

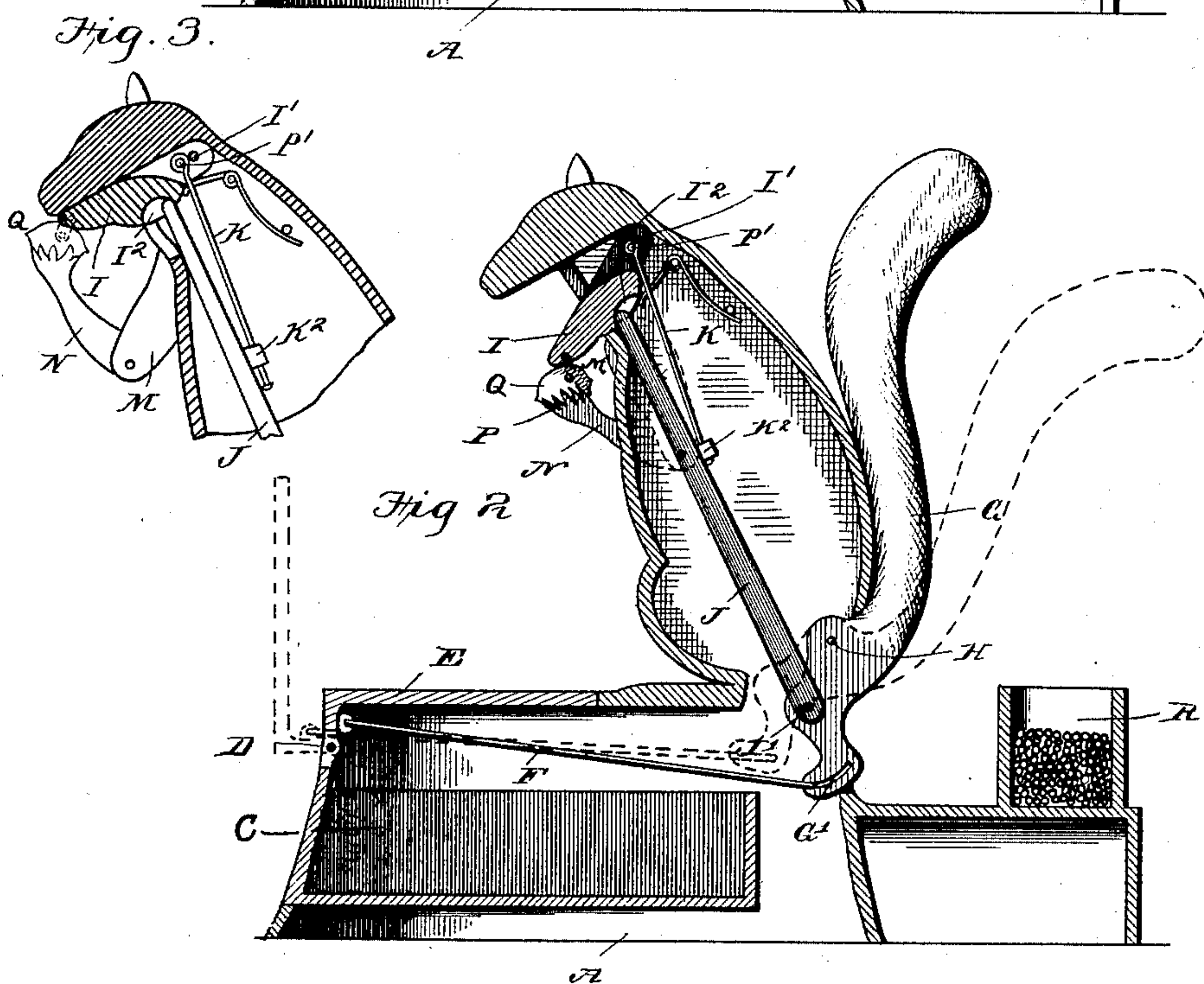
