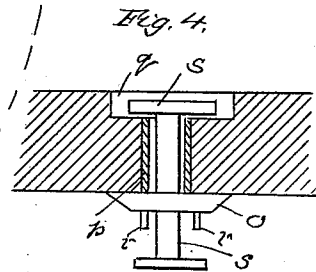
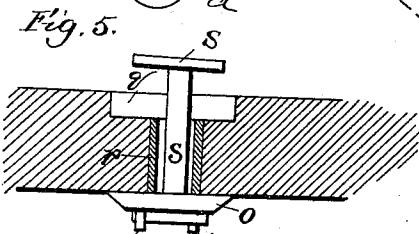
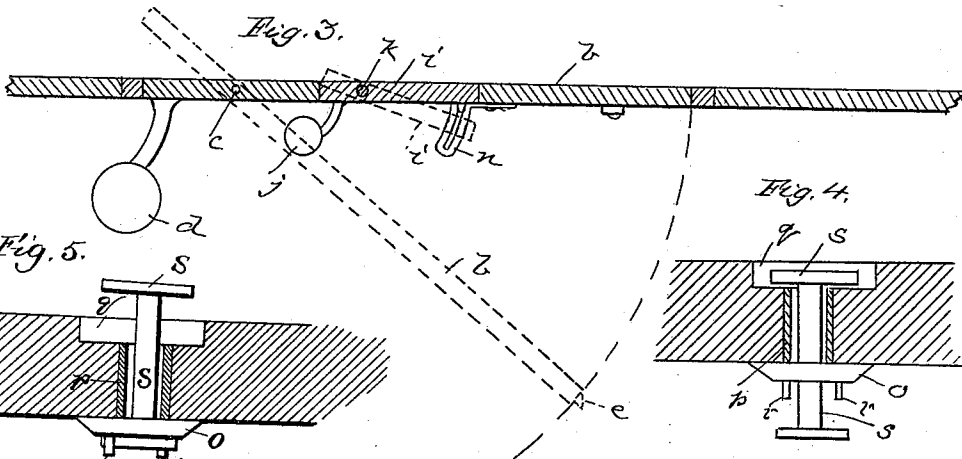
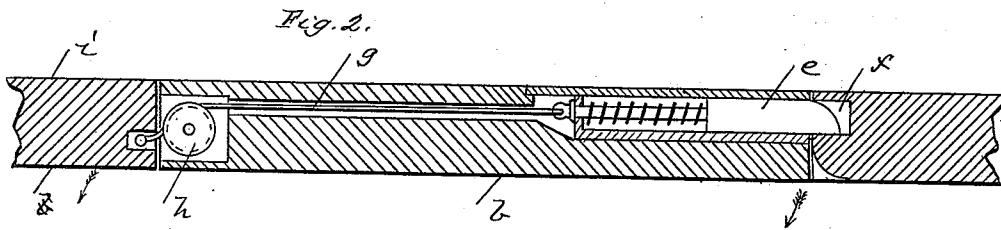
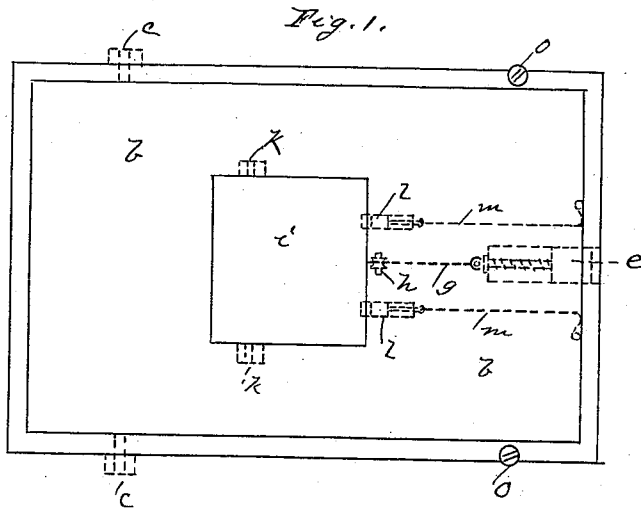


(No Model.)

