

No. 777,461.

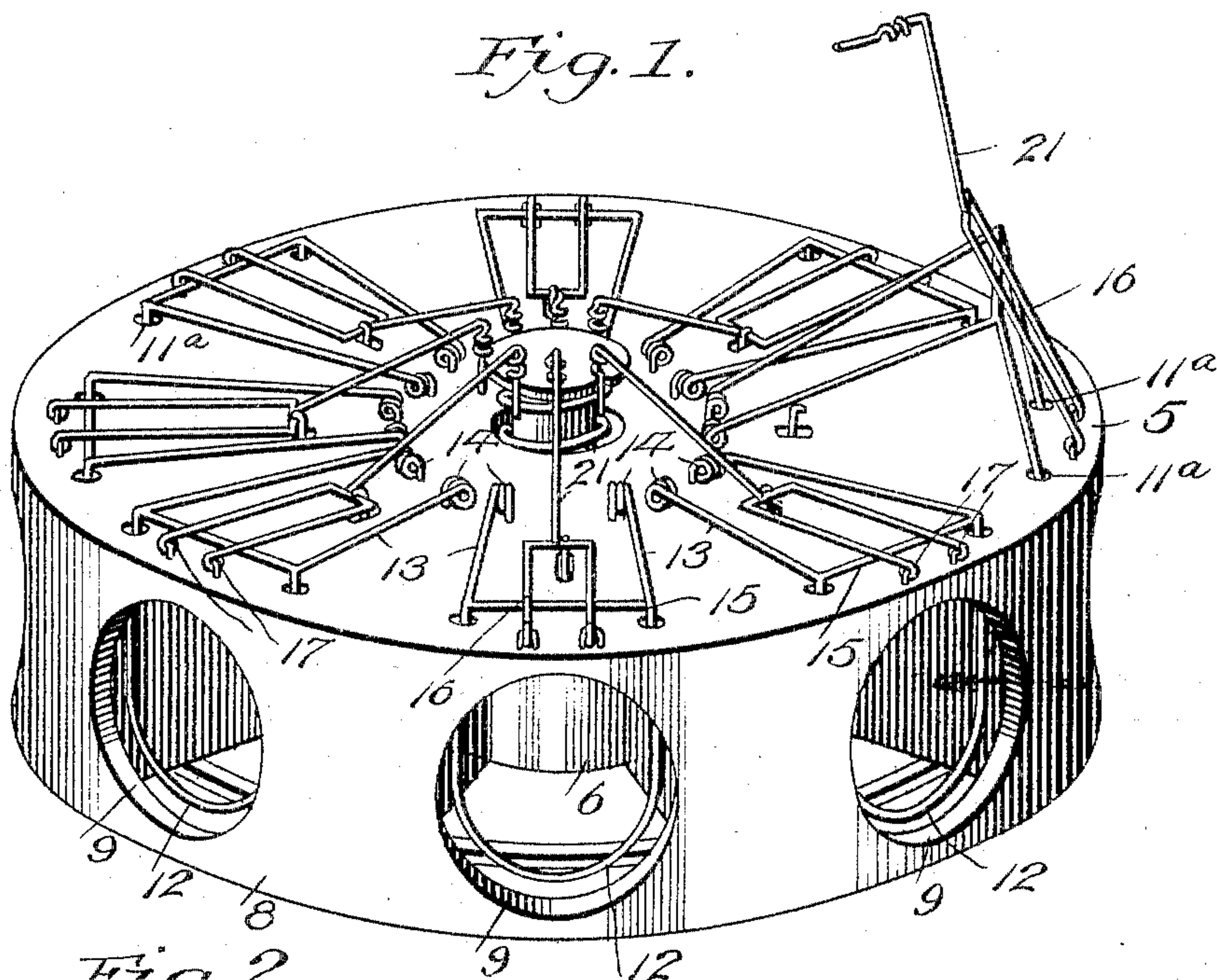
PATENTED DEC. 13, 1904.

