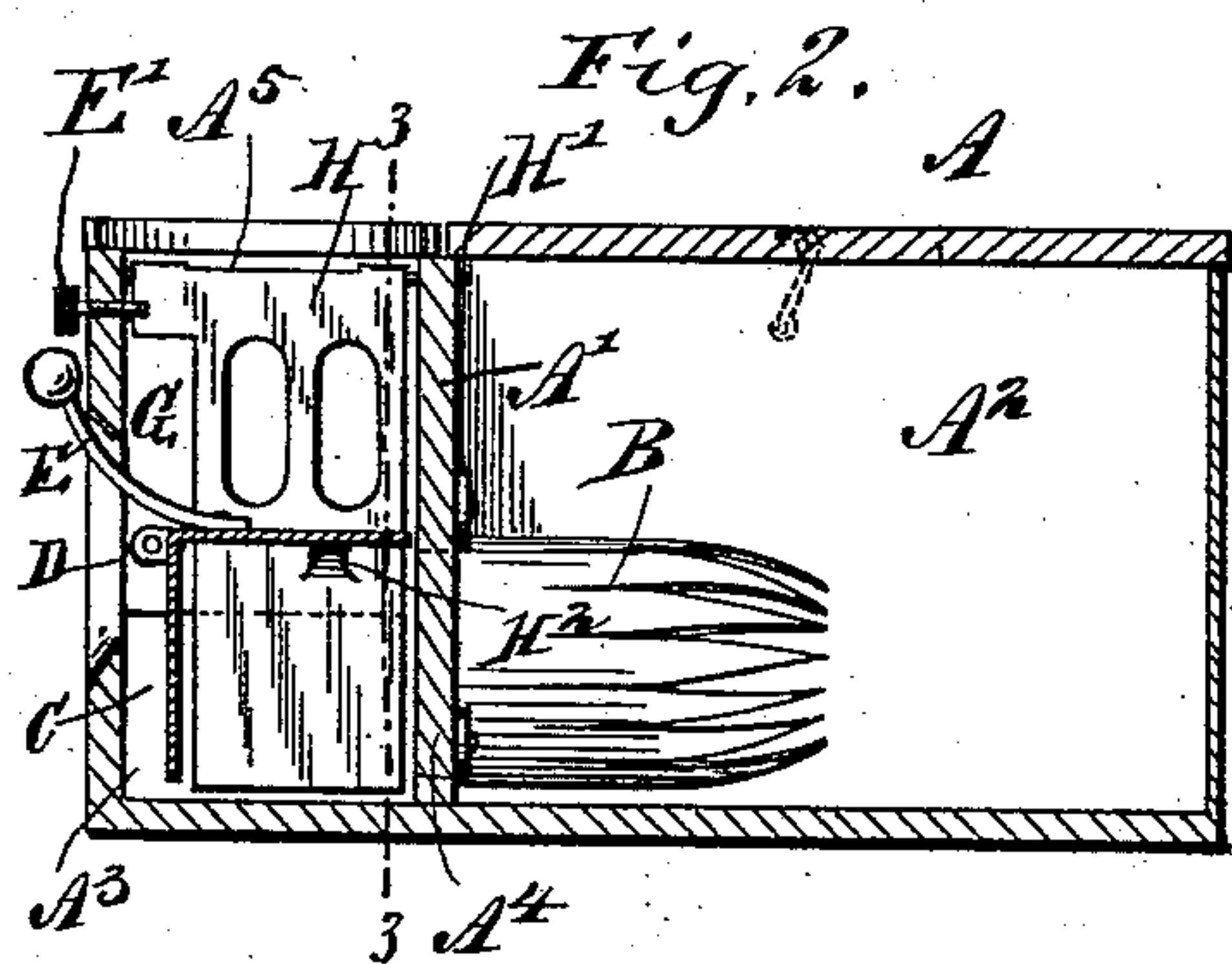
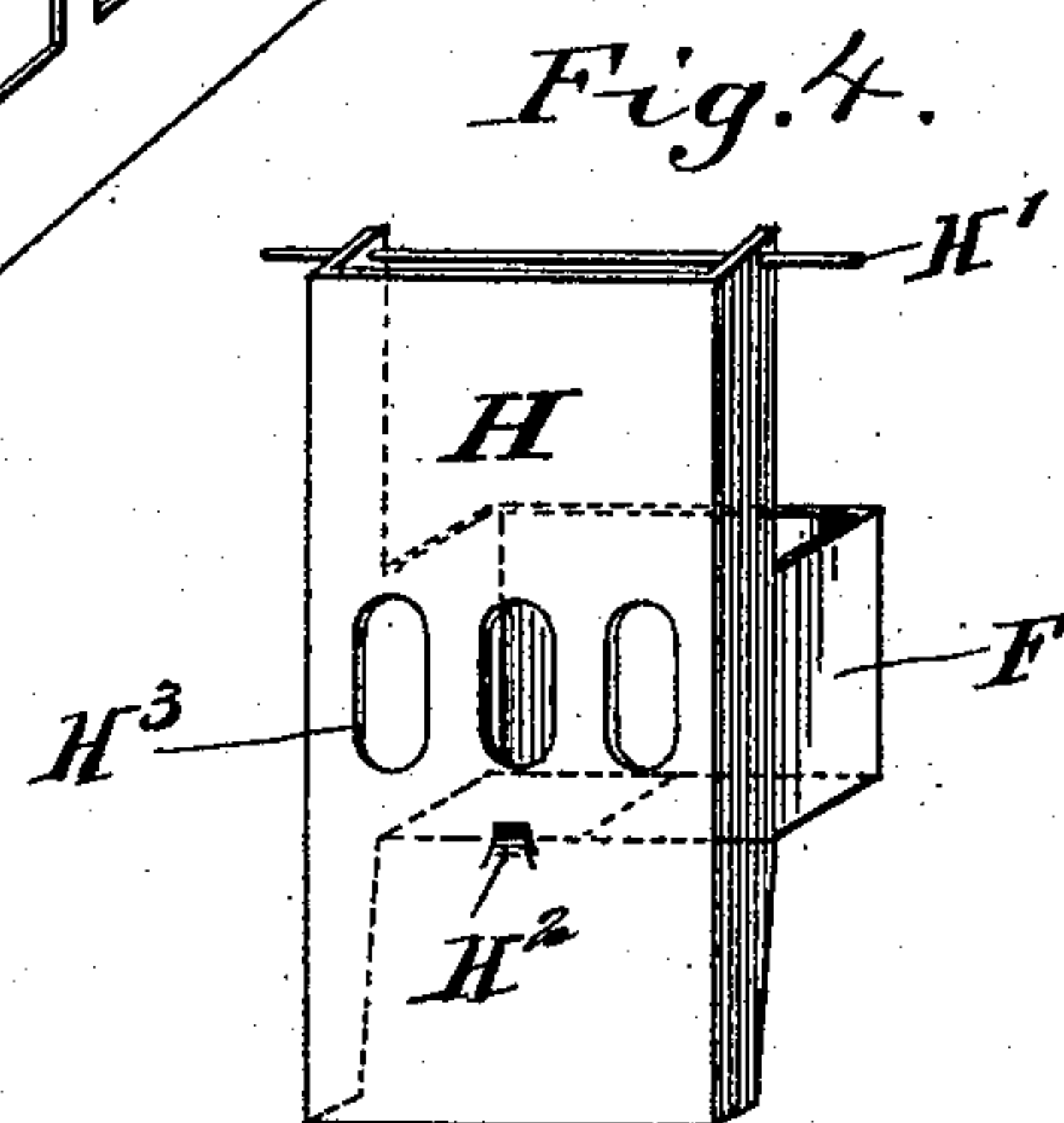
