W. A. WHITMORE.

HOUSE FOR POULTRY OR ANIMALS.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 24, 1915.

1,200,557. Patented Oct. 10, 1916.

Fig. 1.

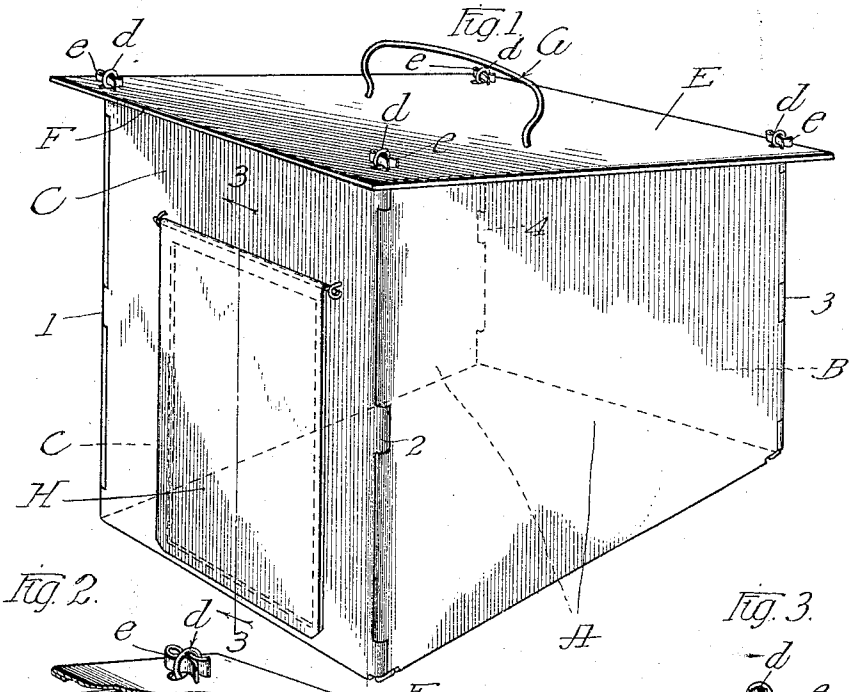


Fig. 2.

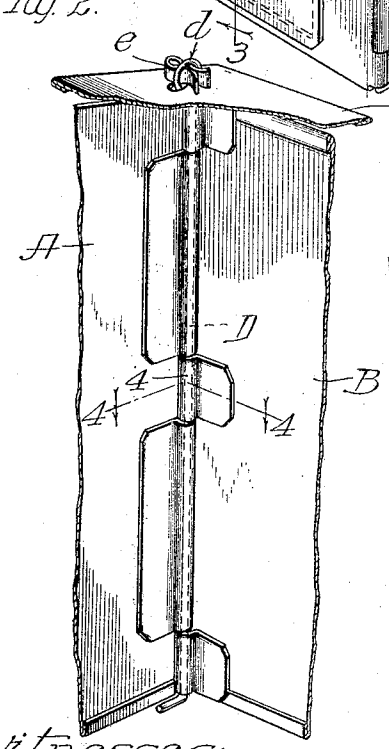


Fig. 4.

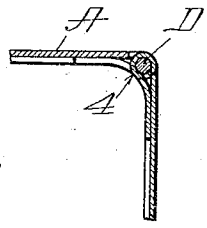
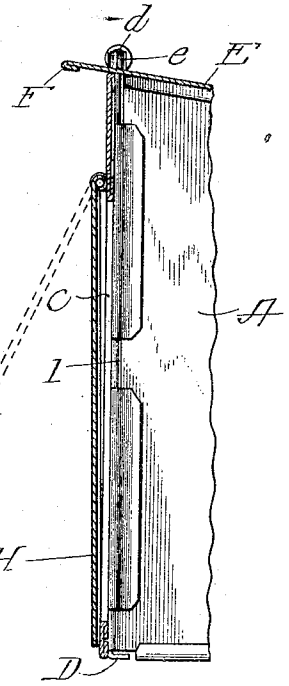


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Robert F. Weir
Stephen Pebora

Inventor
William A. Whitmore
By Arthur F. Durand Atty.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. WHITMORE, OF GALVA, ILLINOIS.

HOUSE FOR POULTRY OR ANIMALS.

1,200,557. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 10, 1916.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. WHITMORE, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Galva, Henry county, Illinois, (residence address 718 Northeast Second avenue,) have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Houses for Poultry or Animals, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to folding or collapsible houses for poultry or animals.

The object of my invention, generally stated, is to provide a novel and satisfactory house or inclosure for poultry or animals, of such simple construction that it may be manufactured at a comparatively low cost of production, and may be folded or collapsed and reduced to a perfectly flat condition for transportation or storage.

A special object is to provide an improved construction and arrangement whereby the walls and roof of the house may be of sheet metal, and whereby the upper ends of the hinges by which the walls are connected together at the corners of the house may be employed as the means for removably holding the roof in place, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

It is also an object to provide certain details of construction tending to increase the general efficiency and desirability of a collapsible sheet metal house or inclosure of this particular character.

To these and other useful ends my invention consists in matters hereinafter set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of a folding or collapsible sheet metal poultry or animal house embodying the principles of my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view showing the inside of one corner portion of the house. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section on line 3—3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail cross section on line 4—4 in Fig. 2.