H. WILLIAMSON.  
ANIMAL TRAP.

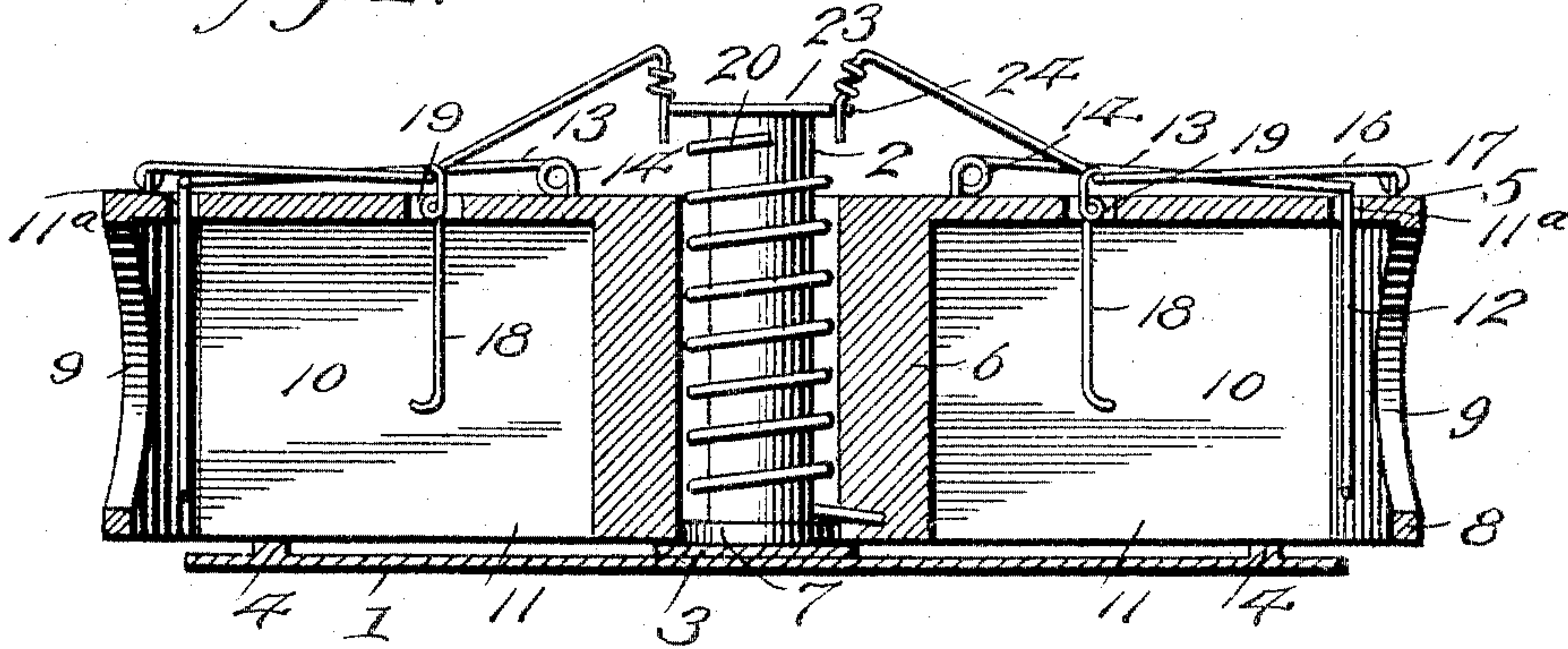
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 31, 1903.

NO MODEL.

