

W. T. PHILLIPS & J. SHELTON.
FOLDING CHICKEN COOP.
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1,066,418.

Patented July 1, 1913.

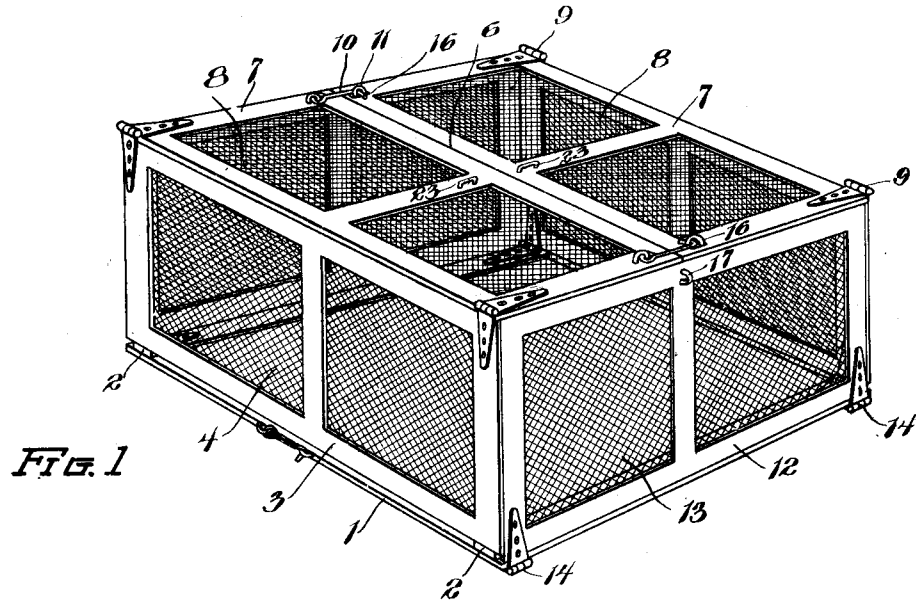
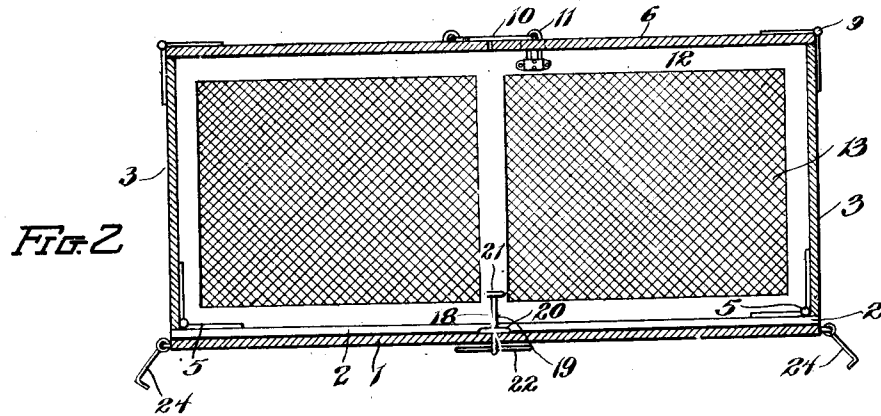
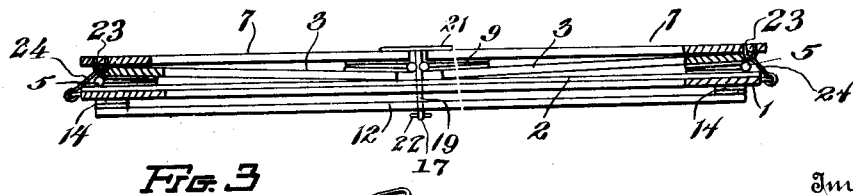


FIG. 3

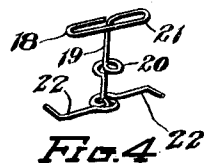


FIG. 4

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WILLIAM T. PHILLIPS AND JAMES SHELTON, OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA.

FOLDING CHICKEN-COOP.

1,066,418.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM T. PHILLIPS and JAMES SHELTON, citizens of the United States, residing at Florence, in the county of Lauderdale and State of Alabama, have invented new and useful Improvements in Folding Chicken-Coops, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improved folding chicken coop, especially adapted for use in transporting chickens from one point to another and arranged, when empty, to be knocked down and compactly folded so as to enable the empty coop to be readily transported at minimum expense, the object of the invention being to provide an improved coop of this kind which is extremely simple, is light, strong, cheap and durable, and which may be almost instantly either set up ready for use or knocked down and folded ready for transportation, the invention consisting in the construction, combination and arrangement of devices, hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a folding chicken coop constructed in accordance with our invention, showing the same set up and arranged ready for use. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the same, showing the coop in knocked down, compactly folded position. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the catch for securing the top, sides and end of the coop in place when in folded position.

