

J. ROSS.

TRAP GUN.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1908.

905,104.

Patented Nov. 24, 1908.

FIG. 1.

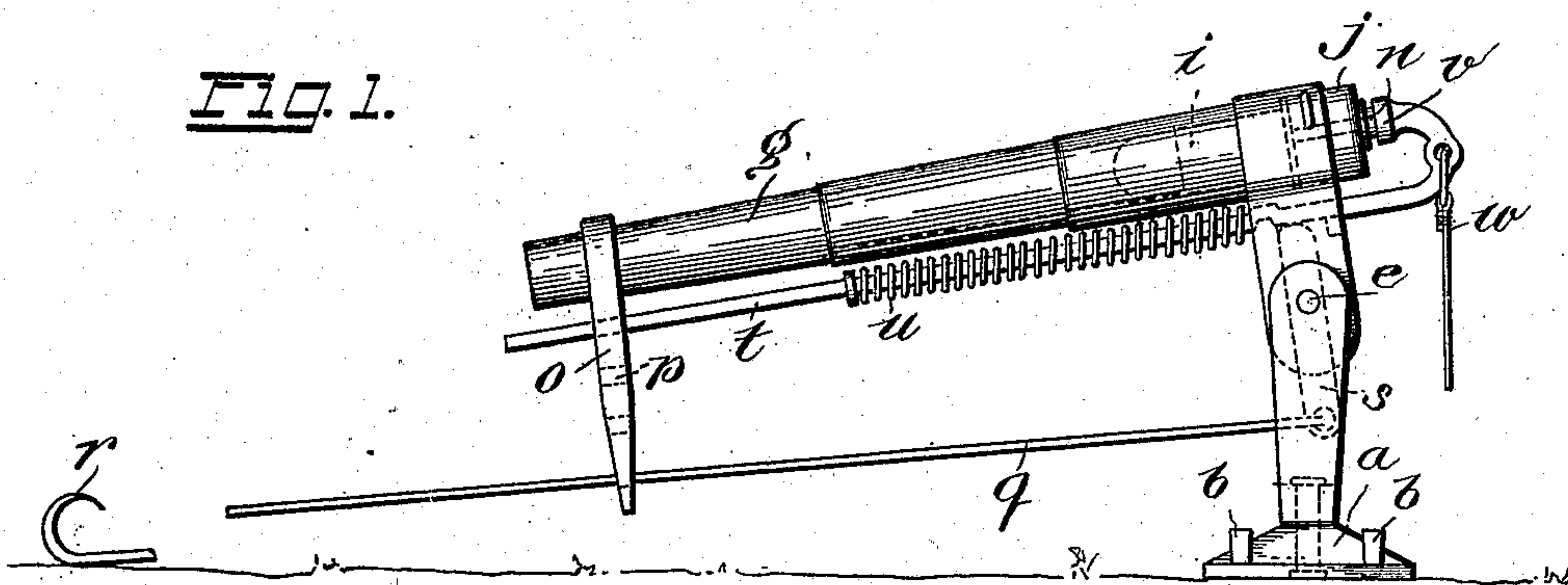


FIG. 2.

