T. M. SHARP.

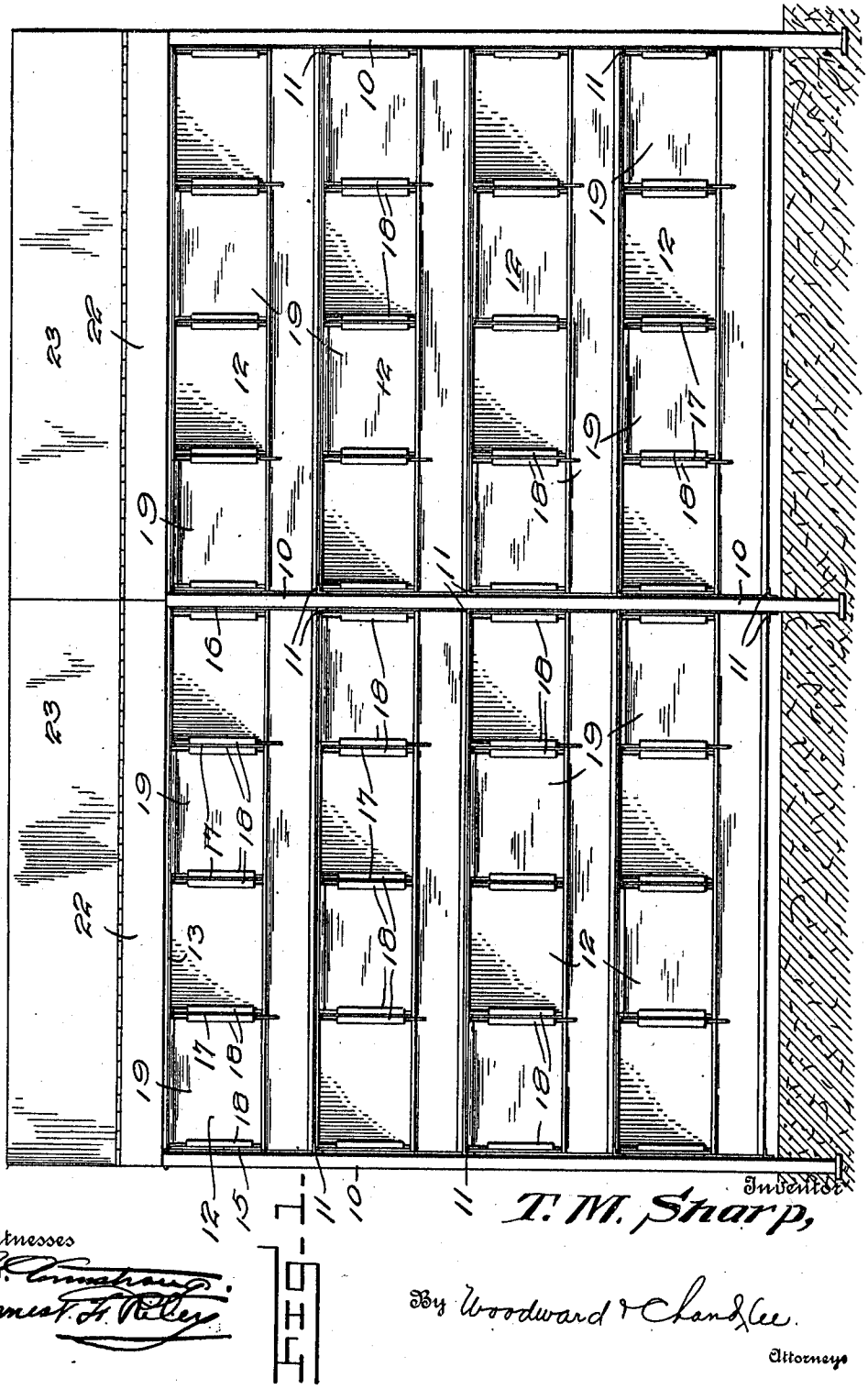
COLLAPSIBLE HEN'S NEST.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 21, 1910

990,014.