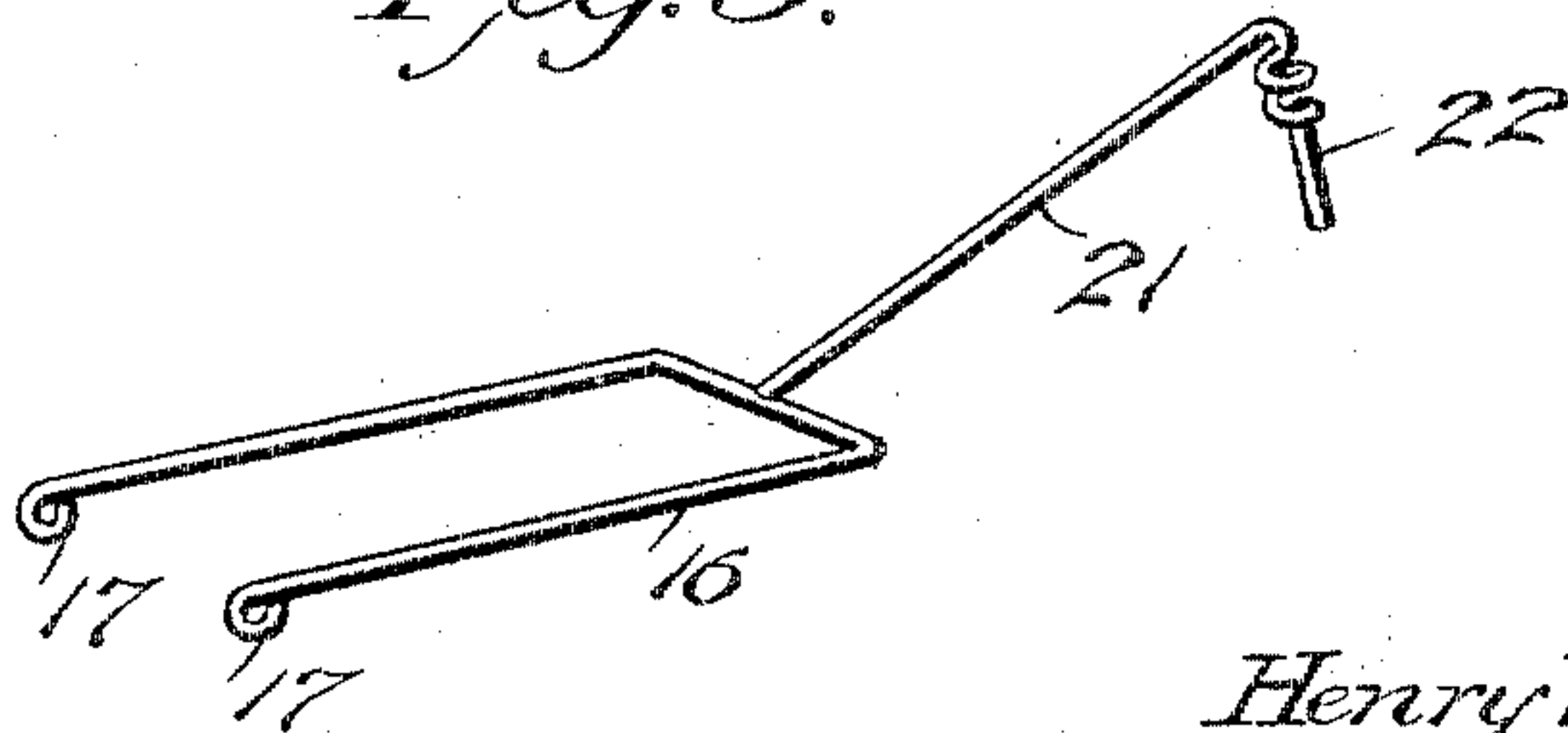
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## ANIMAL-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 777,461, dated December 13, 1904.

Application filed October 31, 1903. Serial No. 179,400. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY WILLIAMSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Torrington, in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut, have invented new and useful Improvements in Animal-Traps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to animal-traps, more particularly to traps which are provided with a plurality of compartments having orifices and equipped with means adapted to impanel rodents; and its primary object is to provide a new and useful device of this character which is adapted to have the orifices consecutively presented to a haunt or path most likely to be frequented by rodents, whereby the compartment in which a rodent is entrapped may be moved from the haunt or path and the next compartment presented thereto.

A further object of the invention is to provide novel means for turning the body of the trap to consecutively present the orifices to the entrance of a haunt or path.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which disclose the preferred embodiment of my invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a trap constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a central sectional view thereof. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of one of the set wires.

Referring to the drawings by reference-numerals, 1 designates a base provided with a centrally-arranged upstanding post 2 and concentrically-arranged circular tracks 3 and 4. A body 5, which is preferably circular in contour, is mounted upon the tracks to rotate thereon and about the post. The body is provided with a centrally-disposed sleeve 6, vertically arranged and adapted to fit over the post 2. The post is provided at its base with an annular flange 7, against which the lower end of the sleeve is adapted to abut to space the sleeve from the post and to guide the body in its movement. The body is provided with an annular flange 8, which is provided with a

plurality of orifices 9, which communicate with compartments 10; formed by partitions 11, extending from the sleeve to the flange. The top of the body is provided adjacent its edge with a plurality of perforations 11<sup>a</sup>, arranged in pairs, each pair communicating with one of the compartments. Striking-wires 12, preferably V-shaped, are arranged in the compartments to entrap a rodent and have their ends projected through the perforations 11<sup>a</sup> and provided with arms 13, adapted to extend along the top of the body. The arms 13 are coiled at points adjacent their ends to provide springs 14, which have their extremities embedded in the top of the body and which are adapted to normally retain the striking-wires elevated. The upper extremities of the striking-wires are connected by rods 15, into engagement with which set-levers 16 are adapted to be brought to retain the striking-wires in lowered or set position against the tension of the springs 14. The set-levers are preferably V-shaped and have their extremities bent to provide eyes 17, by means of which they are hingedly connected to the top of the body to be swung into position to retain the striking-wires in set position. The set-levers are adapted to be engaged by triggers 18, fulcrumed in slots 19, which communicate with the compartments to permit the bait-carrying ends of the triggers to be disposed therein in alinement with the orifices.

