No. 656,519. Patented Aug. 21, 1900.

W. H. CROSS.

ANIMAL TRAP ATTACHMENT.

(Application filed Apr. 16, 1900.)

(No Model.)

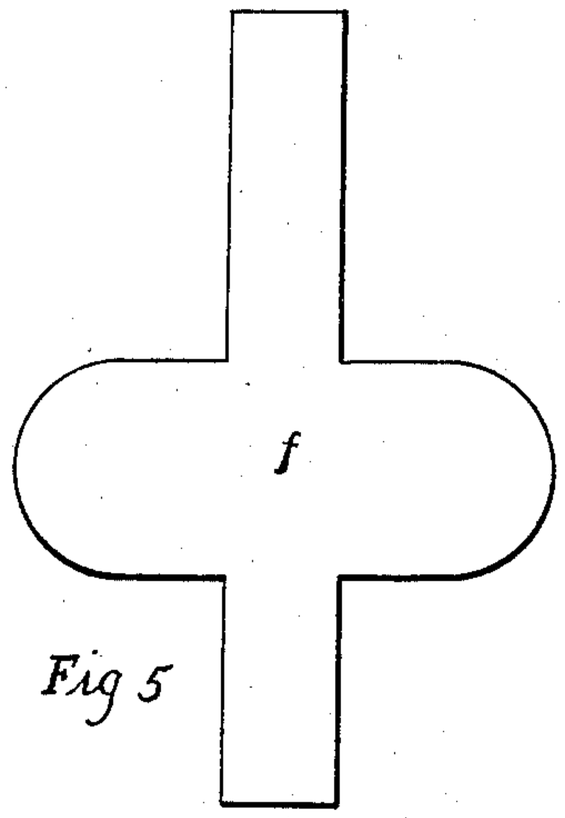

Fig 5

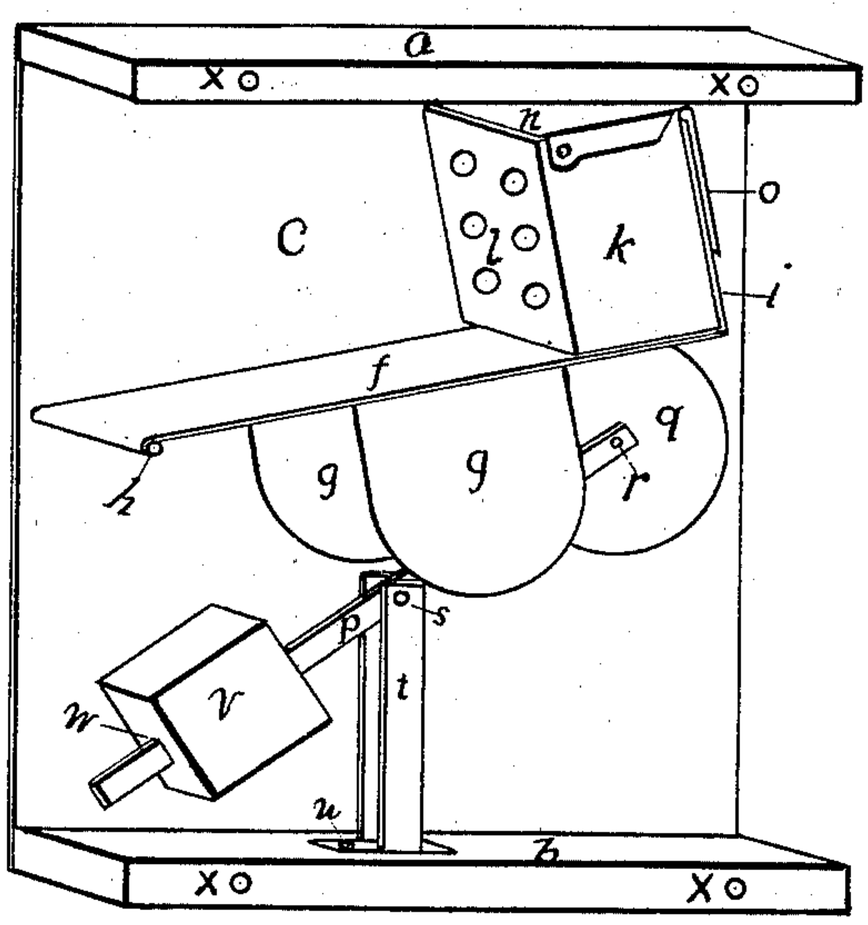

