(No Model.)

A. HAMMAN.

MOLE TRAP.

No. 302,128. Patented July 15, 1884.

Fig. 1.

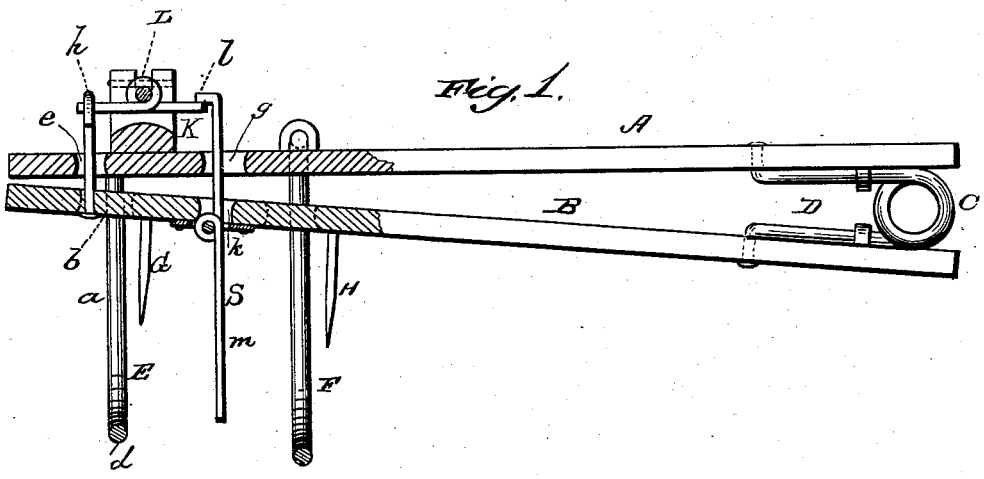
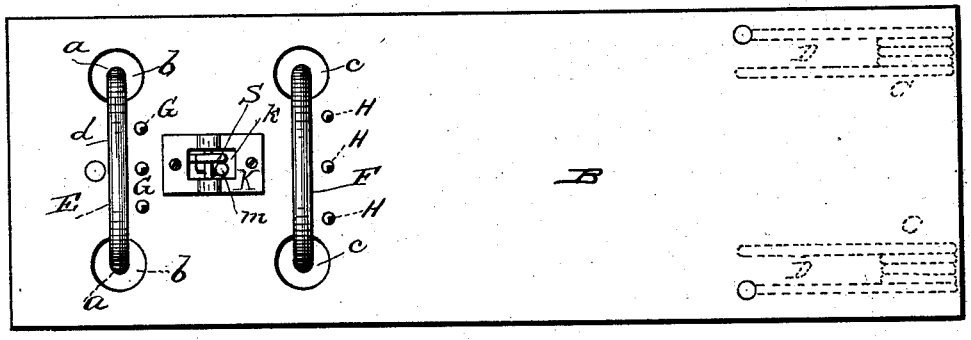


Fig. 2.



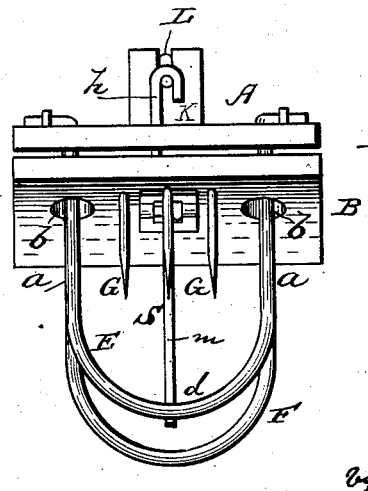


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM HAMMAN, OF NORTH WEBSTER, INDIANA.

MOLE-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,128, dated July 15, 1884.

Application filed March 5, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM HAMMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Webster, in the county of Kosciusko and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mole-Traps; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a vertical sectional view of my device. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the same; and Fig. 3 is an end view.

This invention has relation to mole-traps; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of devices, as hereinafter set forth, and pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the upper board and B the lower board of the trap. These boards are connected at one end by a spring or springs, C, spiral springs being preferred, having arms D, which are fastened to the boards. The tension of these springs is arranged to separate the boards, or cause the upper one to move away from the lower board in a forcible manner. To the upper board is attached, by its ends, a large transverse wire loop, E, near the free end of the board, the arms *a a* of the loop passing through apertures *b b* of the lower board, as shown. A second transverse wire loop, F, is also attached by its ends to the upper board, back of the first or loop end, E, and separated therefrom by an interval of an inch or more. The arms of the second loop pass through apertures *c c* of the lower board. The transverse portion *d* of one of these loops forms a stop, preventing the boards from separating beyond a certain distance. The loops, therefore, limit the play of the upper board. Between the apertures *b b* are rigidly secured to the lower board sharp prongs G, which project downward. These prongs are short compared to the length of the loop E, being so constructed that when the loop is depressed through the lower board there will be an interval of some size between the points of the prongs and the lower transverse portion of the loop. Between the apertures *c c* of the lower board, a second series of prongs, H, are securely attached to the lower board, having a similar relation to the second loop, F.

K represents a bearing on the top of the upper board, in front of which is made through the board a perforation, *e*, and in rear of which is made the perforation *g*. This bearing supports the fulcrum-pin of a short lever, L, which extends in a central notch or way of said bearing, its ends projecting in front and rear over the apertures *e* and *g*, respectively. Projecting upward from the front end of the lower board is an eye-post, *h*, which, when the boards are closed together, extends through the aperture *e* sufficiently to engage the front or outer end of the lever L.

S represents an upright trigger, pivoted to the lower board and extending through an opening, *k*, thereof. The upper arm of this trigger is designed, when the boards are closed together in setting the trap, to engage, by its bent and flattened end *l*, the rear or inner end of the lever L. The lower arm, *m*, of this trigger is made long, so that when the boards are closed together it will project downward as far as the loops E and F extend.

The trap is set by engaging the trigger and eye-post with the ends of the short lever L. The loops and the long arm of the trigger will then project downward below the lower board and they are pressed down into the mole-passage in the ground, the boards lying on the mole-hill lengthwise thereof. A mole passing in either direction through the passage will form its way through one or other of the loops, moving the trigger and springing the trap, the boards of which will be forced apart, causing the loops to rise, impaling the mole on the prongs of the lower board.

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

The mole-trap herein described, consisting of the boards A and B, connected at their rear ends by the springs C, the loops E and F, connected to the upper board and passing down through apertures in the lower board, the ver-

tical trigger S, pivoted about midway its length to the under board, the said under board having prongs G and H, an eye-post, *h*, extending through an aperture, *e*, in the forward end of the upper board, and the upper board having a bearing, K, in which is pivoted the trip-lever L, the whole adapted to operate substantially as specified.

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

ABRAHAM HAMMAN.

Witnesses:
JASPER A. CARR,
LEWIS BISHOP.