

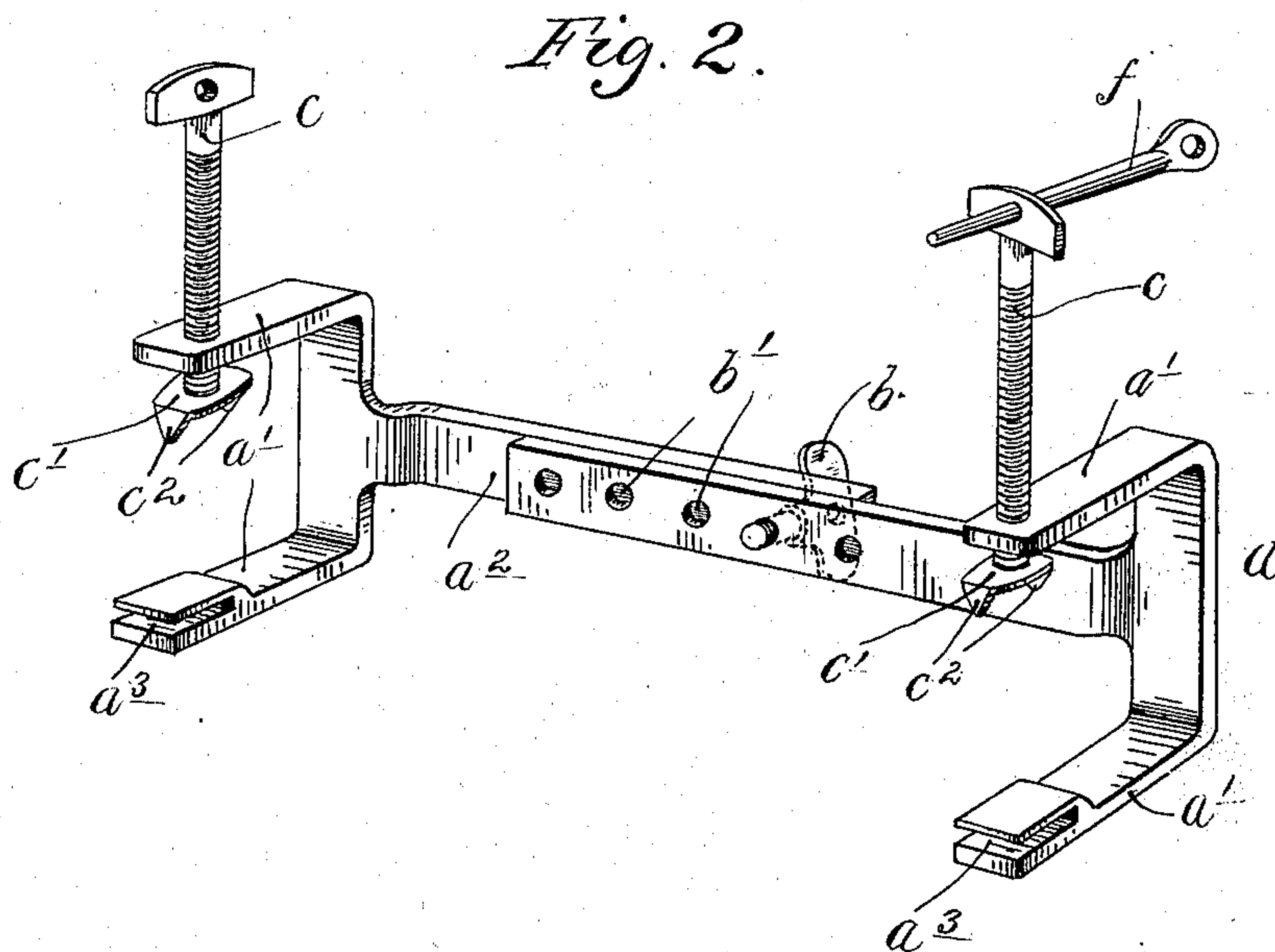