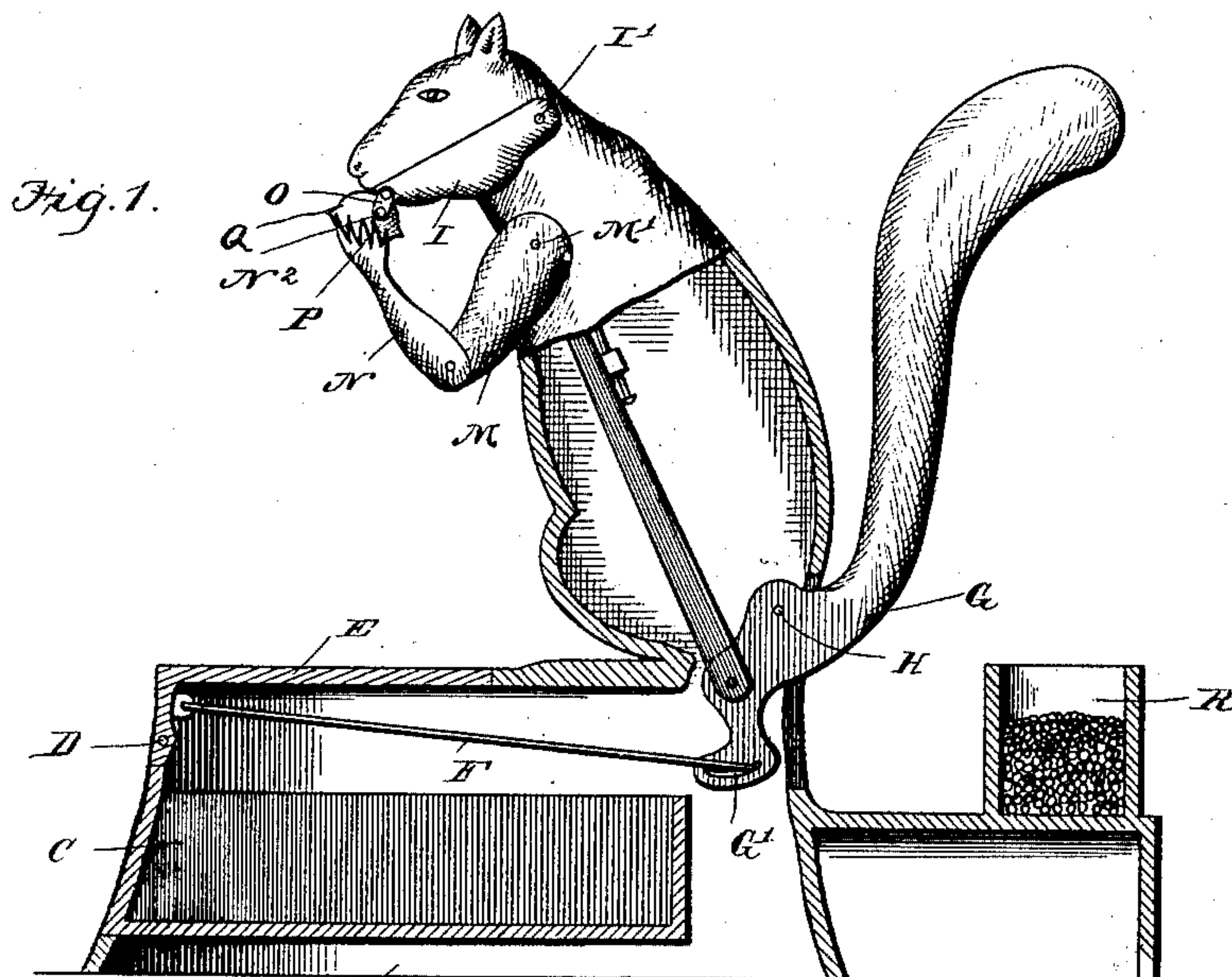
No. 660,806.

