(No Model.)

C. BECHER.

FLY TRAP.

No. 474,514. Patented May 10, 1892.

Fig. 1.

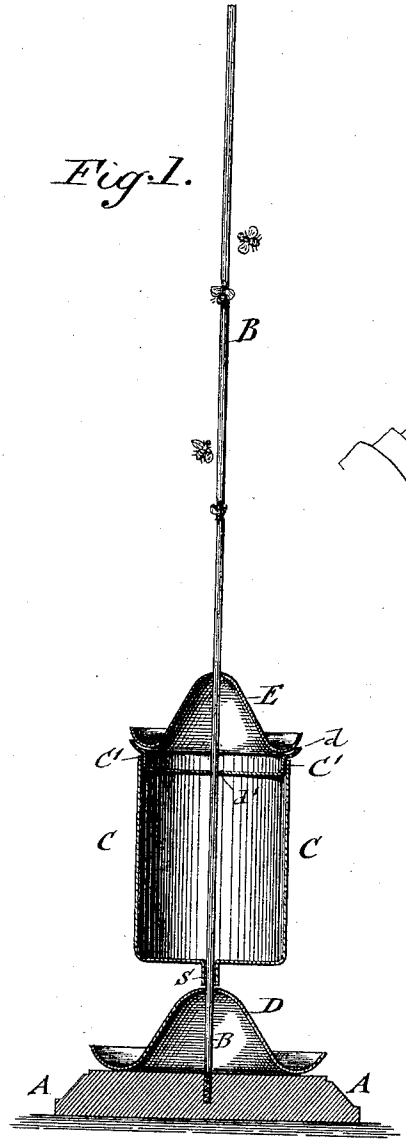


Fig. 2.

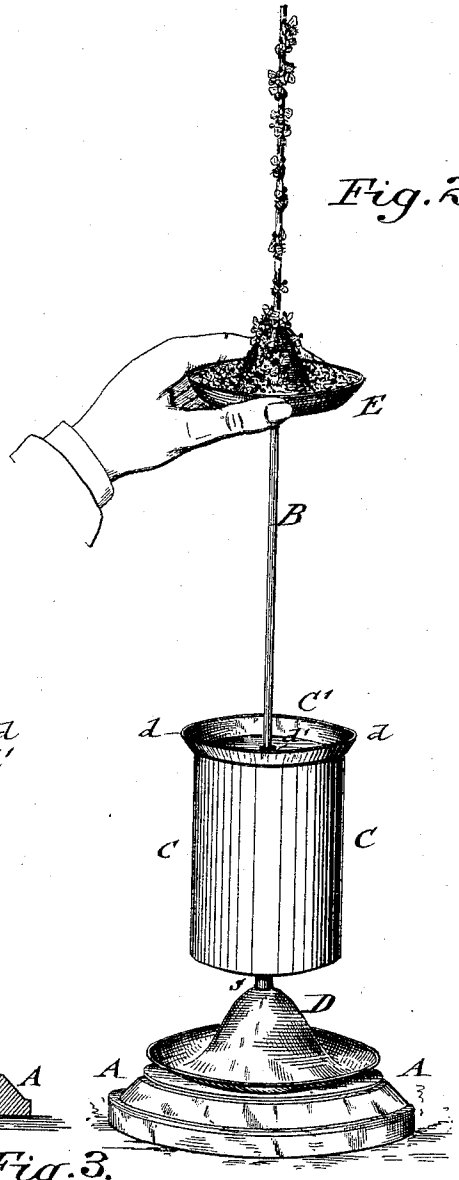
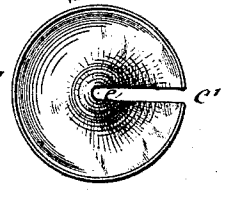


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

Marion Hall

R. L. Maynard

INVENTOR

Carl Becher

BY Goepel & Raegener

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL BECHER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JACOB MOSKOWITZ, OF SAME PLACE.

FLY-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 474,514, dated May 10, 1892.