W. F. McCREADY.
BURGLAR OR ANIMAL TRAP.

No. 463,537.

Patented Nov. 17, 1891.



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BURGLAR OR ANIMAL TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 463,537, dated November 17, 1891.

Application filed January 7, 1891. Serial No. 377,034. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. MCCREADY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Homewood, in the county of Beaver and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burglar or Animal Traps; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improved animal or burglar trap; and it consists in certain details of construction and combination of parts, as will be fully described hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved trap, which is constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional elevation of the bolting device. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation showing in dotted line the position of the trap when sprung. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional elevation of one of the "buttons" or locks to avoid accidents. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the device for locking and holding the main flap in position.

To put my invention into practice I form an oblong opening in the floor of a building, if for trapping burglars, and arrange in said opening a pivoted flap *b*, which fills the opening and is pivoted *c* back of the center and provided with a weight *d*, which will keep the flap *b* in a horizontal position. Arranged at the forward end of this flap *b* is a spring-actuated bolt *e*, which is adapted to engage in a recess *f*, formed in the frame-work surrounding the flap *b*. Attached to this bolt *e* is a cord *g*, which extends back some distance over a small pulley *h* and is connected to a small flap *i*, arranged near the center of the large one *b*, and provided with a weight *j* and pivots *k*, analogous with the large flap, before described. This small flap *i* is locked by two small bolts *l*, which, when engaged with recesses formed in the front of the same, locks the small flap *i* and prevents the trap from being sprung. Attached to these small bolts *l* are cords *m*, which extend to the front of the large flap *b*, which provides a means for operating the same. Arranged beneath the

small flap *i* is a stop or check *n*, which will limit the movement of the same. As an extra precaution of safety, I arrange at each side of the large flap *b* two buttons *o*, which are secured in the frame-work, and when partly turned move across the flap *b* and render the same safe. These buttons *o* consist in a piece having an upwardly-extending sleeve *p* and cup *q*, secured loosely in the frame-work of the floor. Projecting from the under side of this button *o* are two pins *r*, which are adapted to lock the button *o* to a handle *s*, having a cross on each end. The object of this arrangement is to have the handle beneath the surface of the floor.

In operation the buttons *o* are disengaged from the flap *b* and the small bolts *l* disengaged from the small flap *i*, which places the trap in condition for use. Should a burglar tread on the small flap *i*, the same will turn downward, which draws the large bolt *e* from its socket *f*, and the weight will place the large flap in an inclined or vertical position, which will throw the burglar into a tight box or receptacle arranged below for that purpose.

To adapt this trap to animals the size of the same is greatly reduced; but the principle of the invention is adhered to and the "bait" placed beneath the small flap *i*.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of a main flap pivotally secured in a floor, a spring-actuated bolt operating in said flap and projecting into a keeper in the floor to hold the flap in place, and a supplemental flap pivoted within and forming a part of the main flap, said supplemental flap being connected with the bolt which sustains the main flap and adapted to withdraw said bolt as the supplemental flap is depressed, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of a main flap pivotally secured in a floor, a spring-actuated bolt operating in said flap and arranged to enter a keeper in the floor to hold the flap in place, a supplemental flap pivotally secured within and forming a part of the main flap, the pins carried by the main flap and engaging the supplemental flap to hold the same in a horizontal position, and a connection between the supplemental flap and the bolt which sustains the main flap, adapted to withdraw said bolt

when the supplemental flap is depressed, and thereby permit the main flap to fall and the counterbalance-weights on said flaps to return them to their normal positions, as and for the purpose described.

3. A device for holding a trap in a horizontal position, consisting of a sleeve fitted in a floor close to the trap, a handle loosely fitted in said sleeve and having the cross-pieces on either end thereof, the button *o*, secured to said handle, and the downwardly-projecting pins carried by said button and adapted to

revolve and pass under the trap to support the same when the handle is raised and the cross-piece is engaged with the pins, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I hereunto affix my signature this 8th day of September, A. D. 1890.

WILLIAM F. MCCREADY. [L. S.]

In presence of—

CHARLES LARGE,
M. E. HARRISON.