

(No Model.)

G. E. LANDIS.
ANIMAL GUN TRAP.

No. 520,164.

Patented May 22, 1894.

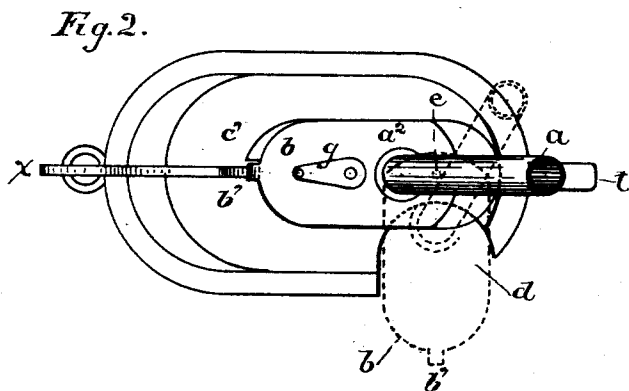
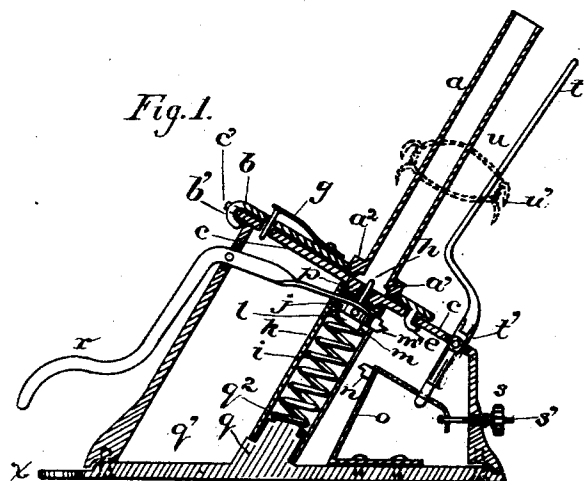
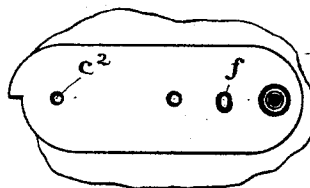


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE EDWARD LANDIS, OF LA GRANDE, OREGON.

ANIMAL GUN-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 520,164, dated May 22, 1894.

Application filed July 29, 1893. Serial No. 481,889. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE EDWARD LANDIS, of La Grande, Union county, State of Oregon, have invented a new and Improved Animal Gun-Trap; of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings as constituting a part hereof.

The object of my invention is to obtain an animal trap, more especially for use on large game, which is baited in the usual way and which kills the animal attempting to remove such bait by shooting the same in the mouth through the head, the mechanism which I employ for this purpose being particularly designed and adapted to accomplish this result.

The principle and working of my invention will be best understood by referring to and describing the drawings accompanying this specification and constituting a part thereof.

Figure 1, of such drawings is a partial vertical section of my invention, showing its co-operating mechanism. Fig. 2, is a top view of the same also showing the barrel plate, turned to one side for the purpose of loading, in broken lines, and Fig. 3, is a partial top view of the housing of my invention, the barrel plate being removed.

The letters designate the parts referred to in the description.

a is a gun barrel adapted at its base (*a'*) to receive the rim of a cartridge inserted in the barrel, and having also an enlarged threaded rim or collar *a*² at its base, so as to adapt the same to be screwed in a threaded hole in the barrel plate *b*. The latter is intended to be firmly locked to the roof *c* of the housing of my trap, while the trap is set, but at the same time admit of being unlocked again so that such plate *b* may be turned sidewise when loading, to bring the opening in the base of the barrel over an opening *d* left in one side of the housing for loading purposes. To facilitate the working of said parts in the way described I pivotally secure the plate *b* to the top of the roof *c* by a pin *e* secured in the lower side of such plate *b*, and bent over at its end as seen; and the roof *c* has an elongated hole *f* in which such pin *e* may be inserted. The plate *b* may therefore be turned sidewise as represented in dotted lines in Fig. 2, and still be

