

No. 887,125.

PATENTED MAY 12, 1908.

H. REESE.
DEVICE FOR KILLING RATS.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 5, 1907.

Fig. 1.

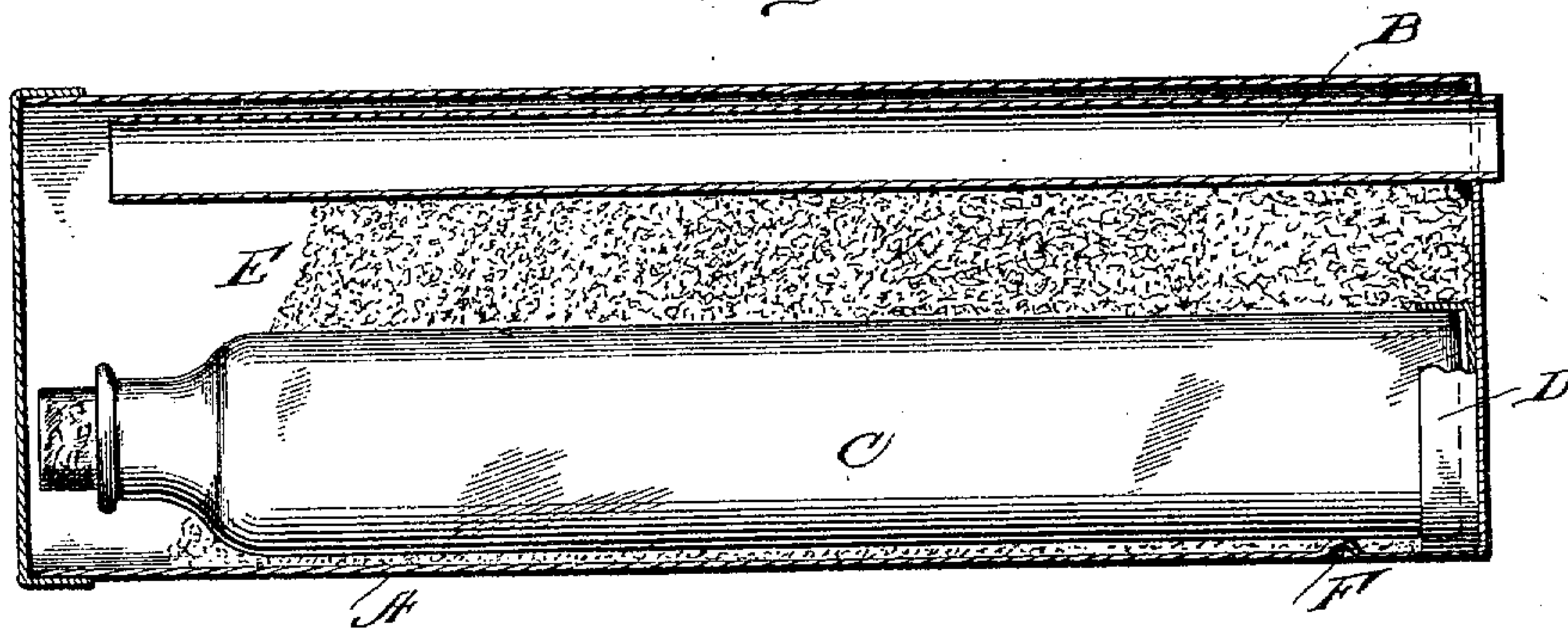
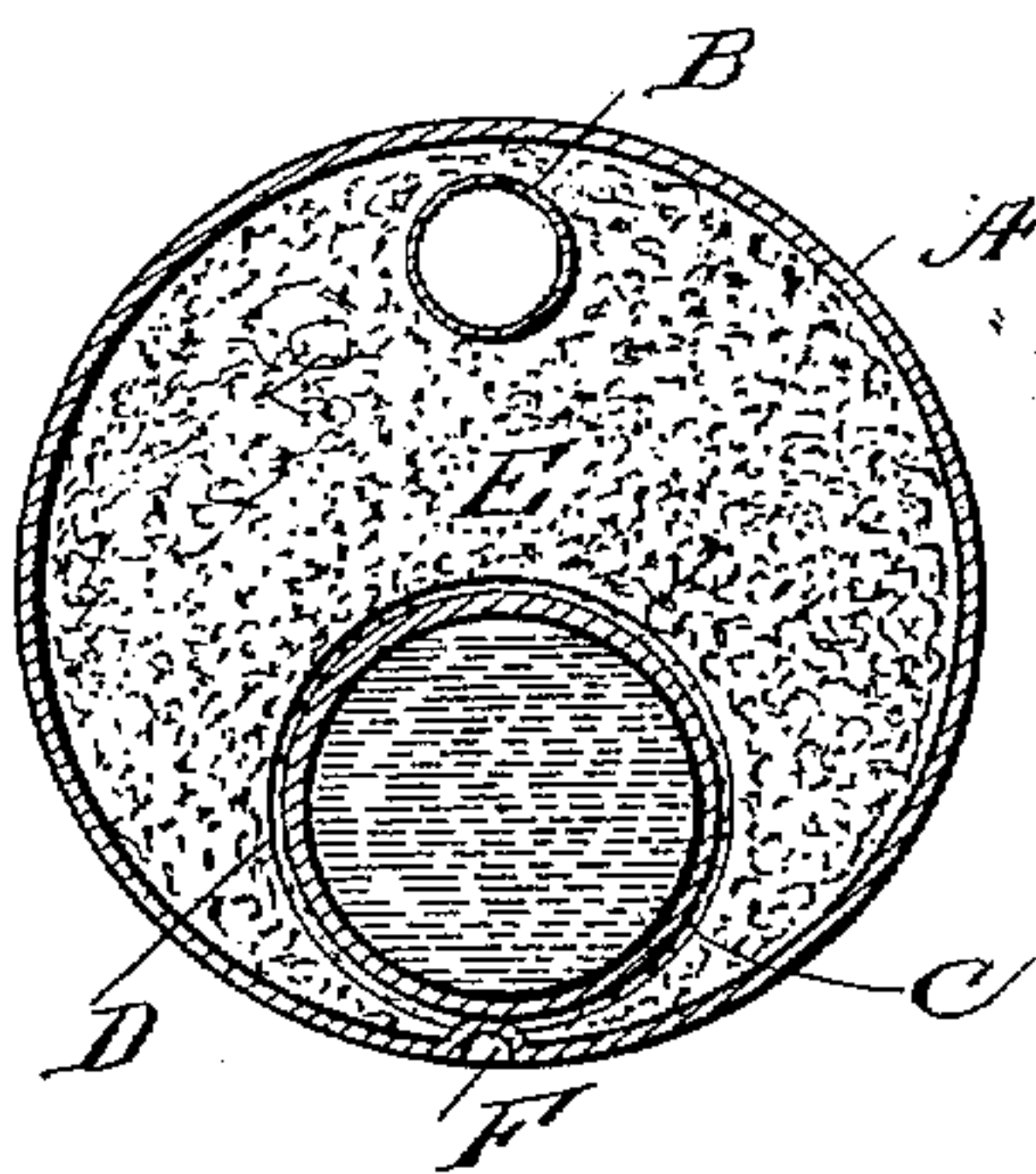


