

(No Model.)

J. SPAIN.
FOLDING CRATE.

No. 449,007.

Patented Mar. 24, 1891.

Fig 1

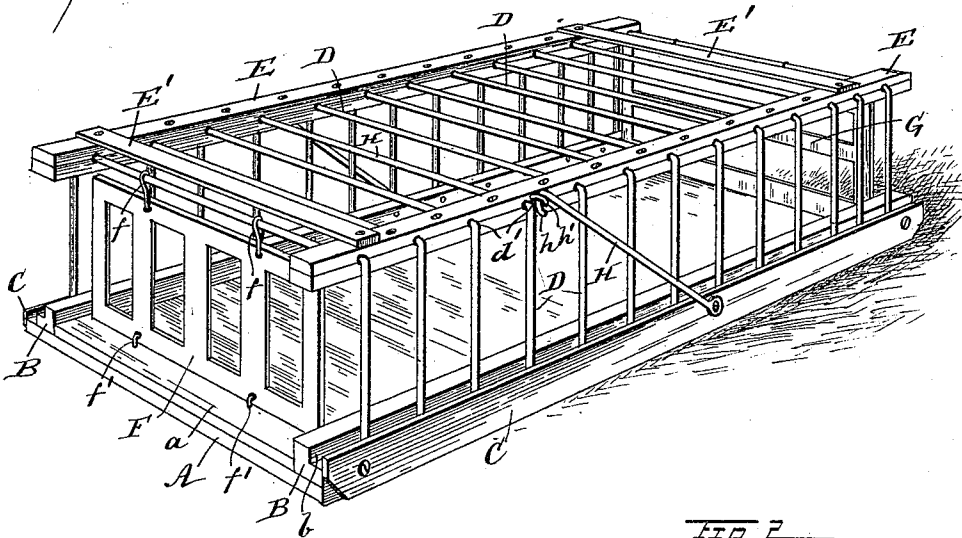


Fig 2

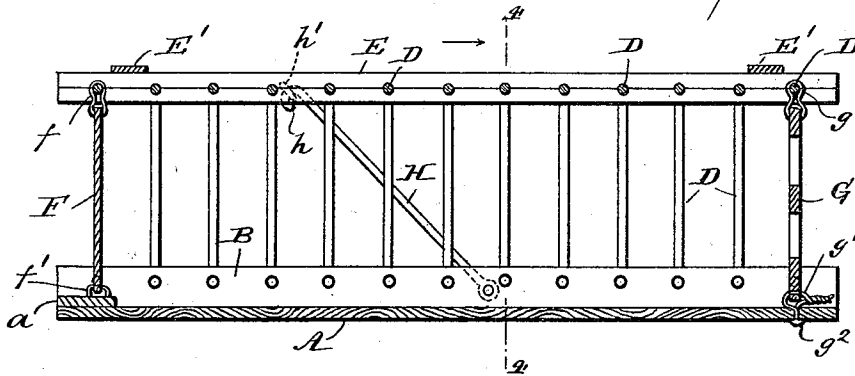


Fig 3

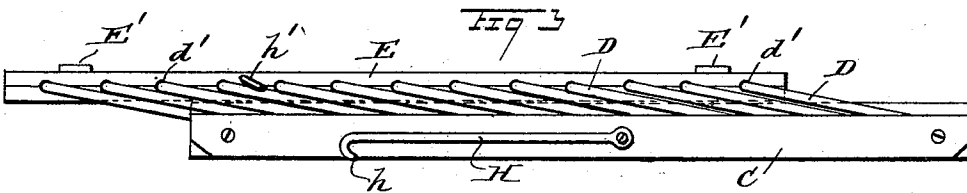
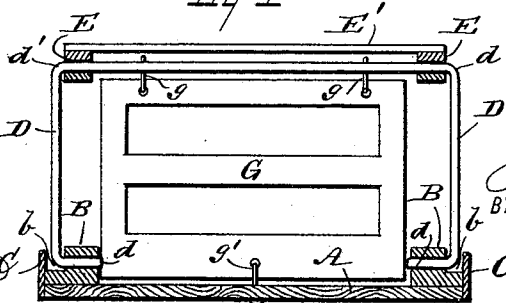


Fig 4



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JOB SPAIN, OF BELLE CENTRE, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CHARLES MAINS, OF SAME PLACE.

FOLDING CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 449,007, dated March 24, 1891.