Application filed February 23, 1892. Serial No. 422,332. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL BECHER, a citizen of the Empire of Austria-Hungary, and a resident of New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fly-Traps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to an improved fly-trap of that class in which the flies are retained by means of an adhesive substance on surfaces coated with the same; and the invention consists of a fly-trap composed of a base, a rod attached to said base, a reservoir for the adhesive substance with which the rod is to be coated, a drip-cup below said reservoir, said scraper being provided with a radial slot for the convenient detaching of the same from or applying it to the rod, as will be fully described hereinafter, and finally pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a vertical central section of my improved fly-trap. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same, showing the scraper in the act of removing the flies from the rod coated with the adhesive substance, and Fig. 3 is a top view of the detachable scraper, shown as removed from the rod.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the base of my improved fly-trap, which base is made of a block of wood, cast-metal, or other suitable material. To the base A is attached an upright rod, which is preferably made of wire of suitable thickness, a stick of wood, or of any other suitable material. On the rod is guided the reservoir C, which is provided with a central opening in its bottom and with a short sleeve *s*, that fits closely to the rod B and rests on a drip-cup D. The middle portion of the drip-cup D is made of conical shape, while the base portion is made in the shape of an annular trough that surrounds the middle portion, in which trough any of the adhesive substance that exudes from the bottom of the reservoir is collected, so as to be returned from time to time into the reservoir. The reservoir C is filled with a viscous or adhesive substance of that class which has the property of attracting flies, mosquitoes, and other winged insects. The adhesive substance used in the reservoir is made of such consistency that it forms a paste-like mass, which is not liable to become dry, so that one charge of the reservoir will be sufficient to supply the rod with adhesive coatings for a considerable length of time—say, for the summer season. The upper part of the reservoir C is closed by a detachable cover C′, that is provided with a circumferential outwardly-flaring flange *d* and with a central opening *d′*, which is slightly larger than the rod B so as to permit the free up-and-down motion of the reservoir on the rod B. On the cover C′ of the reservoir C is supported a scraper E, which is provided with a central conical portion and with an annular trough or base around the conical portion, so as to correspond in shape to that of the drip-cup D. The scraper E is provided at the apex of its conical portion with an opening *e* and with a slot *e′*, that extends radially from said opening to the circumference of the base of the scraper, as shown clearly in Fig. 3.

The scraper E serves for the purpose of removing the flies that are retained by the adhesive substance on the surface of the rod B. For the purpose of removing the flies, the scraper E is taken hold of at its base by the thumb and forefinger of one hand and then passed over the rod for the full length of the same, as shown clearly in Fig. 2. By the upward motion of the scraper the flies are removed from the rod B. The scraper E is then detached from the rod B and cleaned by hot water, so as to remove the flies and any of the adhesive substance carried along by the same. The scraper E is then replaced by sliding it, by means of its radial slot *e′*, closely to the cover C′ of the receptacle C into its position on the rod B, as shown clearly in Fig. 1. When most of the adhesive substance on the rod B has been removed by the repeated removal of flies by the scraper, the reservoir C is moved up on the rod B and then returned into its position on the drip-cup D before the scraper is replaced in position on the reservoir. By this up-and-down motion of the reservoir the rod B is supplied with a coating of adhesive substance, which is of uniform thickness, as the cover of the reservoir acts as a scraper for the adhesive substance and re-

turns any surplus substance into the reservoir. As one removal of the flies from the rod B by the scraper E does not remove the coating of adhesive substance, one coating can be used for several days and the flies be removed rapidly therefrom until the rod has to be supplied again with the adhesive substance.

In place of one rod which is attached to the base two or more rods may be used, in which case the size and shape of the reservoir, drip-cup, and scraper are adapted to the increased number of rods.

In a fly-trap with a single rod a cylindrical reservoir is preferable, while in a fly-trap with several rods a reservoir of oblong or other shape may preferably be used.

I am aware that fly-traps have been made in which a base, a rod supported on said base, a reservoir provided with a detachable cover, and a drip-cup below the reservoir are combined for use, and I therefore do not claim the combination of these elements, broadly; but I claim in addition therewith a detachable scraper having a radial slot, by which the following advantages are obtained: first, a considerable saving in the adhesive material, as the same is not removed from the rod with each removal of flies from the same, so that one and the same layer can be used several times before the coating has to be resupplied from the reservoir; secondly, the convenience of removing the flies by means of the scraper, and the facility by which the same can be cleaned and returned in position on the reservoir, and, thirdly, the improved appearance and more convenient handling of the different parts of my improved fly-trap.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A fly-trap composed of a base, a rod attached to said base, a reservoir for the adhesive substance, said reservoir being guided on the rod, a drip-cup below the reservoir, a cover for the reservoir, having a central opening, and a scraper supported on said cover and provided with a central opening, and a circumferential trough, substantially as set forth.

2. A fly-trap composed of a base, a rod attached to said base, a reservoir for the adhesive substance, guided on the rod by a bottom sleeve, a drip-cup below the reservoir, a cover for the reservoir, having a central opening and an outwardly-flaring flange, and a scraper supported on said cover and provided with a recess extending from the center to the circumference of the same, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CARL BECHER.

Witnesses:
PAUL GOEPEL,
CHARLES SCHROEDER.