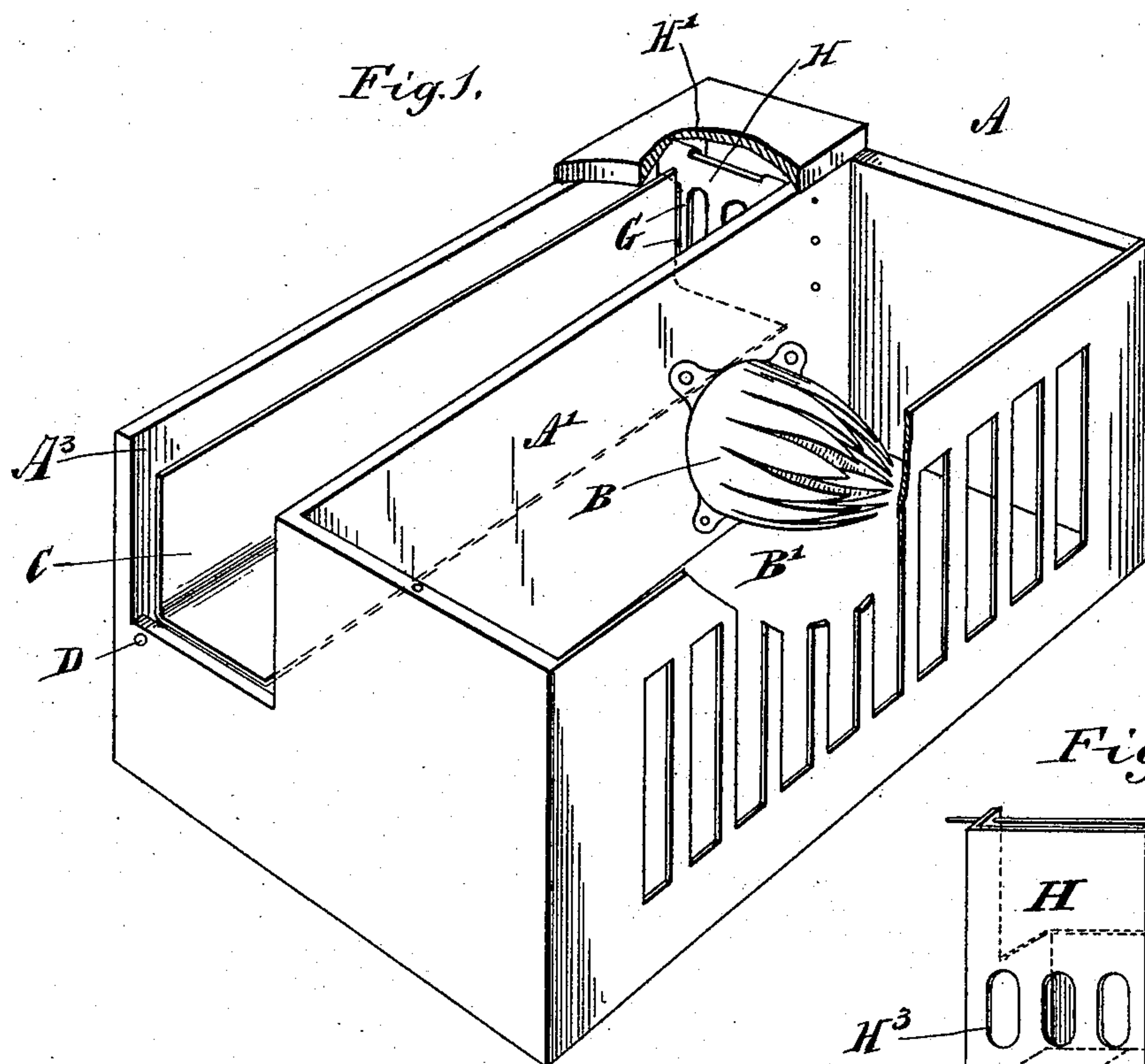


