(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. B. BRADFORD.

FOLDING CHICKEN COOP.

No. 393,058. Patented Nov. 20, 1888.

Fig. 1.

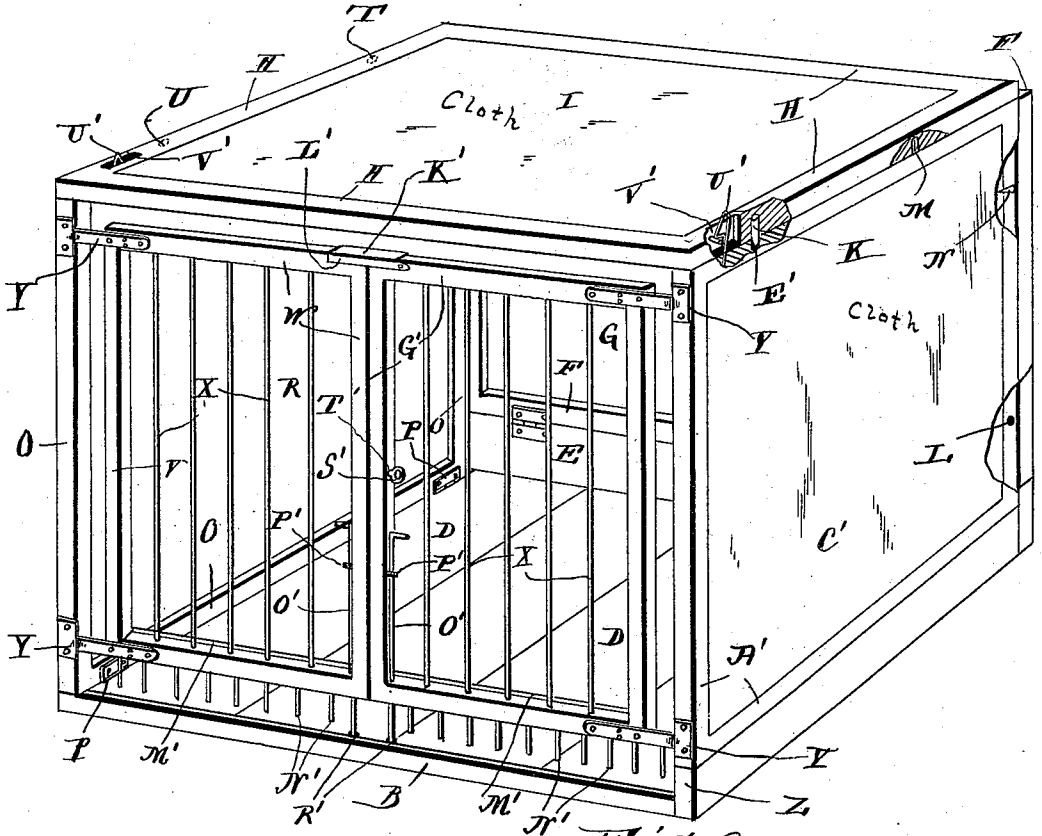
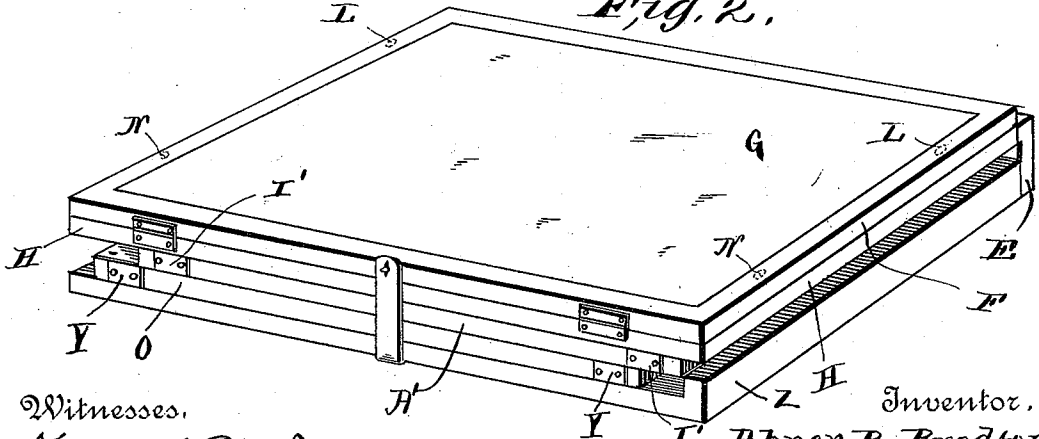