Application filed December 30, 1890. Serial No. 376,227. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOB SPAIN, of Belle Centre, in the county of Logan and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Chicken Coop and Crate, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in that class of chicken coops and crates in which fowls of various kinds are kept and transported alive; and the object of my invention is to produce a light and airy but strong and durable chicken coop and crate which may be easily arranged to receive the fowls, and which when empty may be folded into a very small compass, so that it may be conveniently and cheaply transported.

To this end my invention consists in a coop and crate constructed substantially as hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the coop and crate in a position to receive fowls. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the crate in a folded position; and Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow.

The crate is provided with a floor A, which is adapted to rest flatwise on any suitable support, and on the upper side of the floor near each edge is a sill B, the outer sides of the sills being flush with the outer edges of the floor, and the sills are cut away on their outer and upper surfaces, as shown at *b*, so that when the side strips C are secured to the edges of the floor a recess will be formed between the side strips and the upper portions of the sill in which the rods D may swing.

The side strips C are of the same height as the sills and floor combined, and the strips serve to prevent the displacement of the rods D. The rods D have their ends bent into a horizontal position, as shown at *d*, so as to enter suitable perforations in the sills B, and the rods then extend upwardly and are bent twice at a right angle, as shown at *d'*, and the rods thus form the sides and top

of the coop and crate, the rods being placed such a distance apart that a small fowl cannot pass between them. The upper corner-plates E of the crate are mounted on the upper portions of the rods D, and the corner-plates correspond in length to the length of the sills B and align vertically with the sills, so that when they are folded down, as shown in Fig. 3, they will rest upon the tops of the sills. The corner-plates consist each of two strips notched to receive the rods D and held together by screws.

The corner-plates are held a desired distance apart by means of the cross-strips E', which are secured to the upper sides thereof. The corner-plates are mounted loosely on the rods D, and the lower ends of the rods turn loosely on the sills B, so that when the crate is to be closed the rods will turn in their bearings and the corner-plates E and sills B may be easily brought together. One end of the coop and crate is closed by a slotted end board F, which is pivoted to one of the rods D by the links *f*, and which is also secured to a cleat *a* on the floor A by suitable staples *f'*, so that when the crate is folded the end board may swing and lie flatwise, or nearly flatwise, on the floor of the crate. At the opposite end of the crate is a door G, which is also slotted, and which is secured to one of the rods B by the links *g*, so that it may swing freely on the rod, and the lower edge of the door has a suitable wire fastening *g'*, which extends downward through the floor and is held by a lead seal *g''*, which may be easily broken, but this manner of fastening the door is not material and any suitable fastening may be used. On opposite sides of the crate are rods H, the lower ends of which are pivoted to the side strips C and the free ends of which terminate in hooks *h*, the hooks being adapted to engage eyes *h'* on the outer sides of the corner-plates E. It will thus be seen that when the corner-plates and sills are to be held apart, so that fowls may be inserted and transported in the crate, the rods H are hooked into the eyes *h'*, and the crate will be held in such a manner that it cannot fold together, and when the crate is emptied and it is desired to fold it the rods are unhooked from the eyes, and by pushing endwise on

the crate-top the corner-plates and rods D will swing and the plates will lie flatwise upon the sills B, as shown in Fig. 3.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the coop and crate is very simple in construction, and that it may almost instantly be folded together or placed in a position to receive fowls.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A coop and crate comprising a floor, a series of rods pivoted thereon and shaped to form the sides and top of the crate, corner-plates uniting the rods at their upper portions, and a suitable end board and door, substantially as described.

2. A coop and crate comprising a floor having sills on opposite sides thereof, a series of rods pivoted to the sills and shaped to form the sides and top of the crate, corner-plates mounted on the upper portions of the rods, and a suitable end board and door secured to the end rods and floor, substantially as described.

3. A coop and crate comprising a floor, a series of rods pivoted thereon and shaped to

form the sides and top of the crate, corner-plates mounted on the upper portions of the rods, a suitable end board and door for the crate, and means for holding the rods and corner-plates in an elevated position, substantially as described.

4. A coop and crate comprising a floor, a series of rods pivoted thereon and shaped to form the sides and top of the crate, corner-plates mounted on the upper portions of the rods and connected together, as shown, an end board pivoted on one of the rods and suitably secured to the floor, a door pivoted on a rod at the opposite end of the crate, and a hook and eye for holding the top of the crate in a raised position, substantially as described.

5. In a coop and crate, the combination, with the floor, the sills, and the pivoted rods connecting the sills with the crate-top, the sills being recessed, as described, of the side strips secured to the floor and sills, substantially as described.

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