As thus illustrated, my invention comprises a pair of side walls A, a rear wall B and a front wall C, said side walls being provided with rearwardly sloping upper edges, and the rear wall being of less height than the front wall. These walls are preferably constructed from sheet metal, such as galvanized iron, and their vertical edges are cut and bent to form hinges, each hinge having a vertical wire or rod D, whereby the four hinges, 1, 2, 3 and 4 each have a vertical pintle. The upper ends of the pintles are provided with heads in the form of eyes *d*, and the lower ends of these pintles may be suitably formed to prevent their withdrawal. The roof E consists of a rectangular section of sheet metal provided at its four corners with slots *e* which preferably extend parallel with the side walls A of the house, and which receive the heads *d* on the upper ends of the pintles. Cotter pins F may then be inserted through the heads *d* to hold the roof down in place. Or, if desired, the said heads *d* can be turned crosswise of the slots *e* by rotating the pintles, thus locking the roof in position. With either method, however, the upper ends of the pintles D provide means for removably holding the roof in position with its edges overhanging the front and rear and side walls of the house. A handle G can be applied to the roof E for carrying the house, when the latter is constructed on a comparatively small scale. But the house can be of any suitable or desired size, and can be constructed of any suitable or desired materials.

With the foregoing construction the side and front and rear walls can be folded flatwise together, after the roof is removed, thereby reducing the entire structure to a perfectly flat condition for transportation or storage.

As shown, the front wall C is provided with a doorway or opening *c* and a door H pivoted at its upper end to swing outward as shown in Fig. 3. The friction of the hinge at the upper edge of this door may be sufficient to hold the door in raised position, or devices of any suitable character may be provided for this purpose. This door is preferably formed of sheet metal and rests flatwise against the front wall when closed, and when the house is folded or collapsed.

From the foregoing it will be seen that by my invention I provide a very simple and economical form of house for poultry or animals. The said house can be made with walls of any desired thickness, but is preferably constructed from sheet metal which will not rust or oxidize readily. As shown, the house has no floor or bottom wall, but may be provided with one in any suitable or desired manner, if such is necessary. With the construction shown, the roof serves as the means for holding the body of the house in expanded condition, and for keeping the

front and rear and side walls at right angles to each other when the house is in use. But when the roof is detached from the upper ends of the hingelike corners of the house, the front and rear and side walls will then fold flatwise together.

With the foregoing construction, it will be seen that the roof can be placed in position after the side and end walls are connected together and ready for use. Also, the roof can be removed without disconnecting the hinged walls from each other. As shown, the side and end walls are permanently hinged together, and the said roof is both applied and removed without in any way disturbing the connections between the hinged walls. It is possible, therefore, if such be found necessary and desirable, to slightly raise the roof at one edge thereof, while the house is in use, without disconnecting or disturbing the hinged connections. The sheet metal is flexible, of course, and thus one corner or one edge of the roof can be raised slightly for ventilation, if such is desired.

What I claim as my invention is:—

1. A house for poultry or animals, comprising walls permanently hinged together to stand upright for use, and to fold flatwise for storage or transportation, a roof, and means above the roof to removably secure said roof in place after relative adjustment of said walls, said roof having openings to permit the placing and removal of the roof without disconnecting said walls from each other.

2. A house for poultry or animals, comprising walls hinged together to stand upright for use, and to fold flatwise for storage or transportation, a roof, and means to removably secure said roof in place, said means including heads on the upper ends of said hinges, said roof having openings to receive said heads.

3. A house for poultry or animals, comprising walls hinged together to stand upright for use, and to fold flatwise for storage or transportation, a roof, and means to removably secure said roof in place, said walls and roof being of sheet metal, the hinges having pintles which extend through the roof, and means removably engaging said pintles to hold the roof down.

4. A house for poultry or animals, comprising walls hinged together to stand upright for use, and to fold flatwise for storage or transportation, a roof, and means above the roof to removably secure said roof in place so that the roof is attachable and removable while the walls remain hinged together, the hinges of said walls forming the corners of the house, said roof having openings to permit the placing and removal of the roof without disconnecting said walls from each other, and said roof being the only means for holding the walls at right angles to each other.

5. A house for poultry or animals, comprising walls hinged together to stand upright for use, and to fold flatwise for storage or transportation, a roof, and means above the roof to removably secure said roof in place after the walls are adjusted about their hinges into proper relation to each other, said roof coöperating with said means to hold said walls against relative movement, said roof having openings to permit the placing and removal of the roof without disconnecting said walls from each other.

6. A house for poultry or animals, comprising walls hinged together to stand upright for use, and to fold flatwise for storage or transportation, a roof, and means above the roof to removably secure said roof in place so that said roof is removable without disconnecting said walls from each other, said roof sloping toward the rear wall, said roof having openings to permit the placing and removal of the roof without disconnecting said walls from each other, and the front wall having a door, said means being higher at the front than at the rear of the house.

7. A house for poultry or animals, comprising walls hinged together to stand upright for use, and to fold flatwise for storage or transportation, a roof, and means to removably secure said roof in place, said roof having slots, and said hinges being provided with rotatable pintles which have heads formed to pass through said slots and be turned at right angles thereto for holding the roof down.

Signed by me at Galva, Ills., this 5 day of May, 1915.

WILLIAM A. WHITMORE.

Witnesses:

A. E. BERGLAND,

LAWRENCE C. JOHNSON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents. Washington, D. C."