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
Frank S. Ober.
J. W. Garner

Inventor.
Abner B. Bradford
By his Attorneys
C. A. Brown & Co

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer. Washington, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.

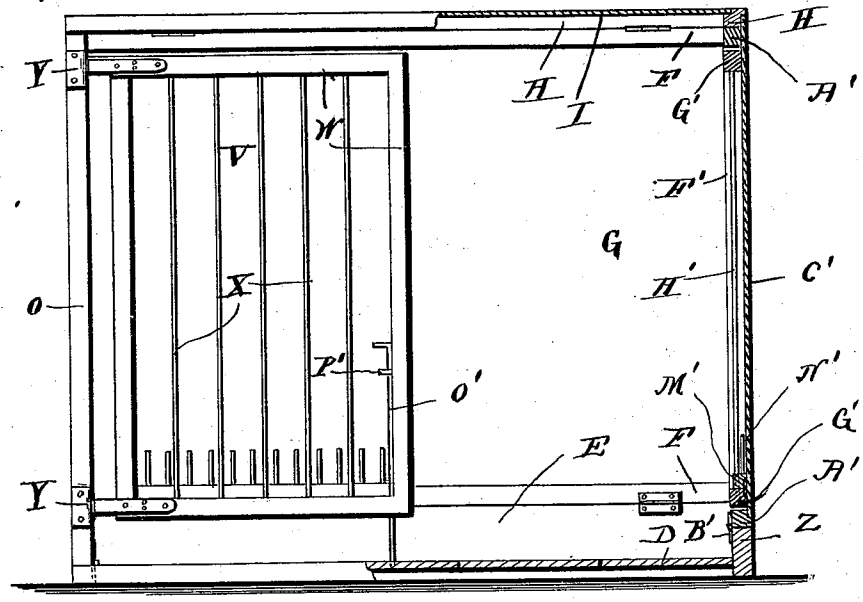


Fig. 4.

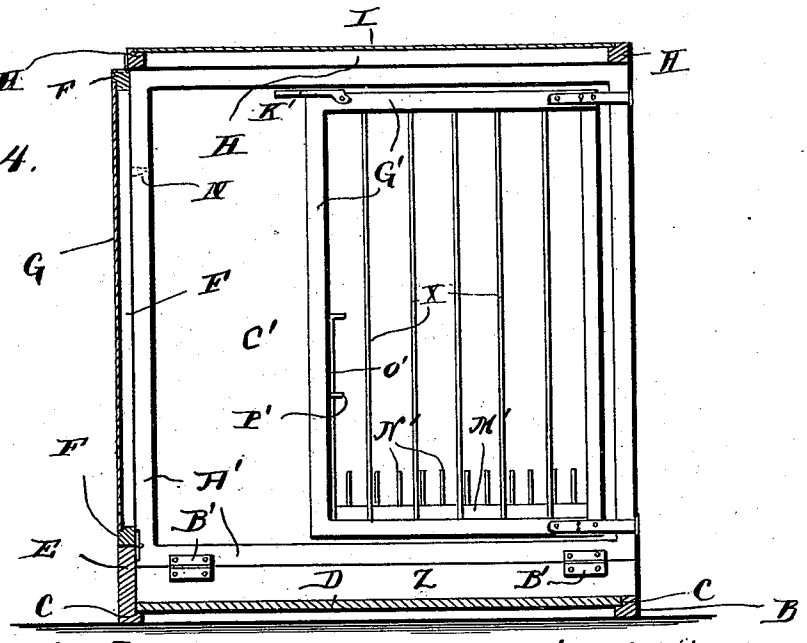
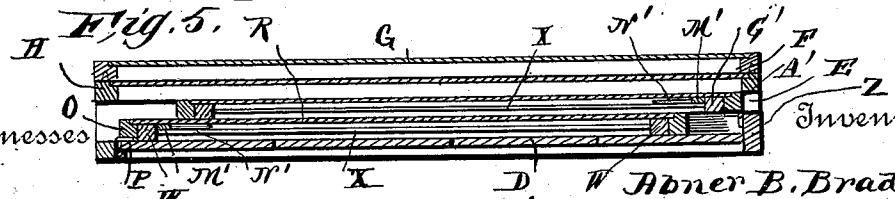