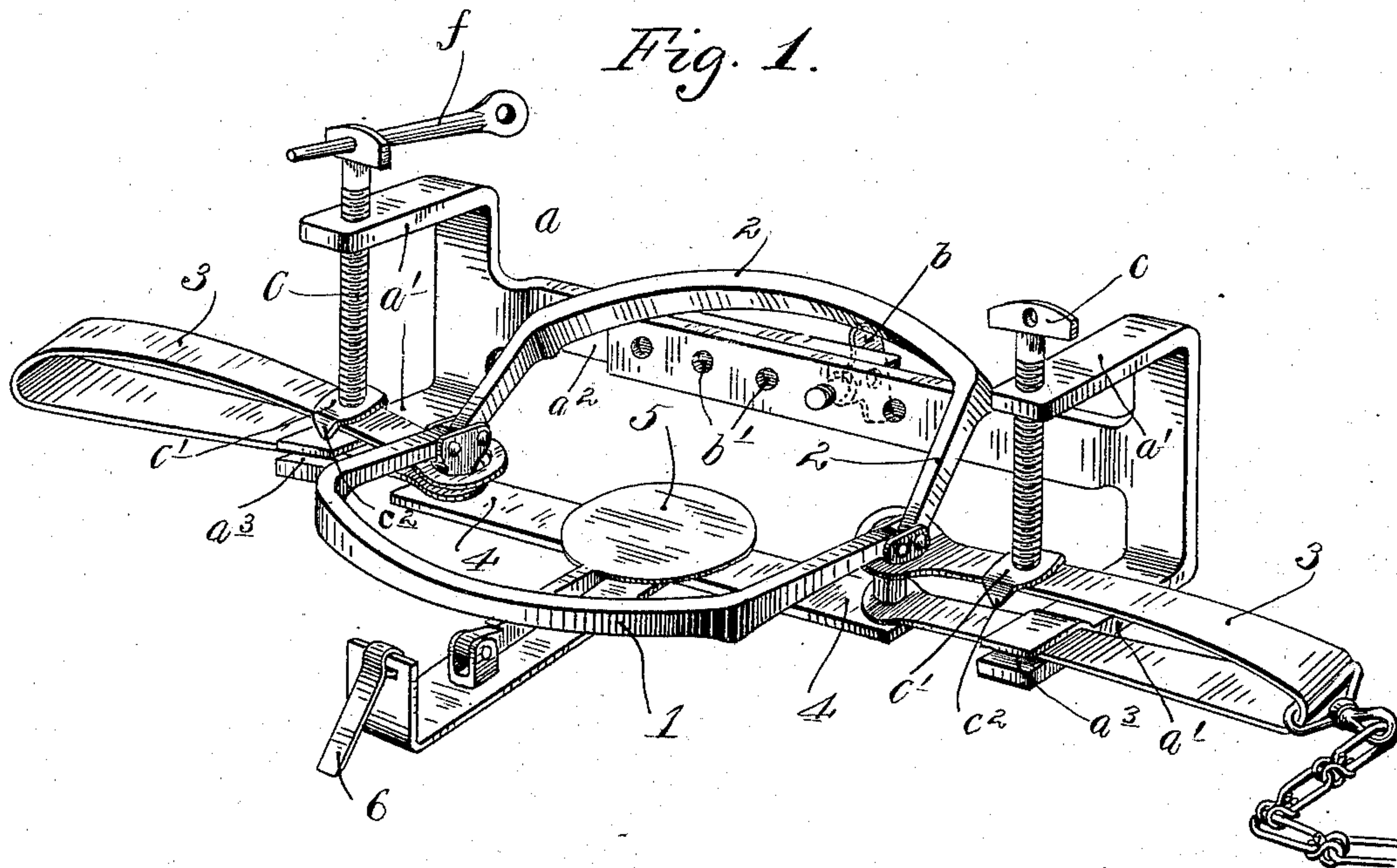
No. 656,540.