(No Model.)

F. E. KRAUTH.
SELF SETTING ANIMAL TRAP.

No. 572,811.

Patented Dec. 8, 1896.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FERDINAND E. KRAUTH, OF HEBRON, NORTH DAKOTA.

SELF-SETTING ANIMAL-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 572,811, dated December 8, 1896.

Application filed July 16, 1896. Serial No. 599,352. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FERDINAND E. KRAUTH, of Hebron, in the county of Morton and State of North Dakota, have invented a new and Improved Self-Setting Animal-Trap, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved self-setting animal-trap which is simple and durable in construction, very effective in operation, and more especially designed for trapping mice, rats, gophers, and like small animals.

The invention consists of certain parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement with parts in section. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the same on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the combination gate and bait-receptacle.

The improved animal-trap is provided with a box A, made of wood, sheet metal, glass, or other suitable material, the box being provided with a longitudinal partition A', dividing the box into two compartments A² and A³, of which the latter forms the entrance for the animals, and the compartment A² finally receives and holds the imprisoned animals.

The two compartments A³ and A² are connected with each other by an opening A⁴, formed in the lower part of the partition A', and this opening leads into a cylindrical casing B, made of sheet metal and extending into the compartment A², the inner end of the casing being formed with prongs bent inwardly to permit the animal to pass through the casing into the compartment A², but to prevent its return from the latter into the compartment A³.

In the compartment A³ is arranged a longitudinally-extending trap-door C, made L-shaped in cross-section and having its pivot D journaled in the ends of the box A, the pivot being located at the junction of the two members of the trap-door.