Fig 1

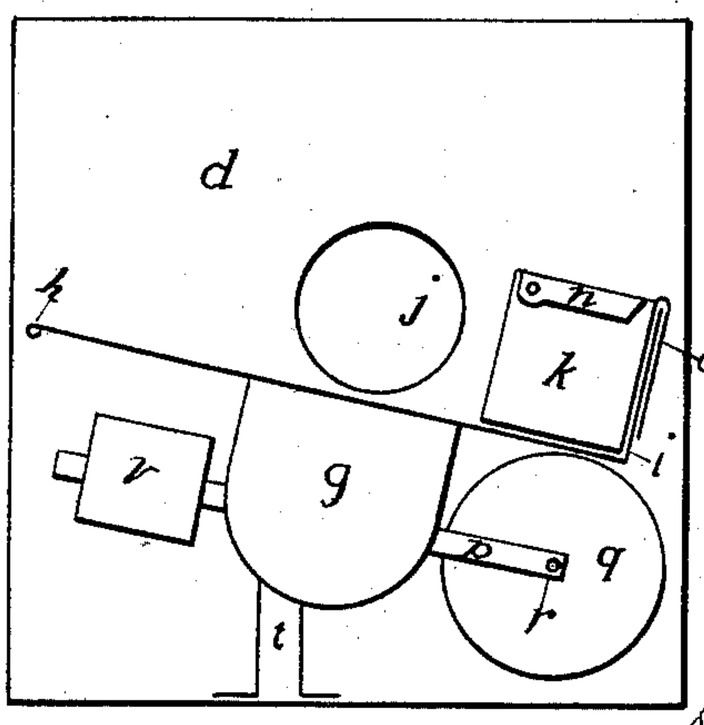

Fig 2

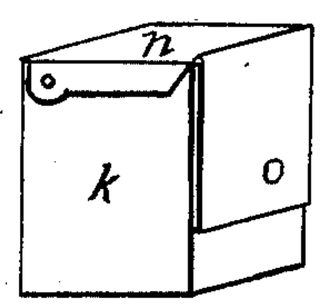

Fig 4

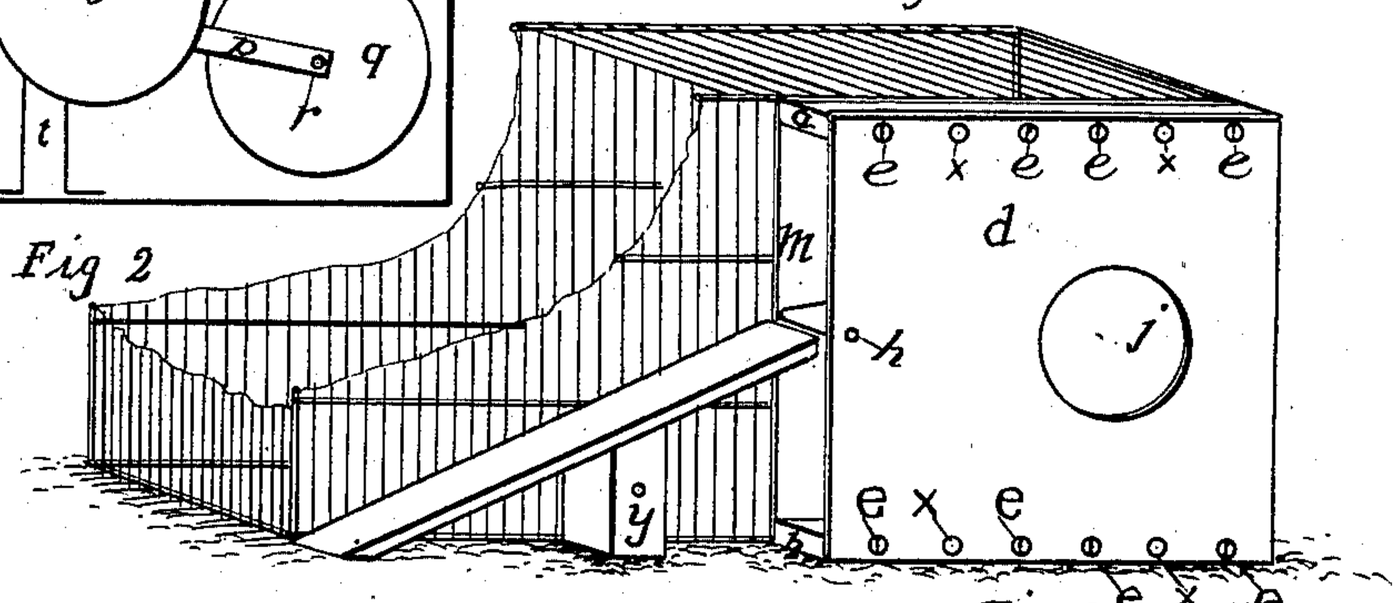

Fig 3

WITNESSES

Ernest W Langkafel
Eugene Schwaan.

