

No. 639,163.

Patented Dec. 12, 1899.

F. W. FLAKKER.

ANIMAL TRAP.

(Application filed June 3, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

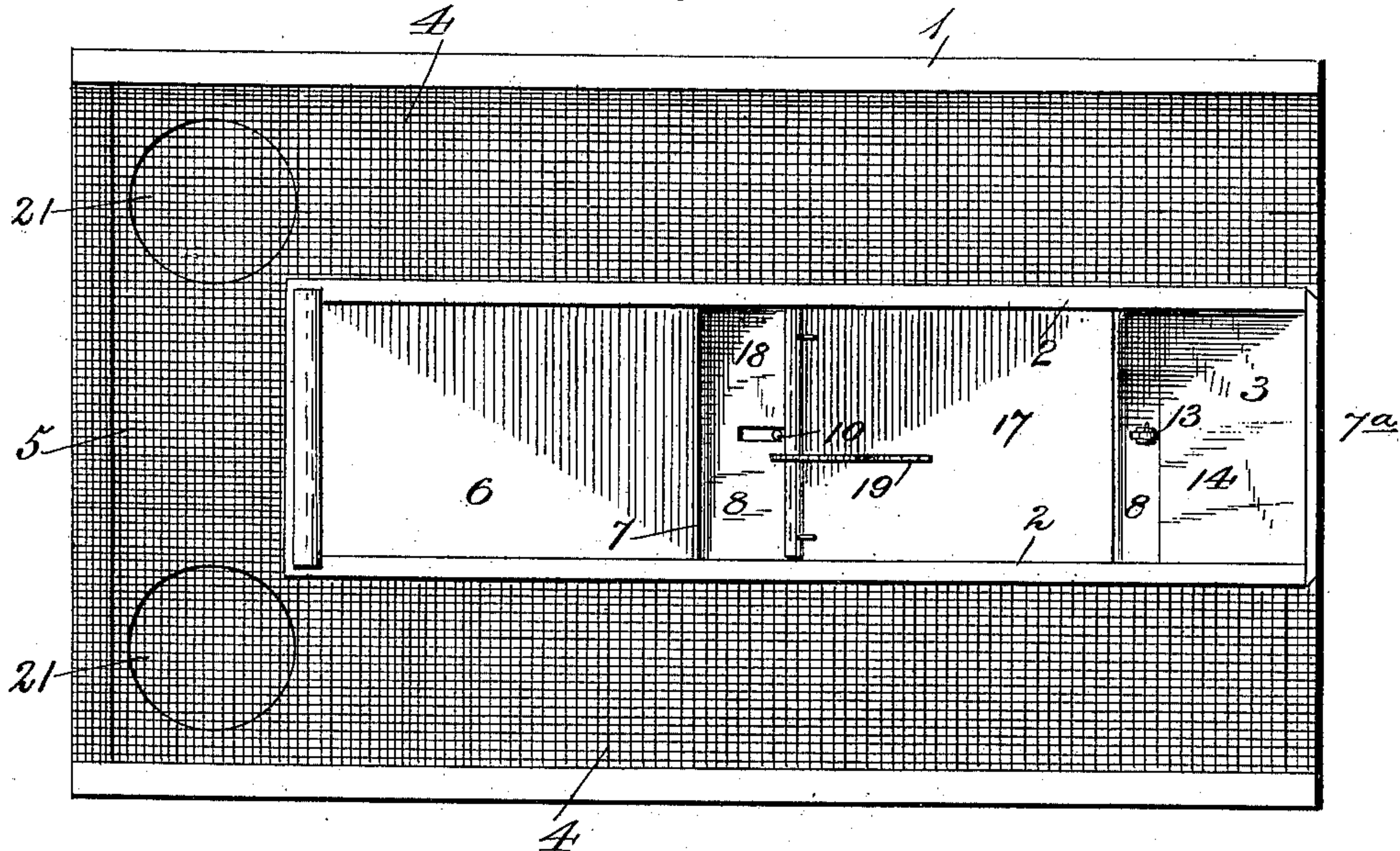
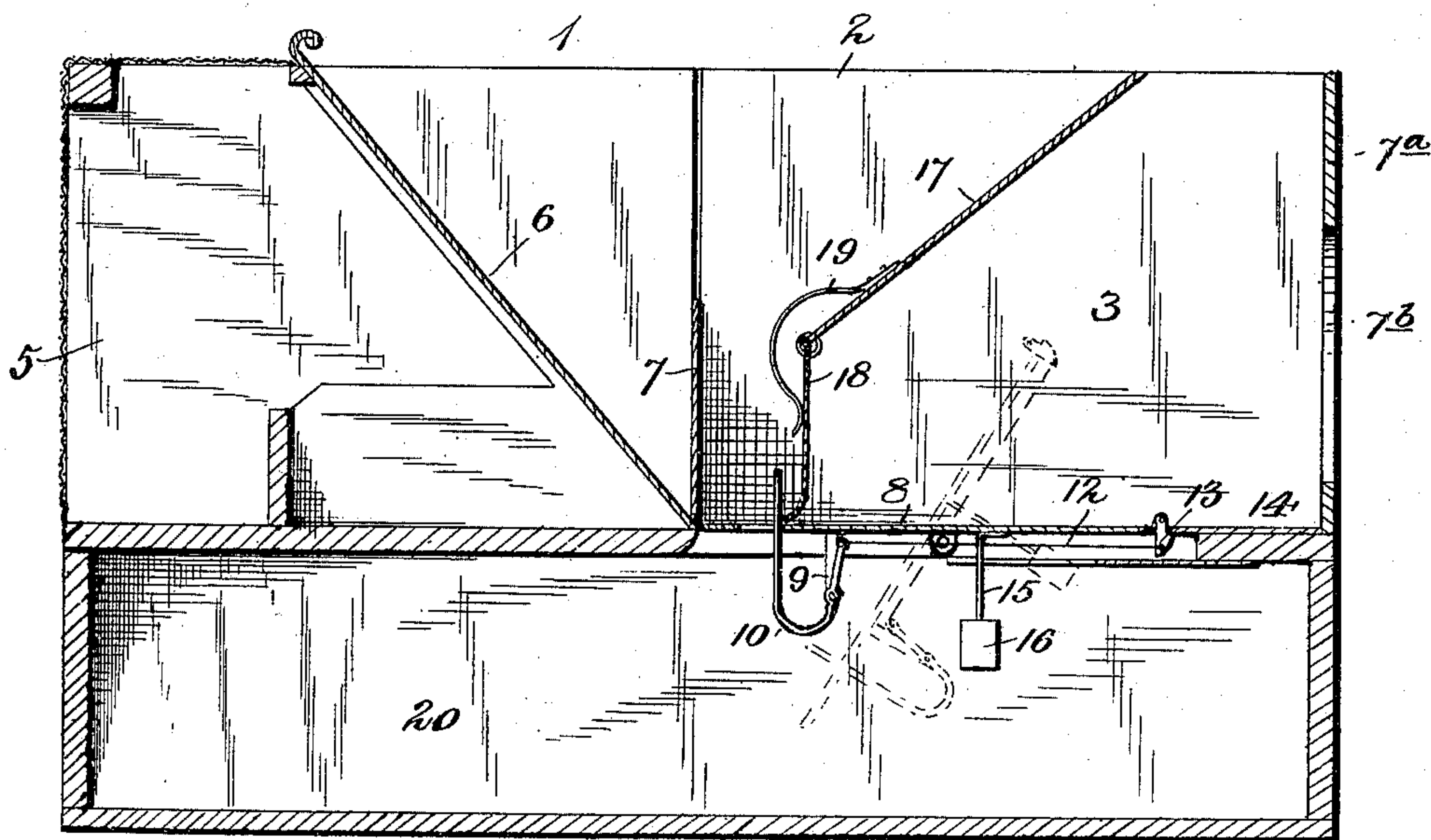


Fig. 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDRICK W. FLAKKER, OF WHEATON, MINNESOTA.