Patented Oct. 30, 1900.

C. C. TOMBS.
NUT CRACKER.

(Application filed June 17, 1899.)

(No Model.)



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. TOMBS, OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

NUT-CRACKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 660,806, dated October 30, 1900.

Application filed June 17, 1899. Serial No. 720,974. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. TOMBS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Johnstown, in the county of Cambria and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Nut-Cracker, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is in the nature of a combined nut-cracker and match-safe, the object of the invention being to provide a device shaped to represent a squirrel upon a stump, which shall be so constructed as to form a nut-cracker, a receptacle for the cracked nuts, and a match-safe.

With this object in view the invention consists in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter fully described and afterward specifically pointed out in the claims.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention most nearly appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional view of my invention, some of the parts being shown in side elevation and in two positions. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central sectional view of my invention, and Fig. 3 is a broken sectional view showing the position of some of the parts when the tail is depressed for closing the jaws of the cracker.

Like letters of reference mark the same parts wherever they occur in the drawings.

Referring to the drawings by letters, A indicates a hollow casting of the shape of a stump of a tree, upon which is secured or formed a cast representation of a squirrel seated on his haunches. The casting is extended to the rear of the squirrel, so as to prevent its being upset or tilted to the rear when the nut-cracker is operated. The extension is provided with a receptacle R, which may be used as a match-box. Within the stump A is a slidable drawer C, and pivoted at D is a door or lid E. To the lid E, above its pivot D, is pivotally secured a rod F, connected at its opposite end in a slot G' in the

short arm of a lever G, shaped to represent the tail of the squirrel and pivoted at H.

I indicates the lower jaw, pivoted at I' and recessed at I² on its under side.

To the short arm of lever G is pivoted at J' a bar J, adapted to project into recess I² at the upper end of its movement.

K is a rod, the upper end of which is pivotally connected to the lower jaw I at a point P' in front or forward of the point of pivoting said jaw. The lower end of this rod is slidably connected at K² to the bar J and is provided with a suitable head to prevent it from becoming accidentally disengaged from the bar J.

M and N indicate two metal bars to represent the fore legs of a squirrel with a nut in its claws, one of which is pivoted to the body of the squirrel at M', and the other one is pivotally connected at N² to a link O, which in turn is connected to the jaw I. The claws of the squirrel are indicated at P and the nut at Q, the nut being formed integrally with the claws.

S is a spring which is secured to the interior of the casting and has its free end in engagement with the jaw I, so as to normally hold the mouth of the squirrel closed.

When the parts are in their normal position, they stand as shown in Fig. 1, in which the squirrel is holding a nut to his mouth. When it is desired to crack a nut, the tail is moved forward into the position shown in Fig. 2, which will cause the bar J to be moved downward, carrying with it the rod K on account of the engagement of the head of the rod with the projection K². The movement of the rod K will pull down the jaw far enough for the insertion of a nut into the mouth of the squirrel. The tail is then swung to the rear, which will cause the bar J to be forced upward until its upper end enters the recess I² in the under side of the jaw, and the jaw is pressed upward with sufficient force to crush the nut, when the reverse movement of the tail will again lower the jaw and open the mouth of the squirrel. When the bar J is being forced upward, it will move faster than the rod K, which will cause the rod to project farther through the extension K², as

shown in Fig. 3. By connecting the rod F to the tail by means of the slot G' the tail may be swung forward to open the jaws; but when the tail is depressed to crush the nut the lid E is automatically opened, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, to receive any pieces of shell that may be dropped from the jaws, and when the tail assumes its normal position it may be closed or it may be left open to receive the shells after the kernels have been removed therefrom.

The device may be cheaply made and forms an interesting and ornamental piece of mechanism.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination with a casting representing an animal seated on a stump, of a pivoted lower jaw, a lever forming the tail of the animal, a bar pivotally connected to the inner end of the lever and adapted to force the jaw upward, and a pivotal rod connecting the bar with the jaw, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a casting representing an animal seated on a stump, of a pivoted lower jaw, a spring for holding it normally in its closed position, a lever forming the tail of the animal, a bar pivotally connected to the inner end of the lever and adapted to

force the jaw upward, and a rod pivoted to the jaw and slidably connected to the bar, substantially as described.

3. The combination with the hollow casting, representing a squirrel seated on a stump, of a lever pivoted to the body and representing the tail, a pivoted lower jaw, a pivoted lid to the stump, and connections between the lever and jaw, and lever and lid, whereby the lid may be opened, and the jaw closed simultaneously by depressing the lever, substantially as described.

4. In a nut-cracker, the combination with the casting representing the body of a squirrel, a lever representing the tail and projecting into and pivoted to said body, of a bar pivoted to the short end of said lever within the body, the pivoted lever-jaw having a notch, a rod pivoted to the jaw in advance of the jaw-pivot and slidably connected to said bar, pivoted members representing the legs and fore feet pivoted to the said body, a link pivoted to one of said members and the movable jaw and a shell-receptacle having a hinged lid, a rod connecting said lid with the extreme lower end of the first-named lever.

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