INVENTOR

William Herbert Cross

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HERBERT CROSS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

ANIMAL-TRAP ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 656,519, dated August 21, 1900.

Application filed April 16, 1900. Serial No. 13,165. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HERBERT CROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Chicago, county of Cook, State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Animal-Trap Attachment, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in animal-traps, especially traps intended to catch rats or mice.

The object of my improvements is to have a self-closing door that works inside a case that can be attached to a box, barrel, or cage.

Reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which the same parts are indicated by the same letters throughout the several views.

Figure 1 represents the case with a side removed, showing the several parts when the door is closed. Fig. 2 represents an outline of the case when the door is open. Fig. 3 represents the case when it is to be attached to a box, barrel, or cage, (a cage being shown at one side only.) Figs. 4 and 5 represent different parts in detail as they will hereinafter be described.

The top *a* and bottom *b* are made of wood. The sides *c* and *d* are made of sheet metal placed on the edges of top *a* and bottom *b* and fastened securely with screws *e*, as shown in Fig. 3. The plate *f* is made of sheet metal, in the form shown in Fig. 5, with circular sides bent in shape to form the doors *g g*, and the plate is hinged and works on pivot *h* at one end and is bent into a square at the other end to form a holder *i*. The plate *f* works freely on the pivot *h* with a tilting motion from top to bottom, which brings the doors *g g* into position to open or close the openings *j* of egress, which are made in side *d*. A receptacle *k* is made of sheet metal and perforated on the side *l* opposite entrance *m*, Fig. 3. A cover *n* on top and a clasp *o* at the back, Fig. 4, which is placed over the holder *i*, holds the receptacle in place thereon. A lever *p*, made of two thicknesses of sheet metal parted at one end, forms a fork for the insertion of a wheel *q* to work freely on a pivot *r*. The lever *p* works on a pivot *s* at or near its center, held in an upright bearing *t*, made of sheet metal fastened to the bottom *b* with screws *u*. A weight *v* is placed over the free end of lever *p* and is held in place by a flat bow-spring *w*, placed in an opening in weight *v*, the ends pressing against lever *p*. The bearing *t* is high enough to give the lever *p* a tilting motion to correspond with the plate *f*. The wheel *q* presses lightly against the bottom of plate *f* and reduces the friction. The weight *v* is adjustable to regulate the balance of plate *f* and attachments. The sides *c* and *d*, put together with top *a* and bottom *b*, as heretofore described, form a case with an opening *j* in side *d* or in both sides. The tilting plate *f* works freely on pivot *h* with doors *g g*, made in connection therewith. The receptacle *k* is attached to holder *i*, which is made in connection with plate *f*, as described. The lever *p*, with wheel *q* pressing lightly against plate *f* and with weight *v* adjusted and working in connection with plate *f* freely inside of the case, forms a self-closing door, as heretofore described.

In Fig. 3 the case is attached to a cage, which forms a complete trap. A wooden bracket can be used to form a means of approach to the casing.

To attach the case to a box or barrel, I first make an opening of suitable size to correspond with opening in side of casing and then fasten securely thereto in the same manner as to a cage. Thus it will be seen that when the case is attached to any of the aforesaid receptacles it forms a complete trap.

The operation of the device is as follows: The perforated receptacle *k* is filled with suitable bait and the desired balance of plate *f* is attained with the adjustable weight *v*. The bait forms an attraction for the animal to enter the casing at entrance *m*, when the plate *f* settles with its weight and clears the opening *j*, through which the animal passes, whereupon the lever *p* lifts the plate *f*, with depending door, thereby closing the opening.

I am aware that prior to my invention animal-traps have been made with a tilting pan and a tilting board. I therefore do not claim such a combination broadly; but

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

1. In an animal-trap, the combination with a casing, of a tilting plate therein carrying a depending door, for the purpose set forth, said plate being pivoted at its forward end

and provided at its rear end with a perforated bait-receptacle, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. An animal-trap comprising a casing, a pivoted tilting plate therein carrying a depending door for closing an opening in the side of the casing, an upright mounted in the trap and serving as a support for a lever which is pivoted thereon, said lever carrying a weight at one end and a wheel at its opposite end, said tripping-plate being pivoted above said lever and operated thereby, substantially as set forth.

WILLIAM HERBERT CROSS.

Witnesses:
ERNEST W. LANGKAFEL,
EUGENE SCHWAAN.