## ANIMAL-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,163, dated December 12, 1899.

Application filed June 3, 1899. Serial No. 719,212. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FREDRICK W. FLAKKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wheaton, in the county of Traverse and State of Minnesota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Animal-Traps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to animal-traps; and its object is to provide an improved construction of the same which shall possess superior advantages with respect to efficiency in use.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of an animal-trap constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the same.

In the said drawings, the reference-numeral 1 designates a rectangular box formed by means of partitions 2 into a central compartment 3 and a compartment 4 at each side thereof. These side compartments communicate with an end compartment 5. The said end and side compartments are provided with wire-gauze ends and tops. The inner end of the central compartment consists of an inclined sliding plate 6, the lower end of which abuts against the lower end of a vertical sliding plate 7. The said central compartment is open at the top and at the front is provided with a plate 7<sup>a</sup>, having an opening 7<sup>b</sup> therein for a rat or other animal to enter the compartment. The bottom of the central compartment comprises a tilting plate or platform 8, centrally journaled to the lower ends of the partitions 2. Pivoted to a bracket 9, secured to the lower side of said platform, near the inner or rear end thereof, is a curved trigger 10, the free end of which extends upwardly through a slot in the inner end of the platform. Connected with said trigger above its pivotal or fulcrum point is a wire 12, which extends forwardly and is connected with a catch 13, pivotally connected with the front end of the platform, and is adapted to engage with the stationary bottom 14 of the said central compartment. Said platform is provided with a depending rod 15, to the lower end of which is secured a counterbalanced weight 16, which holds the platform in its closed or normal position.

Located above the platform is an inclined plate 17, the lower end of which approaches nearly to the upper end of the vertical plate 7, but leaving a space therebetween, as seen. Hinged or pivoted to said lower end of plate 17 is a swinging apron 18, the rearward movement of which is controlled or limited by a curved spring 19, secured to plate 17.

The numeral 20 designates a box on which the box 1 seats, and the end compartment 5 is formed with holes 21, communicating therewith.

The operation of the device is as follows: A suitable bait will be placed on the end of the trigger, which projects up above the tilting platform, and a rat or other animal will be attracted thereby and enter the hole in the front of the central compartment and passing upon said platform will press the swinging apron rearwardly, which in turn will strike the upper end of the trigger 9 and force the same backwardly. The other end of the trigger will also be moved and through its connection with the catch at the front of the platform will release the latter. The weight of the rat will now tilt the platform, causing the rat to be deposited in the lower box, when the counterweight will return the platform to normal position and set the same for another operation. The rat thus caught will ascend into the upper box through the holes in the end compartment 5, and thus serve as a decoy to entice other rats into the trap. It will also be noticed that if a rat should enter the open top of the central compartment it will also be caught. The plate 6 is a slide, and by pulling the same outward the trap in rear of the central compartment will be opened to allow the rats to be removed.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In an animal-trap, the combination with the upper box provided with a central compartment, two side compartments, an end compartment with holes therein, and the lower box, of the tilting platform forming the bottom of the central compartment, the trigger and the counterbalance-weight and connections between the said trigger and the stationary bottom of said central compartment, substantially as described.

2. In an animal-trap, the combination with

the upper box the central compartment, the  
two side compartments, the end compartment  
formed with holes, the sliding inclined plate  
forming the inner end of the central com-  
partment and the lower box, of the inclined  
5 plate located in said central compartment,  
the swinging apron pivoted thereto, the tilt-  
ing counterbalance-platform forming the bot-  
tom of said central compartment, the depend-  
10 ing bracket secured thereto, the curved trig-  
ger pivoted to said bracket, the wire secured

to the front end of said trigger, and the piv-  
oted catch at the front end of said platform  
with which the said wire is also connected,  
substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set  
my hand in presence of two subscribing wit-  
nesses.

FREDRICK W. FLAKKER.

Witnesses:

ANDREW PETERSON,  
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