The bottom 1 of our improved coop is provided on its upper side, near its ends, with transversely arranged battens or bars 2. The sides 3 of the coop, which are open frames covered by wire gauze 4, are connected to the ends of the battens or bars by hinges 5 and are adapted to fold inwardly on said battens or bars, as shown in Fig. 3 and to be upturned and arranged in vertical position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The top 6 of the coop is composed of two sections 7 each of which is an open frame, covered by wire gauze 8. The sections of the top are respectively connected to the free or upper sides of the side walls or members 3 of the coop by means of hinges 9 which are arranged on the outer sides of the top sections and the outer sides of the side members 3, as shown, so that the top sections are adapted to be folded against the side mem-

bers 3 and to lie on the outer or upper sides thereof when the coop is in knocked down or folded position. When the coop is set up, ready for use, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the outer sides of the top sections 7 bear directly on the upper edges of the side members 3, the upper leaves of the hinges 9 being appropriately spaced from the upper edges of the said side members 3, as indicated. One of said top sections is provided with hooks 10 and staples or keepers 11 are provided, as hereinafter stated.

The end walls or members 12 of the coop are open frames which are covered by wire gauze 13. These end walls or members are connected to the ends of the bottom, by hinges 14 which are arranged at the outer sides of said end walls or members and on the lower side of the bottom, so that the end walls or members may be disposed in vertical position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, when the coop is set up ready for use and may be folded under the bottom of the coop when the coop is knocked down, as shown in Fig. 3. The end walls are secured in place, when set up, by the engagement of the hooks 10 with the keepers 11, the said keepers being secured to the said end walls or members and extending through openings 16 with which one of the top sections is provided. Hence, the hooks 10 and keepers 11 not only secure the top sections of the coop but also secure the end and side members thereof, since they directly connect the end members to the top sections and the side members are held by the top sections in direct engagement with the ends of the end members. The end members 12 are provided on their outer sides near their upper edges, with medially disposed staples or keepers 17. We also provide our improved chicken coop with a catch 18 for locking the parts when in folded or knocked down position. This catch is here shown as made of a single piece of wire comprising a vertical stem 19 which extends through a central opening in the bottom of the coop, a stop 20 which bears on the upper surface of the bottom of the coop, a cross arm or button arm 21 at the upper end of the stem, and a pair of oppositely extending arms 22 at the lower end of the stem and below the bottom of the coop. When the coop is in folded or knocked down position, the said catch is turned so as to cause its arm or button 21 to bear on the upper sides of the top

sections 7 and its arms 22 are engaged with the keepers or staples 17 of the end members 12 of the coop so that the said catch secures not only the top sections of the coop in place but also secures the end members in place under the bottom. To secure the outer edges of the top sections, the latter are provided with staples or keepers 23 at their centers, and hooks 24 are connected to the bottom of the coop at its outer sides, at the center, the said hooks being adapted to engage the said keepers or staples 23.

From the foregoing description and by reference to the drawings, it will be understood that our improved coop may be readily arranged either in set up or folded position and may be firmly secured in either of such positions.

While we have herein described our invention as a folding chicken coop, it will be understood that our invention embodies a structure which may be used not only for the purposes of a folding chicken coop but may be also used as a crate for shipping fruits, vegetables or other commodities and we would have it understood that we are not limited as to this particular.

While we have herein shown and described what we now consider a preferred embodiment of the invention, changes may

be made in the form, proportion and construction of the several parts, without departing from the spirit of our invention and within the scope of the appended claim.

We claim:

A folding structure of the class described, comprising a bottom; side members hinged to the bottom and adapted to be folded thereon, top sections hinged to the side members and adapted to be folded outwardly thereon so that both the side members and top sections may be arranged above the bottom when the structure is folded, end members hinged to the bottom and arranged to be folded under the same, and a pivotally mounted catch arranged at the center of and carried by the bottom and comprising a vertical stem pivotally mounted in and extending through the bottom, an arm at the upper end of the stem to bear on the top sections, and arms at the lower end of the stem to engage both of the end members.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM T. PHILLIPS.
JAMES SHELTON.

Witnesses:

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