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

Frank A. Ober.

J. W. Garner

Inventor.

Abner B. Bradford.

By his Attorneys

C. A. Brown & Co.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABNER B. BRADFORD, OF VIOLA, ILLINOIS.

FOLDING CHICKEN-COOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 393,058, dated November 20, 1888.

Application filed August 25, 1888. Serial No. 283,706. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABNER B. BRADFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Viola, in the county of Mercer and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Chicken-Coops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in folding chicken-coops; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices, that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to provide a cheap and simple chicken-coop, which is adapted to be readily set up and to be folded into a very small space for packing and transportation.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of a chicken-coop embodying my improvements, showing the same when set up ready for use. Fig. 2 is a similar view of my improved chicken-coop when the same is folded. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view, partly in elevation, of my improved chicken-coop. Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 5 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of my improved chicken-coop, showing the same folded.

The bottom of the coop comprises an open rectangular frame, B, having rabbets C in its sides at their upper corners and the bottom D, which are arranged transversly in the frame and have their ends secured in the recesses C by means of screws or nails. Projecting from the rear side of the frame is a vertical flange or board, E, the length of which is equal to the length of the frame, and hinged to the upper side of the said board and adapted to fold inward over the bottom of the coop is a rectangular frame, F, which is covered by a piece of cotton fabric, G. If preferred, wire or other netting may be substituted for this fabric. This frame F and the fabric or netting G constitute the rear side coop.

H represents a rectangular frame, which is of the same size as the base-frame B, and is hinged at one side to the upper side of the frame F, and is adapted to be folded down upon the said frame. Stretched on the upper side of the frame H is a cloth or wire-netting, I. Said frame and said cloth or netting constitute the top of the coop.

From the under sides of the ends of the frame H, near the free end of the latter, depend dowel-pins K, which are adapted to enter openings L in the ends of the frame F on the inner side thereof. In the ends of the frame H, near its inner corners, are similar openings, M, which are adapted, when the coop is knocked down, to be engaged by dowel-pins N, which project from the inner side of the frame F, near its upper corners.

O represents a rectangular frame, which has its lower edge secured on one end of the base-frame B by means of a pair of hinges, P, the said hinges adapting the said frame O to fold inward and to bear snugly on the bottom of the coop. Stretched on the said frame O is a cloth or wire-netting, R, said cloth or netting and said frame constituting one end of the coop. In the rear side of the frame O, near the upper corner thereof, is a recess, T, which is adapted to receive one of the dowels N, and on the upper side of said frame O, near the front corner thereof, is a similar recess, U, in which one of the dowels K is secured.

Adjoining the frame O is a door, which comprises a rectangular frame, W, in the upper and lower sides of which is secured a series of vertical bars or slats, X, the latter being arranged at suitable distances apart. This door V has one side connected to the front side of the frame O, at its upper and lower corners, by means of a pair of hinges, Y, which adapt the said door to be folded within the frame O and to bear against the fabric or netting R thereon, so that no portion of the said door shall project beyond the frame, thereby adapting the said door and said frame to lie in the same plane.