held on the roof *c*; and, if necessary, the barrel-plate *b* may also be removed entirely. A cartridge having been inserted in the barrel *a*, the plate *b* is returned to its proper place over the roof *c* and in so doing the bent-over end *b'* of the plate *b* engages with the end of said roof *c*, as shown in Fig. 1 a stop *c'*, being an end projection of such roof, stopping said plate *b* so as to bring a spring-pin *g* in line with and permit the same to drop through a hole *c*² in said roof, and a corresponding hole in the said plate *b*, consequently when in its right position, one end of the plate *b* is secured by the pivot *e*, the other end by the bent end *b*² clamped over the end of the roof, and the spring-pin *g* locking the plate *b* in place.

The barrel *a*, may be unscrewed and removed, and substituted by another barrel of desired caliber.

It is my intention that in manufacturing my trap several barrels of different caliber will be furnished, some, perhaps, also of greater length than the others, as may be found necessary, all of such barrels being however provided with a threaded collar or rim *a*² of the same size, so that one may be substituted for the other.

The cartridge in the barrel is exploded by a needle *h* being violently propelled against the same by the recoil of a spring *i*. The needle *n* is fastened to a disk *j* contained in a tube *k*, in which it fits loosely. The bottom of such disk *j* has an annular lug *l* whereby such disk is seated on the spring *i*; the disk further has a horizontal pin *m* and a lug *m'*, constructed as shown, and the latter is adapted to engage with a similar lug *n* secured on a spring *o*. The two ends of the pin *m* and the lug *m'* project through the casing of the tube *k* and move in vertical slots provided in such casing. The ends of said tube *n* are held in place between a lug *p* on the bottom of the roof, and a lug *q* on the bottom plate *q'* the top end of said lug *q* being also adapted to have the lower end of the spring *i* seated thereon. The lever *r* is pivoted in the rear wall of the housing, and by means thereof the coil spring *i* is compressed so as to bring the two lugs *m'* and *n* in engagement with each other. The spring *o*, and with it the lug *n* carried thereby may

be adjusted by a set screw s drawing in or lengthening a rod s' , to make the contact of the two lugs $m' n$ when the trigger t is set firm or fine.

5 The trigger is preferably constructed in two pieces the upper screwing in the lower u' , which is pivoted in the roof of the housing, as seen. This construction enables the upper end of the trigger to be removed, for
10 packing purposes; or when the same is to be substituted by another trigger of smaller or larger size.

u is a baiting loop with prong-like projections u' on which to fasten the bait to better
15 cover up the barrel and prevent the loose ends of the bait from hanging down off the trigger.

The incline of the barrel, and the adapting of the trigger to work by compression against
20 the same is one of the special features of my invention, the bait covering both, and the animal in trying to secure such bait being induced to open its mouth right over the barrel, and if it then closes its jaws to take
25 hold of the bait, or even presses against the same with its tongue it will explode the cartridge, and inflict a mortal wound, as the direction of the bullet would be in line to penetrate its brain. The bait should, of course,
30 be secured before setting the trigger to avoid

accident. The trap should be placed under a fallen log or place dug for it, so that the animal would be more or less induced to reach its mouth over the barrel in taking hold of the bait. The trap could also be
35 provided with a ring whereby to hang it on a tree within the reach of certain game, but beyond the reach of game not wanted.

Having thus described my invention, now what I claim is—

40 In an animal gun-trap, the combination of a removable gun-barrel adapted to receive a ball-cartridge in its lower end, a suitable lock or mechanism for exploding the cartridge that may be inserted in said gun-barrel, means for
45 setting said lock or discharge mechanism, an adjustable trigger arranged as specified and a baiting loop with prongs encircling the barrel and trigger and adapted to release the
50 said lock or discharging mechanism when such loop is drawn toward the mouth of the barrel by compressing the trigger against the gun-barrel to discharge the trap-gun, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed
55 my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE EDWARD LANIER.

Witnesses:

T. J. GREISER,

R. E. SEWALL.