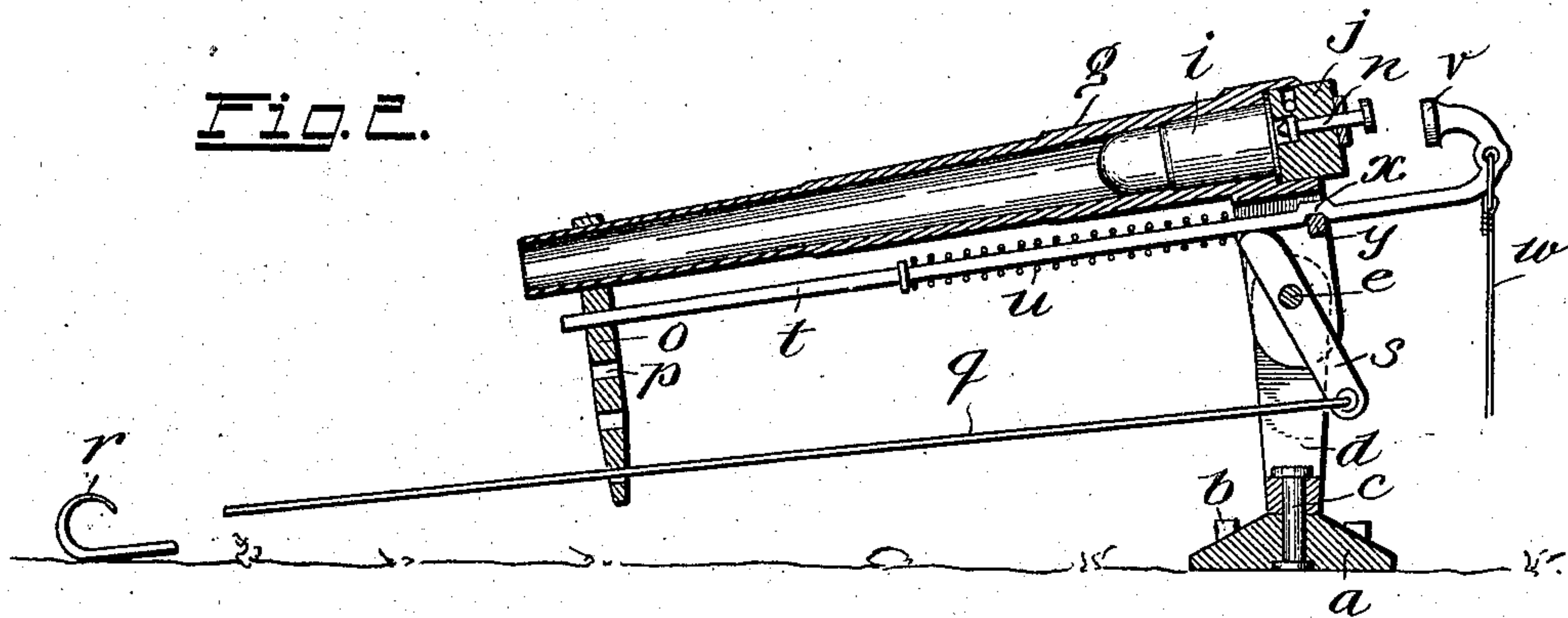
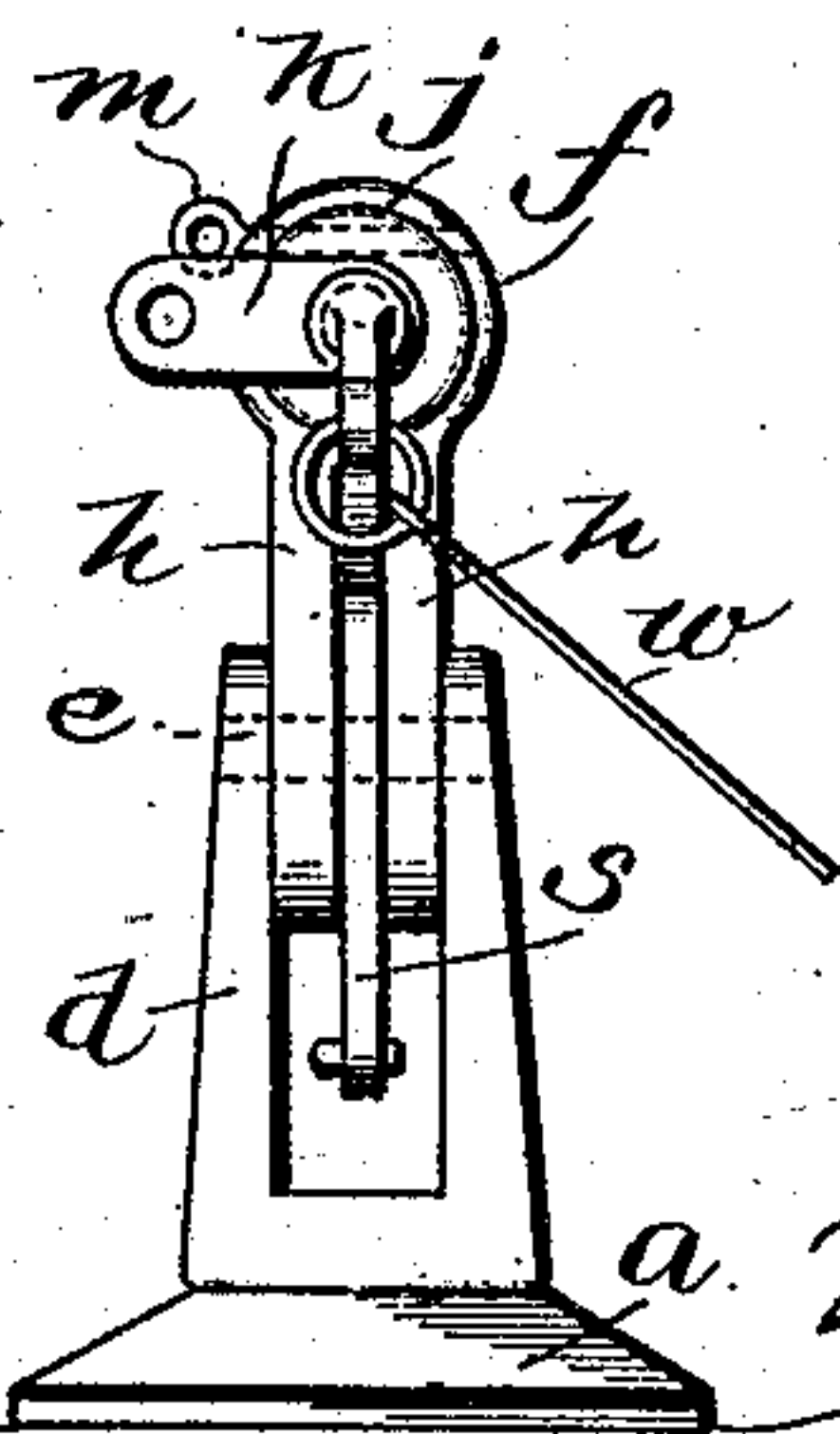


FIG. 3.



