

H. L. FERRIS.

Fly-Traps.

No. 166,268.

Patented Aug. 3, 1875.

Fig. 1.

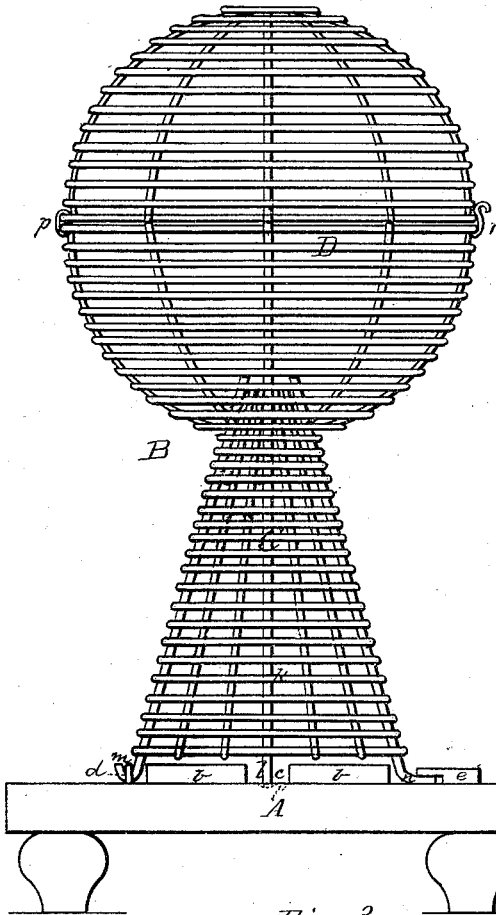


Fig. 2.

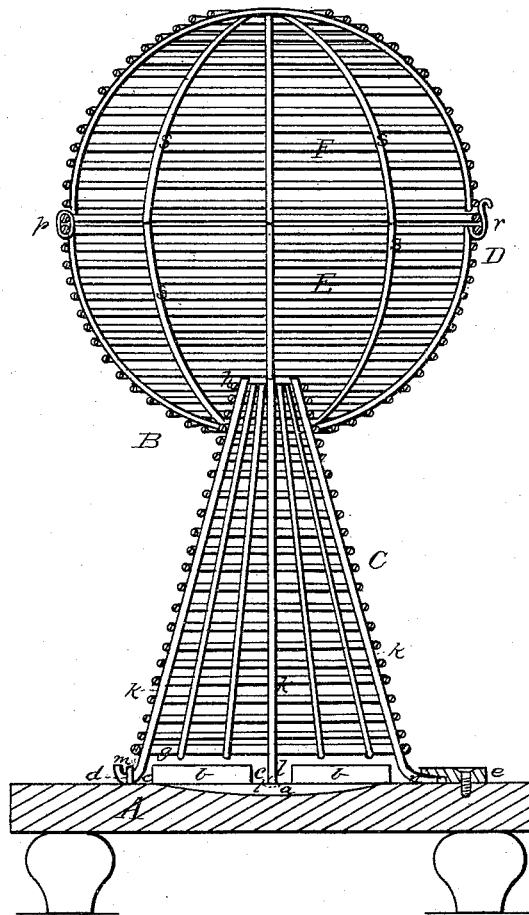
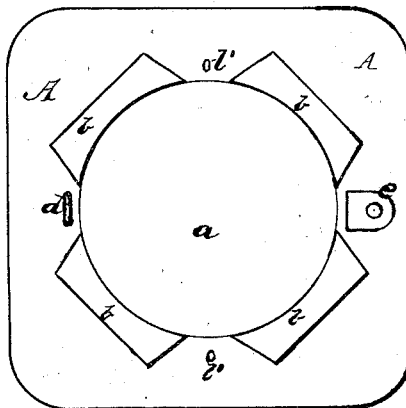


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY L. FERRIS, OF ALDEN, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FLY-TRAPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **166,268**, dated August 3, 1875; application filed June 19, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY L. FERRIS, of Alden, in the county of McHenry and State of Illinois, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Fly-Traps; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a side view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the base.

This invention has relation to fly-traps; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of the conical passage or lower portion, and the sectional spherical top or reservoir, all formed of wire. It also consists in the novel construction of the base and the connecting devices for the wire-cloth cap, whereby it is rendered easily and quickly removable, all as hereinafter fully shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the wooden platform or base of the trap. This is constructed with a central hollow or depression, *a*, for the reception of bait. Around this hollow are arranged the segmental cleats *b b*, between the adjacent ends of which are passages *c*. Just outside of one of these passages is placed a staple, *d*, and outside the opposite passage a button, *e*. B represents the wire cage. This consists of the conical lower portion or passage C and the spherical top D. The cone C is formed by coiling the wire, which is of small size, spirally around a series of longitudinal wires, which extend upward from a base-ring, *g*, to a ring, *h*, at the apex, through which the flies pass from the cone into the spherical reservoir, which is connected with the cone a little distance below said ring *h*. At equal distances apart the cone is provided with four principal ribs or braces, *k*, which extend above the ring *h*, and are inclined toward each other, as shown, at this portion, to offer an obstruction to the passage of the flies backward into the cone. The lower ends of these ribs terminate in feet about equal in length to the

thickness of the cleats *b*, so that the base-ring *g* may rest on these cleats. Of these feet, two, *l l*, terminate somewhat abruptly, and are fixed in position by entering small holes or depressions *l' l'* in the base. The other two, which are at right angles with the feet *l l*, are provided, respectively, with a hook, as shown at *m*, and with a toe, as indicated at *n*. By means of the hook and toe, connection is readily made with the staple *d* and button *e* of the base. The spiral coils of the wire, which is wound around and soldered to the ribs, form rounds or steps, upon which the flies travel rapidly upward into the reservoir. The spherical top or reservoir is made in two sections, E and F. These sections are hemispherical, and are hinged together at *p*; the lower section E, which is soldered to the cone, having hooks or catches *r*, whereby the sections are securely connected when the covering section F is shut down. Each section is formed by extending coils of small wire in spiral form around the bent ribs *s*, which run at right angles to the horizontal coils, in the direction of meridians upon the sphere.

This fly-trap has been designed with especial reference to facility of cleansing. The cap can be readily and quickly detached from the base for this purpose, and the opening of the sections of the reservoir itself is the work of a moment. The parts being thus separated, their cleansing can be readily effected.

I am aware that a hollow conical base resting on legs has heretofore been employed in connection with a sphere of wire-gauze divided and hinged horizontally, with a cylindrical compartment attached thereto, the latter covered with gauze, and having openings in the edges, and I therefore lay no claim to such invention.

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

1. The combination of the base A, cleats *b*, recess *a*, staple *d*, bent ends of the upright rods, and button *e*, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the sphere D and cone-passage C, projecting within said sphere, and constructed with longitudinal ribs of large wire, and spiral coils of small wire, substantially as shown and described.

3. The conical cap-supporter C, having longitudinal wire ribs, and a surrounding coil of small wire, four of said ribs projecting above and below its apex and base, to form a guide to the entrance at one end, and means of fastening the trap to the base-plate at the other end, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY LAKINS FERRIS.

Witnesses:

SYLVANUS FERRIS,  
SYLVANUS FREEMAN.