

A. A. Hatchkiss,

Mouse Trap.

No. 101,620.

Patented Apr. 5. 1870.

Fig 1.

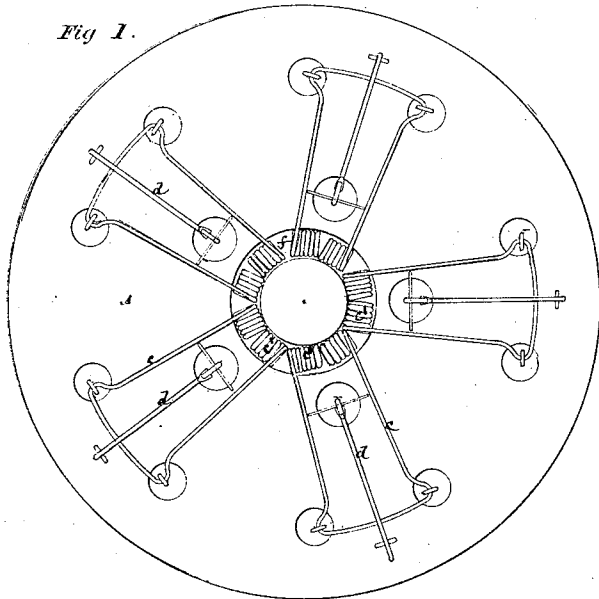


Fig 2.

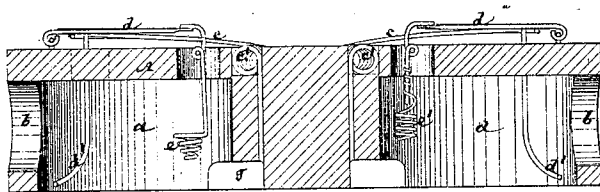
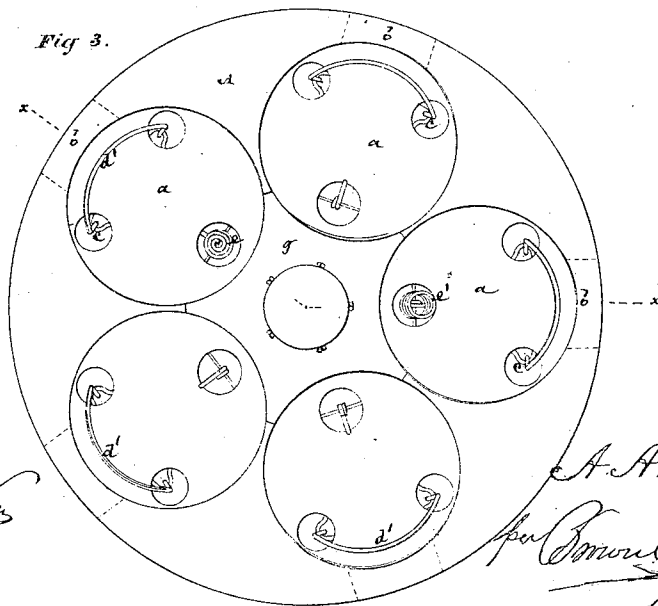


Fig 3.



Witnesses.
Fred. Hamer
R. R. Roberts

A. A. Hatchkiss
per Comstock & Co
A. Horner

United States Patent Office.

ASAHEL A. HOTCHKISS, OF SHARON, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 101,620, dated April 5, 1870.

IMPROVED MOUSE-TRAP.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ASAHEL A. HOTCHKISS, of Sharon, in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Mouse-Traps, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a top view of a mouse-trap constructed in accordance with my improvement;

Figure 2, a transverse section of the same, taken as indicated by the line $x x$ in

Figure 3, which represents an under view of the trap.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its main object the saving in the construction of mouse-traps of stock and labor, which, when these articles are made in large quantities, it becomes an important consideration to economize.

The improvement consists in a certain recessing of the block of the trap, whereby, as in the case of an ordinary round mouse-trap provided with a series of holes, I am enabled to get a larger number of holes in the same diameter of block, which saves stock; also, the number of borings in making the trap is reduced; likewise, the necessity for clinching of the springs to secure them is avoided.

Also, the invention consists in a novel construction of bait-holder, by making the same, at its bait-holding end, of wire, twisted to receive the bait through it, but so that the bait cannot be detached therefrom by the mouse, as so frequently is the case with an ordinary hook.

In the accompanying drawings—

A is the block of a round mouse-trap, of ordinary construction in its general features, that is to say, being provided with a series of holes a , made in the bottom of the block, accessible by apertures b from the exterior, for the mice to enter; also, being provided with the usual springs c , holding-down or setting-wires d thereto, killing-loops e , and bait-hooks or holders e .

In making such traps it is usual to make a central bore through the block whereby to chuck or hold it; also, in addition to boring the holes a and b , to recess or cut away the block at the backs of the holes a for the purpose of clinching the ends of the coils c of the springs, which require to be thus held by reason of the strain on the springs and the absence of support to them, as usually arranged on the top of the block.

This recessing at the backs of the holes a is also necessary to provide for the packing of the traps, by allowing the projecting coils of one trap to enter such recess in another trap. Not only is the clinching of the springs a tedious or laborious and uncertain operation,

but the recesses at the backs of the holes a involves additional work, and so cuts into the block as to reduce the number of holes, a , that might otherwise be got into the block.

In the trap, as here represented, there is no center hole in the block, but an annular groove, f , or, in the case of a very small trap, cylindrical recess without a center boss is made in the top of the block, and a reduction, g , made in it below, leaving a solid center.

This recessing may be said to be equivalent, in point of labor, to the boring of a center hole, but while the groove f answers the purpose of a center hole as regards chucking or centering the block whereby to bore the other holes, it also serves to receive within it and to support the coils c of the springs, so that they not only only present no protuberance to interfere with packing of the traps one upon the other, but the ends of them require no clinching, mere insertion of said ends into the blocks sufficing. This reduces labor as regards securing the springs, and the same have more than the usual stiffness given them; also the forming of recesses at the backs of the holes a , hereinbefore referred to, is dispensed with, so that I am enabled to get a greater number of holes a in a given sized block; thus the ordinary size for a four-hole block now makes five; and by doing away with said recesses at the backs of the holes a I save four borings in a five-hole block, counting the reduction g as a boring. In this way I economize both stock and labor; also any number of traps may be close packed one upon the other.

Instead of a hook, the bait-holder I prefer to use is shown at e or e' , and which consists in giving the bait-holding end of the wire, or attachment thereto, a spiral form, either of a tapering or straight character, so that the bait, such as soft cheese, may be entered through it (from above or below) and squeezing through the spaces between the spirals, be projected below and made to conceal said end of the wire, but effectually preventing alike the dropping off of the bait or its removal by the mouse without releasing the spring c with which such bait-holder is connected.

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The arrangement of the coiled portions c of the springs within a recess or groove, f , made in the upper surface of the block A, substantially as and for the purpose or purposes herein set forth.

2. In combination with the above, the bait-holder e or e' made of wire twisted to form a series of coils at its bait-holding end, essentially as specified.

A. A. HOTCHKISS.

Witnesses:

E. VINCENT,
NEWTON HEBARD.