Witnesses  
W. May Durall.  
J. H. H. H.

Inventor  
John Ross  
By William, Jr. & Witherston  
his Attorneys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN ROSS, OF WEISER, IDAHO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CHARLES PICKETT, OF MERIDIAN, IDAHO.

## TRAP-GUN.

No. 905,104.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 24, 1908.

Application filed June 1, 1908. Serial No. 436,058.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN ROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Weiser, in the county of Washington and State of Idaho, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trap-Guns; 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 relates to an improvement in trap guns, and the object of my invention is to provide a gun for use in exterminating wolves, foxes, etc., so arranged that the seizure of the bait by the animal will cause the discharge of the gun, which is so arranged as to always point directly at the bait.

A further object is to provide a simple and inexpensive gun which can be readily fixed at any desired point.

With these objects in view, my invention consists in the construction and combination of parts as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a side view of my improved gun, Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross section of the same, and Fig. 3 is a rear view of the same.

*a* represents the base piece provided with holes, through which the pins *b* may be driven, fastening the whole structure firmly to the ground at any desired point. Mounted in the base *a* is a pin *c*, headed at both ends, and on this pin is mounted the lower member of a U-shaped frame *d*, which revolves freely on said pin *c*. The upper ends of the frame *d* are perforated, and through them passes a pin *e*, on which is mounted the lever for the releasing mechanism, and on which is also mounted the frame *f*, which supports the gun *g*. The frame *f* consists of a circular portion surrounding the gun *g*, and two depending portions *h*, which fit within the arms of the U-shaped frame *d* and are pivotally mounted on the pin *e*. From the construction described, it will be seen that the gun is mounted on what is practically a universal joint, so that it can swing freely in a vertical plane or in a horizontal plane.

*i* represents the cartridge and *j* the removable breech block which is provided with a handle *k*, and which is kept in position by the pin *m*. By removing this pin *m*, the

whole breech block can be easily removed for the purpose of loading.

*n* represents the firing pin, loosely mounted in the center of the breech block, as usual.

The mechanism for firing the gun will next be described. Attached to the gun near its front end, is a downward projecting arm *o*, provided with a plurality of perforations *p*. Through one of these perforations, runs a rod *q*, which terminates in a hook *r*, on which the bait is placed. The other end of the rod *q* is pivotally attached to a removable arm or lever *s*, mounted on the pin *e*. Through one of the holes *p*, runs a rod *t*, on which is mounted a spiral spring *u*, which normally tends to force the rod *t* towards the muzzle of the gun. The rear part of the rod *t* is curved, and terminates in a head *v*, and attached to this head is a ring *w*, for convenience in withdrawing the rod *t*. This rod *t* is provided with a bent portion *x*, adapted to engage a pin or rod *y* on the arms *h*, so as to hold it, under ordinary conditions, out of contact with the firing pin.

The operation is as follows: The device is fixed in any desired position by driving in the pins *b*, and by means of the ring *w*, the rod *t* is drawn back against the tension of the spring, and the front end of the rod is allowed to rest against the arm *o*, to avoid any possibility of accident. The pin *m* is then removed, the breech block taken out, the gun loaded, and the breech block put in position and fastened by the pin *m*. The end of the rod *t* is then passed through one of the perforations *p*, and the bent portion *x* is caused to engage with the bar *y*. The bait is then placed on the hook *r* and the device is set. When a wolf or other animal seizes the bait, he pulls on the rod *q*, and this operates the lever *s*, lifting the rod *t* out of engagement with the rod *y*, whereupon the spring *u* pulls the rod *t* forward, the head *v* thereof striking the firing pin and discharging the gun. Should the animal try to move sidewise, on account of the swivel mounting, the gun will always be kept pointing directly at the bait.

I claim:—

1. The combination of a gun provided with a removable breech block, having a firing pin therein, swiveled mountings for said gun, whereby said gun may be moved freely either horizontally or vertically, a perforated arm attached to said gun near its muz-



zle, a spring pressed rod, passing through one of the perforations in said arm, and having its rear end curved to engage the firing pin, a catch for normally holding said arm in an inoperative position against the tension of said spring, a pivoted lever, adapted when moved to release said rod, and a rod pivotally attached to said lever, the end of which is adapted to receive the bait, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a base piece, adapted to be secured to the ground, a frame mounted to rotate horizontally on said base piece, a second frame mounted to rotate vertically in said first named frame, a gun carried by said second frame, and provided with a breech block having a firing pin, a perforated arm supported on said gun near the

muzzle thereof, a firing rod projecting through one of the perforations in said arm, a spring surrounding said firing rod, a catch for engaging said firing rod, and normally holding it in an inoperative position, a pivoted lever engaging said firing rod, and adapted when moved to release said rod from said catch, and a rod pivotally connected to said lever, and passing through one of the perforations of said arm, the end of which is adapted to receive the bait, substantially as described.

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

JOHN ROSS.

Witnesses:

WM. C. DUNBAR,  
CHARLES PICKETT.