

**Collection #
SC 0375**

**M. D. FOWLER
DRAWINGS, 1868**

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Processed by

Jessica Smyth
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: One folder

COLLECTION
DATES: August 1868

PROVENANCE: Royall Purcell, Bloomington, IN

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NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

M.D. Fowler of Vincennes, Indiana created an improved version of the rat-trap and received a patent for it on August 18, 1868. His invention was published in various Indiana newspapers as well as the Scientific American journal of New York. The trap was built so that when the animal would go for the bait, the bottom would fall out and the animal would be contained in a receptacle below.

Sources:

"Recent American and Foreign Patents." *Scientific American* volume 19, no. 10 (Sept. 1886): 156. <http://chesswanks.com/SAW/1868-09-02.pdf>.

United States Patent Office. *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the Year 1868*. Washington Government Printing Office, 1870.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This folder contains two printed drawings with color of the trap, as well as the description and claim of the Improved Rat-Trap from the United States Patent Office.

CONTENTS

Improved rat-trap patent, no. 81268

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