

(No Model.)

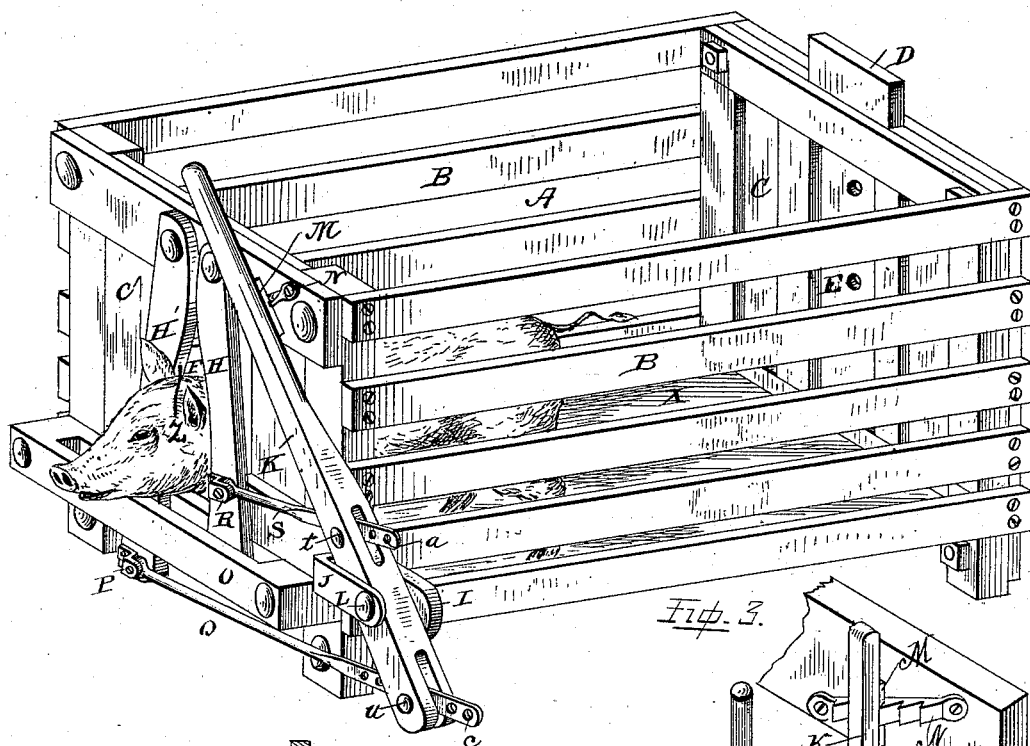
H. C. LOWER.

HOG TRAP.

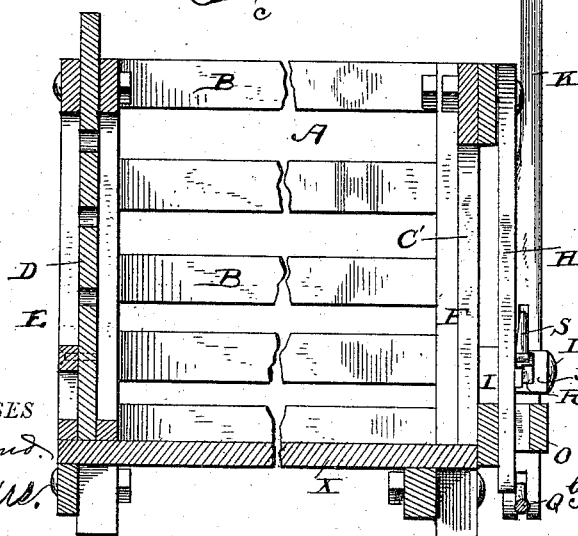
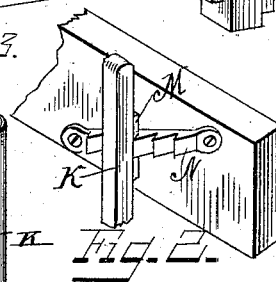
No. 305,609.

Patented Sept. 23, 1884.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 3.*



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY CLINTON LOWER, OF ARCADIA, INDIANA.