Fig. 2.



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HENRY REESE, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 12, 1908.

Application filed August 5, 1907. Serial No. 387,136.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY REESE, citizen of the United States of America, residing at Baltimore city, and State of Maryland, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Killing Rats, of which the following is a specification

My invention relates to a device for killing rats and has for its object to fill the holes or
10 burrows in which the rats live with a poisonous gas which will destroy them. The gas which I usually employ is carbon dioxid, but chlorin or other gas might be used. I have found that rat holes or burrows gen-
15 erally have a comparatively small area or cubical contents and that a comparatively small quantity of poisonous gas introduced into these burrows, which as a general rule run in a descending direction, will either kill
20 the rats in the burrows or drive them out, so that they may be caught at the holes and killed.

The principal value of the invention is to destroy the young rats and prevent their mul-
25 tiplication.

My invention consists in a convenient and simple means by which a suitable quantity of poisonous gas may be generated and intro-
duced into the rat holes.

30 It consists of a vessel containing crushed marble or other suitable material and a vessel containing a suitable acid, with a means by which gas generated from the union of these materials will be able to escape into the rat
35 holes. In case of a gas heavier than air it will descend and flow downward into the holes and fill them with a poisonous mixture. In this application I shall describe the use of carbon dioxid, but I want to be understood
40 as including any other gas such as chlorin, sulfur dioxid or hydro-cyanic acid.

Referring to the drawings,—Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of my device. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section.

45 A is an exterior casing or box made of tin or other suitable material and provided with a cover on one end which may be sealed in any suitable manner.

B is a tube secured in the interior of the
50 case A, passing through a perforation in the bottom and open at both ends. The upper end of the tube B is located a short distance from the top of the case A.

C is a glass containing vessel, preferably a
55 bottle or the like, held in place in the case A by means of a socket D, in the bottom of the

case. The bottle C is filled with acid, preferably hydrochloric acid, or other suitable acid. The space E surrounding the bottle C and the tube B is filled with crushed marble. The
60 marble should be in separate pieces, but broken fine. The quantity of marble and acid should be so proportioned as to provide a slight excess of acid and sufficient to pro-
65 duce by the action of the acid upon the marble between 1 and 2 cubic feet of carbon dioxid gas.

F is a dent in the exterior casing, the inner surface of which rests upon the side of the bottle C. This dent or lug is provided for
70 the purpose of forming a convenient means for breaking the bottle.

In practice the tube is inserted in a rat hole with the bottom downward. The other
75 openings from the nests of the rats in the immediate vicinity are then stopped up so that escape is impossible, and the casing A is struck a sharp blow at the point F with a
80 hammer or other hard instrument, with the result that the bottle is shattered and the acid therein contained is liberated. It will immediately attack the marble surrounding
85 it and a rapid generation of carbon dioxid will result. The vessel being entirely closed except for the opening in the bottom through
90 the tube B the gas will be forced up to the top of the casing into the upper end of the tube B and out of the lower end of the tube B into the rat hole, whence it will descend
95 as to cause the destruction of the rats.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

In a device for killing rats, the combina-
95 tion of a casing containing a finely divided carbonate in a dry state, a fragile vessel containing an acid which when liberated will attack the carbonate and generate a poisonous
100 gas, and a gas escape tube open at both ends and sealed into the bottom of the casing, one end being located near the upper interior end of the casing and the other end protruding
105 through the bottom, substantially as described.

Signed by me at Baltimore city and State of Maryland this 2nd day of August, 1907.

HENRY REESE.

Witnesses:

B. SCHROETER,
W. W. POWELL.