No. 825,352. PATENTED JULY 10, 1906.

J. W. ROSS.

ANIMAL RELEASING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 20, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

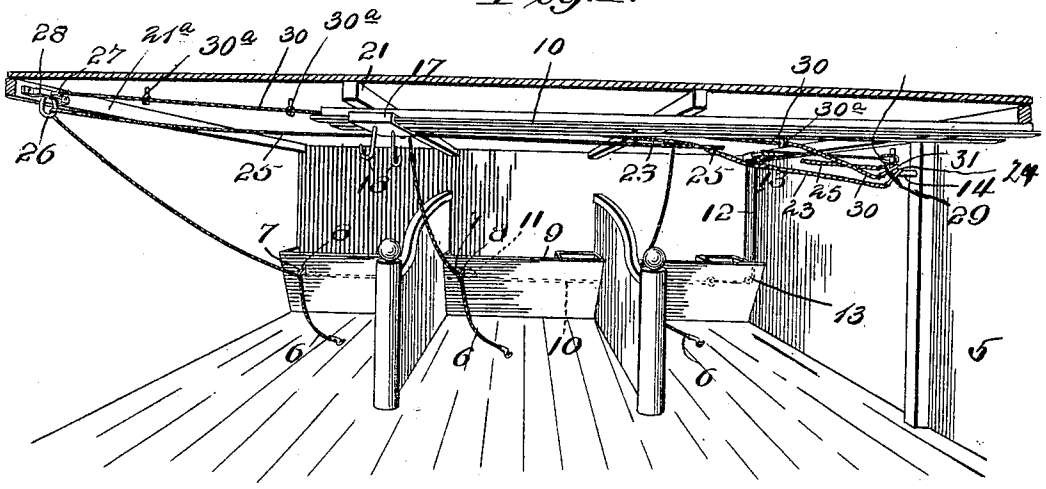
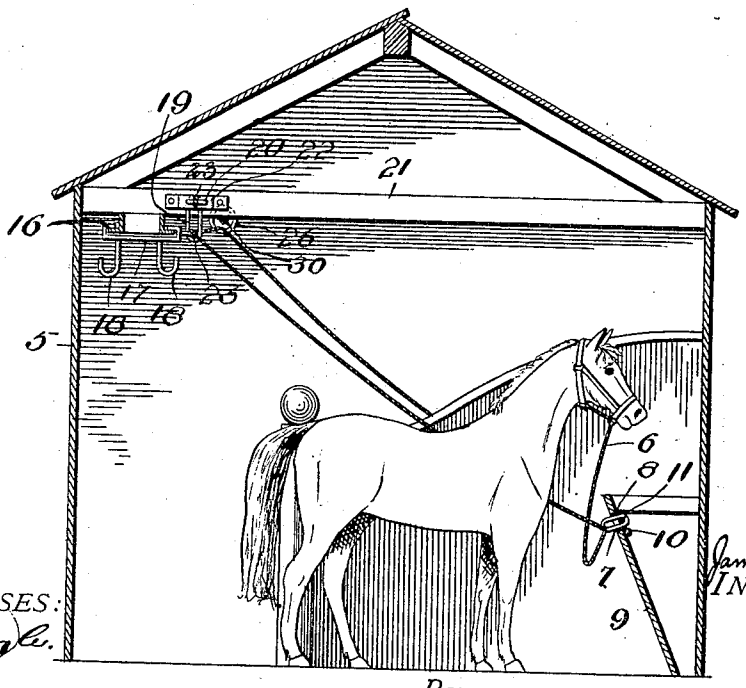


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

M. F. Coyle.

May A. Schmidt.