## HOG-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,609, dated September 23, 1884.

Application filed February 16, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY CLINTON LOWER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Arcadia, in the county of Hamilton and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Hog-Trap, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to hog-traps; and it has for its object to provide simple, convenient, and efficient means whereby the operation of ringing the hogs may be performed with ease and without any unnecessary delay or trouble.

To this end it consists in certain details of construction and combination of parts as hereinafter set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the operation of my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a portion of the hand-lever, illustrating more clearly the means for holding it in the adjusted position.

Like letters refer to corresponding parts in the several figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the trap, comprising the base or floor X, the side rails, B, and the end pieces, C C', said parts being arranged in the form of a rectangular box or casing, as shown, and provided with suitable legs or strips to raise it above the ground. The rear end of the trap is provided with a sliding door, D, covering an opening or passage, E, through which the hogs pass as they enter the trap, the front end of said trap having an opening, F, directly on a line with the rear opening, E.

H H' designate a pair of jaws, pivoted at their upper ends to the upper part of end piece C', above the opening F, the inner adjacent edges of the jaws being recessed at Z, so as to conform to the shape of the hog. A bar, I, extends outward from one side of the end piece C', and is provided with an angle-plate, J, secured to its end, a lever, K, being pivoted by a rod, L, between the angle-plate and the bar I, and extending upward above the trap. To the inner face of the lever K is secured a projection, M, which is adapted to engage with the

teeth of a notched plate, N, attached to the upper end of end piece C'. A cross-bar, O, is secured over the lower ends of the jaws and holds them in place, said jaws working laterally in the space between the cross-bar and the end C'. An angular plate, P, is secured to the lower end of the jaw H', which projects downward beyond the other jaw, H, a connecting-rod, Q, being pivoted in the said plate and connecting at its other end with the lower end of the lever K. A similar plate, R, is attached to the jaw H above the cross-bar O, a connecting-rod, S, being pivoted in said plate and connecting at its other end with said lever K, so that when the lever is operated both jaws will simultaneously open or close as desired. The outer ends of the connecting-rods S Q are provided with a series of openings, *a c*, respectively, screws or bolts *t u* securing the rods to the lever by passing through any one of the openings, so that by withdrawing said bolts and passing them through other openings the length of the connecting-rods will be increased or diminished, as desired, so as to regulate the extent to which the jaws may be opened.

The operation of my invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the annexed drawings. The rear door, D, is opened to allow the passage of the hog into the trap, the jaws being spread apart, so as to leave the opening F uncovered. The rear door is then closed and the animal walks toward the opening F, and when his head has protruded a sufficient distance through said opening, the lever K is operated to cause the closing of the jaws, which will hold the hog by the neck while the ring is being inserted in the usual manner. The projection M, in connection with the notched plate N, serves to hold the lever in its closed position while the operator is ringing the hog, while the connection of the lever with the jaws permits the simultaneous operation of the latter to hold the animal in place.

It will be seen that my improved hog-trap is simple, durable, convenient, and inexpensive in its construction, and effective in operation, the hog being caught by the hinged jaws and held securely while the operator is ringing

him. The notched plate enables the jaws to be retained at various distances apart, so as to accommodate the different sizes of the hogs, the recess Z permitting the jaws to fit around the animal and form a tight hold. The jaws will work readily under the operation of the lever, and cannot be pushed out of place, since the cross-bar O fits over their lower ends, as shown.

Other advantages of my construction are apparent; but they need not be particularly pointed out here.

Having described my invention, I claim—

As an improvement in hog-traps, the combination, with the trap having an opening at its front end, of a pair of pivoted jaws, H H', arranged to partly close said opening, the jaw H' being longer and extending below the other, a cross-bar, O, adapted to allow the lateral

movement of the jaws and yet hold them from working forward, a bar, I, attached to the trap, and provided with an angle-plate, J, a lever, K, pivoted between the bar and the angle-plate, an adjustable connecting-rod, Q, attached to the longer jaw H' and to the lower end of the lever K, and an adjustable rod, S, connecting the other jaw, H, to the said lever, a notched plate N, attached to the trap, and a projection, M, secured to the lever, and adapted to engage with the notches or teeth of said plate, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY CLINTON LOWER.

Witnesses:

J. W. NEWBY,

JACOB CARROLL.