UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FURMIN F. MORTIMER, OF FLORENCE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF OF HIS RIGHT TO GEORGE G. BAHNTE, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN LOCOMOTIVE-PILOTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 222,149, dated December 2, 1879; application filed August 26, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FURMIN F. MORTIMER, of Florence, in the county of Darlington and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Locomotive-Pilots; 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 drawing is a vertical section of my invention attached to a locomotive.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in that class of locomotive-pilots formed of a three-sided receptacle or enclosure having a bottom or platform adapted to yield and descend under contact with the object collided with, to safely receive and retain the living object crossing the track instead of throwing the same off the track; and the novelty consists in forming the pilot of a three-sided receptacle, and in providing it with a centrally-pivoted grate or cradle, which is adapted to retain an object collided with within the receptacle; and is also consists in providing devices for retaining the cradle in position, as will be hereinafter fully set forth and pointed out in the claims.

On the annexed drawing, A A A" represent the sides of a receptacle, which is braced by the beams A' A' A', the whole being firmly attached to the locomotive. To the sides A A (only one side shown) of the receptacle is pivoted, by means of a cross-bar, d, a curved cradle or grate, B. The cradle B is attached to a hinged beam, C, on the front of the pilot by connecting-rods D D, which are attached to the cradle B and beam C by the couplings e b.

The weight of the beam C serves to hold the cradle in its normal position.

When an object, such as a cow or other animal, is collided with it falls upon the curved cradle B, which turns and assumes the position shown in dotted lines, in which position the cradle is held by the ratchet-bar and weighted pawl F. The animal is thus retained within the receptacle, which prevents the train from being thrown from the track, and saves the life of the animal.

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

1. In combination with a locomotive-pilot, formed of a three-sided receptacle and provided with a curved cradle centrally pivoted, a ratchet-wheel arranged on the pivotal shaft of the cradle, and a pawl to automatically engage with the ratchet-wheel to hold said cradle in position, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. In combination with a three-sided receptacle, A A A", a curved cradle, B, pivoted in the center, and connected to a hinged beam, C, by rods D D, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a locomotive-pilot, the combination of a three-sided receptacle, A A A", curved pivoted cradle B, ratchet F, weighted pawl F, connecting-rods D D, and hinged beam C, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

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

F. F. MORTIMER.

Witnesses:

G. McD. STOLL,
W. C. ROUMILLET.