The manner in which the striking-wires are released may be described in the following manner: A rodent to reach one of the baits will have to insert its head through one of the orifices into a compartment, thereby assuming a position between the striking-wire and upper portion of the compartment. The slightest disturbance of the bait will tilt the trigger upon its fulcrum and release the set-lever, permitting the striking-wire to be forcibly elevated by the springs 14. The elevation of the striking-wires will imprison the rodent in a manner that is apparent.

It is desired in setting traps of this description to place one of the orifices 9 into close proximity to the entrance of a haunt or path known to be frequented by rodents, and also to cause the compartment in which a rodent



is trapped to move from the haunt or path and cause the adjacent orifice to assume its position. To accomplish this, I provide a spring 20, which is adapted to cause the body to rotate about the post 2 to consecutively present each opening to a particular haunt or path. The spring 20 is adapted to encircle the post 2 and has one of its ends fastened thereto and its opposite end secured to the body 5. The set-levers are provided with rearwardly-projecting arms 21, which have their extremities downwardly bent. The bent ends are coiled intermediate their ends to provide yielding bolts 22, which are adapted to, when the striking-wires are in set position, yieldingly engage the edge of a disk-shaped keeper 23. The keeper is secured to the upper end of the post and horizontally disposed to present its edge to the bolts 22. The edge of the keeper is provided with an offset 24, which is adapted to be consecutively engaged by the bolts 22 to permit of the orifices being presented in the manner hereinbefore pointed out. When one of the set-levers is released in the manner hereinbefore pointed out, the bolt carried thereby is thrown upward out of engagement with the offset 24 by the upward movement of the rod 15. The disengagement of the offset by the particular bolt leaves the body free to be turned by the spring 21, which movement is stopped by the engagement of the offset by the bolt adjacent the one thrown out of engagement with the offset, and said movement is sufficient to place the adjacent orifice to the haunt or path. To set the trap, the body is turned about the post to wind the spring, and one of the bolts 22 is thrown into engagement with the offset 24 to hold the body from being turned by the spring. After this the remaining bolts may be thrown into position about the keeper in the path of the offset.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a trap, a revolubly-mounted body, a plurality of entrapping means arranged on the body and adapted to be carried thereby during its rotation, means for rotating the body, and means for interrupting the rotation of the body to consecutively present each entrapping means to the same point.

2. In a trap, a revolubly-mounted body, a plurality of entrapping means arranged upon the body and adapted to be carried thereby during the rotation of the body, a mechanism for imparting an intermittent rotary movement to the body to consecutively present each entrapping means to the same point.

3. In a trap, a post carried by the base, a body mounted upon the base to rotate about the post, a plurality of entrapping means arranged upon the body and adapted to be carried thereby during its rotation, means carried by the post to rotate the body, and means carried by each entrapping means to engage

the post to prevent rotation of the body and to be disengaged therefrom to permit the body to have an intermittent rotary movement imparted thereto whereby each entrapping means is consecutively presented to the same point.

4. In a trap, a base, a post carried by the base, a body mounted upon the base to rotate about the post, a plurality of entrapping means arranged upon the body and adapted to be carried thereby during its rotation, means carried by the post to impart movement to the body, a keeper mounted upon the upper end of the post and having its edge provided with an offset, means carried by the entrapping means to engage the offset to prevent the body from having movement and to be disengaged therefrom to permit the body to have an intermittent rotary movement, whereby each entrapping means is presented to the same point.

5. In a trap, a base provided with concentrically-arranged circular tracks and a vertically-disposed post arranged centrally upon the base, a body provided with compartments and mounted upon the said tracks to rotate about the post, a striking-wire mounted in each compartment, a trigger, a set-lever adapted to hold the striking-wire in set position, a keeper secured to the upper end of the post and having its edge provided with an offset, means carried by the post to cause the body to revolve, and arms secured to said levers and provided with a yielding bolt adapted to engage the offset to prevent the body from rotating and to be disengaged therefrom to permit the body to have an intermittent rotary movement, whereby each compartment is consecutively presented at the same point.

6. In a trap, a body mounted to be rotated, means for rotating the body, a plurality of entrapping means arranged upon the body and adapted to be carried thereby during its rotation, and means carried by the entrapping means and adapted to interrupt the rotation of the body to consecutively present each entrapping means at the same point.

7. In a trap, a base, a body mounted on the base to be rotated, a keeper arranged on the base, a plurality of entrapping means arranged upon the body and adapted to be carried thereby during its rotation, means for rotating the body, and yielding means carried by the entrapping means to engage the keeper to prevent the body from having motion and to be disengaged therefrom to permit the body to have an intermittent rotary motion imparted thereto, whereby each entrapping means is presented at the same point.

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

HENRY WILLIAMSON.

Witnesses:

JAMES G. MALLETT,  
MAUDE DAVEY.