Patented Aug. 21, 1900.

A. GENEROUS.
TRAP SETTING DEVICE.

(Application filed May 25, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

Robert Otto.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER GENEROUS, OF PRINCETON, MINNESOTA.

TRAP-SETTING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 656,540, dated August 21, 1900.

Application filed May 25, 1900. Serial No. 17,934. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER GENEROUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Princeton, in the county of Mille Lacs and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trap-Setting Devices; 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 has for its object to provide a simple and efficient device by the use of which large and powerful animal-traps may with ease and safety be set or put in operative positions.

To the above ends the invention consists of the novel devices and combinations of devices hereinafter described, and defined in the claims.

By all persons familiar with these animal-traps it is a known fact that such traps may be set against the tension of their powerful spring only by applying a very considerable force and that the operation is attended with much danger, resulting in many injuries to the persons setting the traps. Furthermore, at such places as traps are usually set it is very often impossible to find anything with which it is possible to open up and set powerful animal-traps. By the use of my device the most powerful animal-trap may be easily opened up and set with absolute safety to the trapper.

The invention in its preferred form is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters indicate like parts throughout both the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved trap-setting device applied to an ordinary animal-trap, and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the trap-setting device removed from working position.

Of the parts of the animal-trap the numerals 1 and 2 indicate the jaws, the numeral 3 the springs, the numeral 4 the base or frame of the trap, the numeral 5 the trip-lever, and the numeral 6 the lock pawl or latch, all of which parts are of the ordinary construction and the actions of which are well understood. Attention is here simply called to the fact that the jaw 1 is the member upon which the

springs 3 act and which is to be locked down by the conjoint action of the trip-lever 5 and latch 6.

In accordance with my invention I provide a frame *a*, having a pair of prongs *a'*, that are adapted to embrace the springs 3. To make these prongs *a'* adjustable to traps of different size, the longitudinal body or bar portion *a*² is divided, overlapped, and adjustably secured together by a thumb-screw *b*, which works through screw-threaded perforations *b'* in one of the said sections and through similar but threadless perforations in the other section. The lower prongs *a'* are shown as split to form seats *a*³, into which the lower blade portions of the springs 3 are adapted to be slipped, as shown in Fig. 1. To compress the springs 3, long thumb-screws *c* work with screw-threaded engagement through the upper prongs *a'*. At their lower ends the screws *c* are provided with swiveled clamping feet or clips *c'*, which have downturned side prongs *c*², that are adapted to straddle the upper blade portions of the springs 3, and thus to prevent the said clamping-feet from turning on the said springs.

To set the trap, the device is applied to the trap-springs as illustrated in Fig. 1, except that the screws *c* will be positioned substantially as shown in Fig. 2. The springs are compressed so as to permit the jaws of the trap to be separated by screwing downward the compression-screws *c*. If found necessary in order to turn the screws *c*, a pin *f* may be passed through perforations in the head of the screws *c*, so that the same may be turned with greater power. After the trap has been set the springs *c* may be gradually released, so that at no time is there any danger either in setting the trap or in removing the device therefrom.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is as follows:

1. A device for setting animal-traps, comprising a pair of prongs, and a clamping-screw working through one of the jaws of said prongs and adapted to compress the trap-spring against the other jaw, substantially as described.

2. A device for setting animal-traps, comprising the prongs *a'*, the screws *c* working through the upper of said prongs *a'*, and the

clamping-feet c' swiveled to said screws c and provided with the downturned side prongs c^2 , substantially as described.

5 3. The combination with the adjustably-secured sections a^2 having the pronged heads a' , the lower prongs having the slits or seats a^3 , of the screws c working through the upper prongs a' and having swiveled to their ends the clamping-heads c' with downturned

side prongs c^2 , said parts operating substantially as described.

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

ALEXANDER GENEROUS.

Witnesses:

HARRY KILGORE,
F. D. MERCHANT.