A handle E extends from the uppermost member of the trap-door through a slot in the back of the casing B to permit the operator to reset the said trap-door whenever necessary. The outer end of the handle carries a weight E' to counterbalance the trap-door. The trap-door extends from one end of the compartment A³ to within a short distance of the other end to permit of providing in this end of the compartment a sufficient space A⁵ for the bait-receptacle F, adapted to receive the bait.

The bait-receptacle F is secured or formed on the back of the feed-gate H, extending vertically in the compartment A³ at the inner end of the trap-door C. The feed-gate H is fulcrumed at its upper end at H' to the sides of the compartment A³, and near the lower end is formed a lug or projection H², adapted to form a rest for the lower member of the trap-door C when the latter is in an uppermost position, as indicated in Fig. 1.

The feed-gate H is formed with slots H³, which open into the bait-receptacle F to permit the animal passing along the trap-door to reach the bait. The bait-receptacle is formed in its outer side with slots F', visible from the outside of the box A through an opening A⁶ in the end of the box, as shown in Fig. 3. By this arrangement the bait in the receptacle can be seen by the animals to induce them to enter the trap to reach the bait.

Now by reference to Fig. 3 it will be seen that the feed-gate H is free to swing outwardly whenever the animal pushes on the feed-gate in order to reach the feed or bait contained in the receptacle F, and the animal in doing so forces the feed-gate to swing sufficiently far outward to move the lug H² from under the lower member of the trap-door C. In doing so the trap-door C is caused to swing downward to deliver the animal into the lower part of the compartment A³, from which the only outlet is the opening A⁴, connecting with the compartment A². The animal thus trapped in the lower part of the compartment A³ in escaping therefrom passes into the compartment A², to be finally imprisoned.

The top of the compartment A³ is preferably open, with the exception of that portion which extends over the space A⁵, and the front end of the said compartment is also

open in its upper portion to permit the animals to readily pass up on the trap-door C, held in a set position by the lug H² of the feed-gate, as previously explained.

5 The extreme lower portion of the feed-gate H is curved outwardly, so that the operator in resetting the trap-door C causes the feed-gate to readily swing sufficiently outward to permit the lower member of the trap-door to
10 pass the lug H², after which the feed-gate swings back to bring the latter under the lower member of the trap-door.

A set-screw in the back of the box A serves to limit the upward swinging motion of the
15 upper member of the trap-door C to insure a proper setting of the said door.

If the device is used for catching rats, the bottom of the box may be omitted and the trap set over a pail filled with water, so that
20 the animals are delivered directly by the trap-door C to the water to drown the animals.

The compartment A² is preferably provided with a removable lid for removing the animals imprisoned in the compartment A².

25 The gate H and bait-receptacle are preferably made from a single piece of sheet metal, cut so as to permit of bending up the bottom, sides, and ends of the receptacle, as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 4.

30 Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. An animal-trap, comprising a box having two compartments, a passage establishing
35 communication between the compartments near the bottom, a guard at said passage, in one compartment, an L-shaped tilting trap in the other compartment, having a weight to return it to normal position, and a
40 gate pivoted adjacent to the inner end of the trap, to swing in the vertical plane, and having at the front side an integral lug engag-

ing and supporting the trap and at the opposite side an integral feed-box, the gate further having openings at said box, substantially as
45 described.

2. An animal-trap, comprising a box having two compartments, a passage establishing communication between the compartments near the bottom, a guard at said pas-
50 sage, in one compartment, an L-shaped tilting trap in the other compartment, having a weight to return it to normal position, and a gate pivoted adjacent to the inner end of the trap, to swing in the vertical plane, and hav-
55 ing at the front side an integral lug engaging and supporting the trap and at the opposite side an integral feed-box, the gate further having openings at said box, and the box having an opening in its end wall at the feed-
60 box, substantially as described.

3. An animal-trap, comprising a box having two compartments connected with each other at their lower portions, a trap-door made L shape in cross-section and fulcrumed
65 in one of the said compartments, a feed-gate provided with a bait-receptacle, access to which is had by slots in the said gate, the said feed-gate being pivoted at its upper end in the said box and extending downwardly
70 at the end of the said trap-door, the said gate being formed with a lug adapted to engage one end of the lower member of the trap-door to hold the latter in a set position, a set-screw in the said box to engage the up-
75 per member of the said trap-door to permit of properly setting the latter relative to the said lug, and a weighted handle on the upper member of the said trap-door, substantially as shown and described.

FERDINAND E. KRAUTH.

Witnesses:

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