James H. Ross,
INVENTOR

BY

Milo B. Stevens and Co.
Attorneys

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

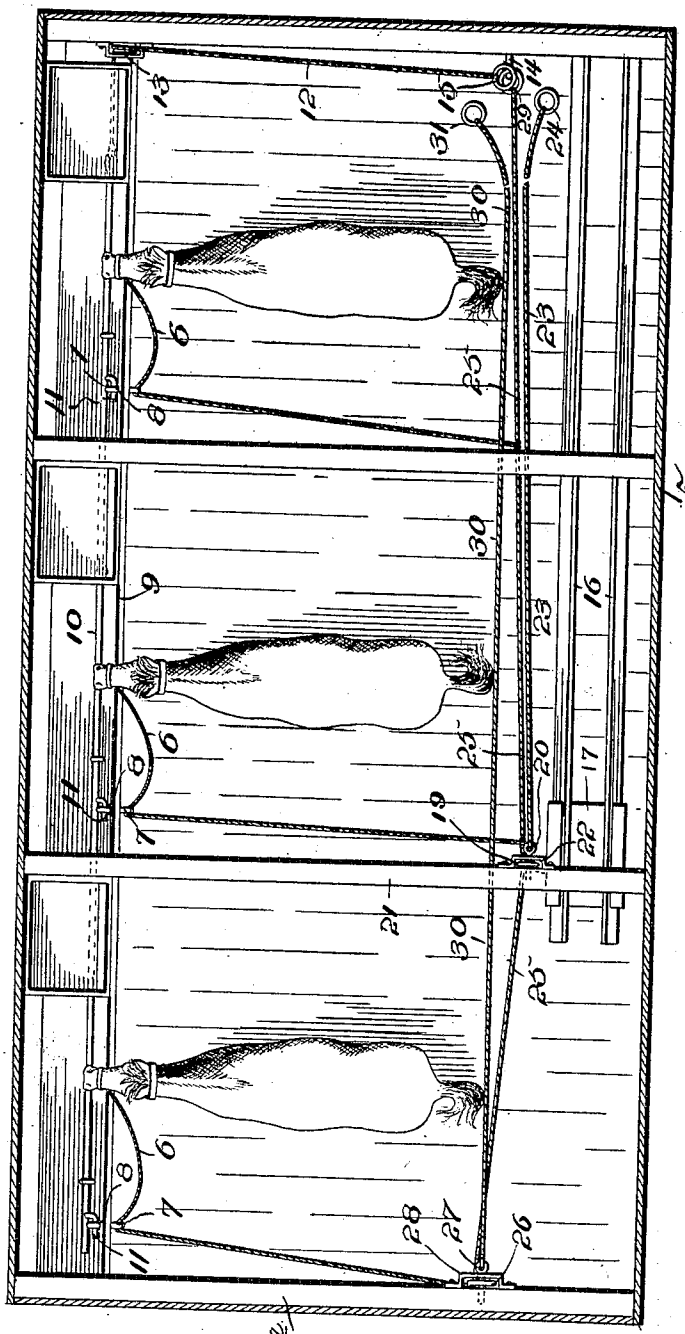

Fig. 5.

WITNESSES:

W. F. Kerr

Max A. Schmidt

INVENTOR

James W. Ross.

BY

Milo B. Stevens and Co.

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. ROSS, OF SPENCER, NEBRASKA.

ANIMAL-RELEASING DEVICE.

No. 825,352. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 10, 1906.

Application filed November 20, 1905. Serial No. 288,239.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. ROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Spencer, in the county of Boyd and State of Nebraska, have invented new and useful Improvements in Animal-Releasing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an animal-releasing device, and has for its object to provide simple and reliable means applied to a stable or other building whereby horses and other stock can be readily released and withdrawn in case of fire when it is dangerous or impossible for a person to enter the building to release and lead out the animals singly. Means are also provided for removing the harness from the building at the same time.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention, only so much of the frame of the building being shown as will suffice to show the application of the invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section. Fig. 3 is a plan view.

Referring specifically to the drawings, 5 denotes a stable or other building containing a number of stalls. In the drawings only three stalls are shown; but there may be any number.

The halters 6, whereby the animals are hitched, have at one end a ring 7, which is extended through a hole 8 in the front board 9 of the manger. The rings are secured by a longitudinally-sliding bolt which works behind the board 9. This bolt comprises a rod 10, extending lengthwise along the manger and having a number of projecting fingers 11, which are extended through the rings 7 after they have been passed through the holes 8. Upon sliding the rod lengthwise the fingers are withdrawn from all the rings simultaneously, which leaves the latter free to pass through the holes 8, whereby the halters are released.

The rod 10 is operated by a rope 12, which is made fast to one end thereof and passes over suitable guide-pulleys 13 to a convenient place near the door of the building, where it is hung on a hook or peg 14 by a ring 15 on the end of the rope.

Under the ceiling of the building is a guideway or track 16, which extends from the last stall to the door and on which a carriage 17 is slidably mounted. The carriage has hooks 18, on which the harness is hung. On one side of the carriage is attached a link 19 for holding the carriage, said link being secured by an eyebolt 20, which is stuck into a hole in one of the rafters 21 of the building. The eyebolt also extends through a hole in a strap 22, secured to the rafter, under which strap the link is placed. One end of a rope 23 is made fast to the eyebolt 20, and the other end of the rope carries a ring 24, which is hung on the peg 14. This rope is for the purpose of withdrawing the eyebolt to release the link 19 and free the carriage 17.

The halters are carried by a main rope 25, which extends overhead to the stall farthest from the door and passes through a ring 26, secured overhead by a removable eyebolt 27, extending through a hole in a strap 28, secured to the rafter 21^a and into a hole in the latter. From the ring 26 the main rope extends to and through the link 19, and from this it extends to the peg 14, its end being provided with a ring 29, which is hung up on the peg. A rope 30 is made fast to the eyebolt 27 and extends through suitable guides 30^a, extending from the ceiling, to the peg 14, being also provided with a ring 31, which is hung upon said peg.

In the operation of the device the animals are first released, which is done by removing the ring 15 from the peg 14 and pulling on the rope 12, which operates the rod 10 and releases the rings 7, whereby the halters are freed. Then remove the ring 29 from the peg and pull on the main rope 25, which draws the animals with their heads to the rear of the stalls. Then remove the ring 31 from the peg and pull on the rope 30, which pulls out the eyebolt 27 and releases the ring 26 to free the main rope. Then pull on the main rope again to bring the animals to the outer edge of the stalls. Then remove the ring 24 and pull on the rope 23, which withdraws the eyebolt 20 and releases the link 19 to free the carriage 17, carrying the harness. Then pull on the main rope again, which draws the animals and the carriage along its track to the door. The carriage is drawn toward the door because the rope 25 passes through the link 19, attached to the carriage. As the animals are fastened to one end of the rope 25, a pull on the other end necessarily draws the carriage and the animals toward the door. If desired, the main rope can be carried outside the building and wound on a windlass or similar apparatus, if it is necessary to forcibly remove the animals.

With the device herein described the animals and harness can be quickly and safely

removed from a burning stable, and by reason of the arrangement of the various ropes there is no danger of the feet of the animals becoming entangled therewith.

Having thus described my invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

The combination with a main line carrying a number of halters, and means for releasing the halters, of an overhead track, a carriage mounted on the track, a link extending from the carriage through which link the main line passes, and releasable means for securing the link.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES W. ROSS.

Witnesses:
CHARLES E. PERRY,
SAM SMITH.