

Davis & Frost,

Mouse Trap.

No. 105048.

Patented July 5, 1870.

Fig. 1.

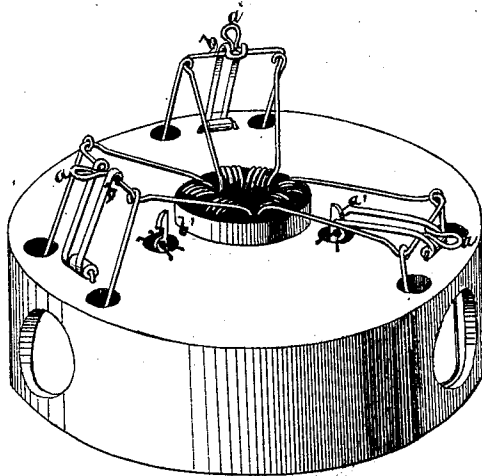
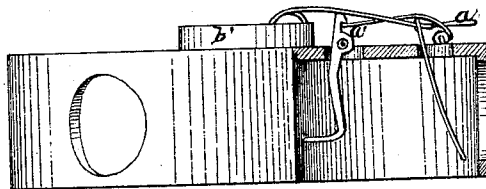


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

*S. J. Rogers*  
*C. H. Larson*

Inventor

*A. G. Davis + H. S. Frost, by*  
*H. W. Beadle, atty*

# United States Patent Office.

ANTHONY G. DAVIS, AND HENRY S. FROST, OF WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNORS TO DAVIS & WOOLSON, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 105,048, dated July 5, 1870.

## IMPROVED MOUSE-TRAP.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANTHONY G. DAVIS, and HENRY S. FROST, of Watertown, in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Mouse-Trap; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to mouse-traps, and consists of certain improved features, hereinafter fully set forth.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved trap.

Figure 2 is a side elevation in partial section.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will now proceed to describe fully its construction and operation.

The trap represented is of the ordinary circular form and construction, having cavities and openings, as usual in such traps.

The springs, three of which are shown, are of the form commonly used in this sort of trap, with the exception of the projection *a* formed on the outer end, by binding the wire in the shape of a loop, as clearly shown.

Pivoted where the ordinary wire-lever is placed is a slotted-lever, of form shown in fig. 1. This lever is cut from metal plate, of thickness sufficient to afford proper thickness. One end is turned over to form a loop for the staple which holds it to the wood. The other end may be plain, as shown at *a'*, in fig. 1, or bent over, as at *b*, in fig. 1. In both cases the slot, closed at both ends, incloses the loop on the end of the spring, which loop plays throughout its entire length as the spring rises or falls, action of the spring being limited by the length of the slotted lever. The lever shown at *b*, in fig. 1, is bent on its upper end, so as to clasp the cross-bar of the spring, when elevated. The lever in both forms is bent, so as properly to conform in its action to the spring. The cross-piece at the upper end catches under the shoulder on the upper end of the bait-hook. The length of the lever is properly adapted to the position of the hook, which may be so hung as to swing forward, and catch automatically on the end of the lever.

The bait-hook is hung upon two crossed wires, which are fixed properly in the wood, and diverge sufficiently to hold the hook through which they pass in suitable position, and prevent lateral movement,

likely to take place when one wire is used as a pivot. The coiled ends of the spring are fixed to the trap as usual, but is further supported by the hoop *b*. This is formed of tin or any suitable thin metal, let into a circular slot or kerf, inclosing the coil and supporting and steadying the springs.

We are aware that it is not new to support springs in a trap of this character, by sinking the coiled end into a circular central cavity, but our hoop of thin metal set in the kerf is more effective and of cheaper construction.

It will be observed that the loops and slotted levers serve to hold both levers and springs in place, rendering it unnecessary to manipulate the lever, while the loop serves as a knob for the thumb in pushing down the spring. The whole is also very cheaply made. The bent form at *b*, fig. 1, serves perhaps to hold the spring more certainly, and leaves more room for the thumb on the loop.

It will be readily seen that this construction facilitates the setting of the trap, it being necessary merely to press down the spring, which can be done with one hand, while the other holds the trap. The whole is also very little liable to get out of order. The exterior form of the trap is not essential; it may be square or polygonal.

Having thus fully described our invention,

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of a slotted lever with the spring bow of a mouse-trap, when the bow is provided with a suitable projection for the purpose of guiding the lever to the bait-hook, as described.

2. In combination with the slotted lever, the specific construction of the loop on the spring, as set forth.

3. The combination of the ring *b'* with the coiled ends of the springs, as described.

4. The trap described, consisting of the block-springs, bows with projection *a*, choking-straps, bait-hooks and ring, when combined and arranged as described.

This specification signed and witnessed this day of 186

ANTHONY G. DAVIS.  
HENRY S. FROST.

Witnesses:

ORRIN S. STARR,  
F. O. BOWERS.