From the upper side of the frame B, at the end thereof opposite the frame O, projects a vertical transverse flange, Z.

A′ represents a rectangular frame, which has its lower end connected to the said flange by means of a pair of hinges, B′, which adapt the frame A′ to be folded inward over the frame O after the latter has been folded down from the bottom of the coop. On the said frame A′ is stretched a fabric or netting, C′, and said frame and said fabric or netting constitute one

end of the coop. On the inner side of the frame A′, near the upper corner thereof, is a recess which is adapted to be engaged by one of the dowels N, and on the upper side of the said frame, near its front upper corner, is a recess, E′, which is adapted to receive one of the dowels K of the top frame, H.

Adjoining the side is a door, which is composed of a rectangular frame, G′, and a series of vertical bars or slats, X, which extend between its upper and lower sides. The said door is connected at one side to the front side of the frame A′ at its upper and lower corners by means of a pair of hinges, Y, which adapt the said door to be folded within the frame A′, so that it will lie in the same plane therewith.

K′ represents a catch, which has its inner end hinged on the door, near the inner upper corner thereof, and said catch is provided with depending side flanges, L′, which are adapted to bear against the sides of the doors, and when the same are in line with each other, so as to secure the upper ends thereof together. To the lower ends of the doors, on the inner sides thereof, are hinged bars M′, from which project rods N′. Said bars and rods comprise gates, which are adapted to be folded within the doors or to be extended downward therefrom, so as to close the spaces between the lower sides of the doors and the bottom of the coop, and thereby prevent the fowls in the coop from scratching trash or litter out of the same.

Vertical bolt-rods O′ are secured in guides P′ on the inner sides of the doors, and are adapted to engage openings R′ in the center of the base-frame B, at the front side thereof, so as to secure the doors when the same are arranged, as shown in Fig. 1, to close the front side of the coop, and a pin, S′, is adapted to be inserted in transverse aligned openings T′ in the meeting sides of the doors, so as to lock the same together.

U′ represents a pair of spring-catches, which project from the upper sides of the frames O and A′ at the front corners thereof, and are adapted to engage pins in vertical openings V′ in the top frame near its front corners, so as to lock the upper ends of the end frames to the said top frame and secure the coop in the position shown in Fig. 1.

In order to fold the coop into a small space for packing or transportation, the doors are first swung into the end frame, the gates having been turned upward in the lower ends of the said doors, the frame O is folded flat on the bottom of the coop, the frame A′ is folded down upon the frame O, the top frame is folded inward against the frame F, and said frames F and the top frame are bolted down upon the frame A′, as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 5.

A coop thus constructed is particularly adapted for exhibiting fancy poultry at fairs and expositions, is extremly light, cheap, and simple, is strong and durable, and will be found of great practical utility.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of the bottom, the ends hinged at their lower sides to the ends of the bottom frame and adapted to fold inward thereon and over each other, the rear side hinged at its lower edge to the rear side of the bottom and adapted to fold forward thereon, the top hinged at one edge to the upper edge of the rear side, and the doors hinged to the front edges of the ends and adapted to fold inward thereon, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the bottom, having the flange E at its rear side and the flange Z at one end, with the end frame O, hinged at its lower side to one end of the bottom and adapted to fold upon the same, the end frame A′, hinged at its lower side to the flange Z, the door hinged to said frames and adapted to fold within the frames, the rear frame, F, hinged at its lower side to the flange E, and the top frame hinged to the upper side of the rear frame, substantially as described.

3. The combination, in a folding coop having the hinged ends and a hinged side, of the doors hinged to the ends and adapted to fold within the same, and the gates hinged to the lower sides of the doors, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ABNER B. BRADFORD.

Witnesses:
GEO. FUGATE, Jr.,
S. B. ATWATER.