Patented Apr. 18, 1911.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

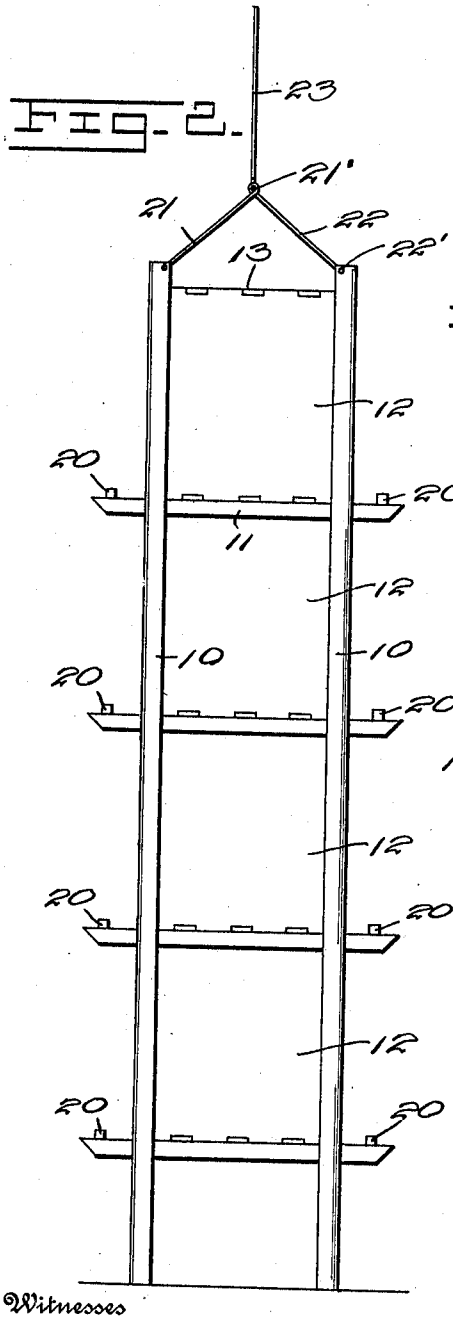


Fig. 3.

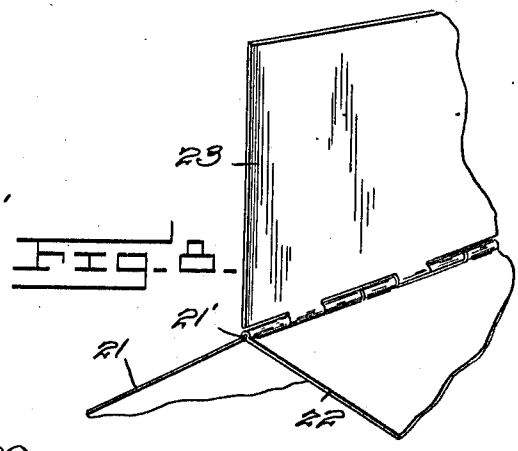
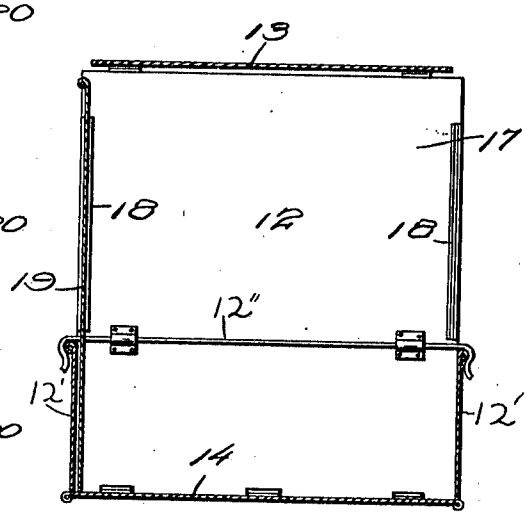


Fig. 4.



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4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

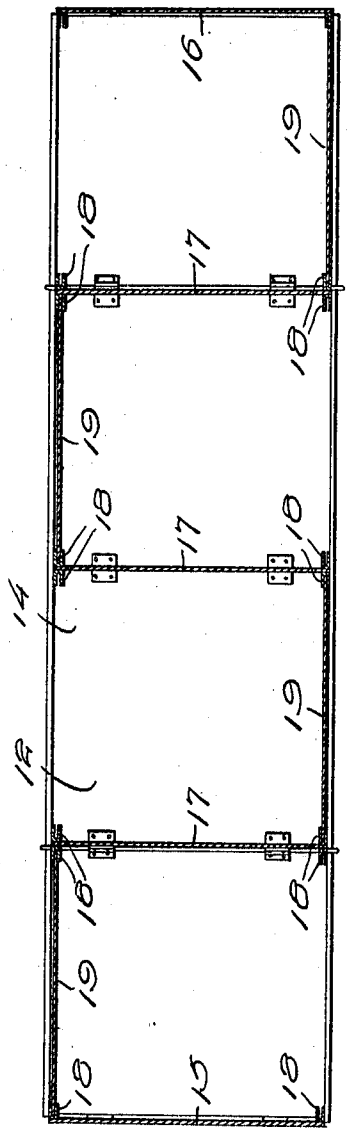


FIG. 4.

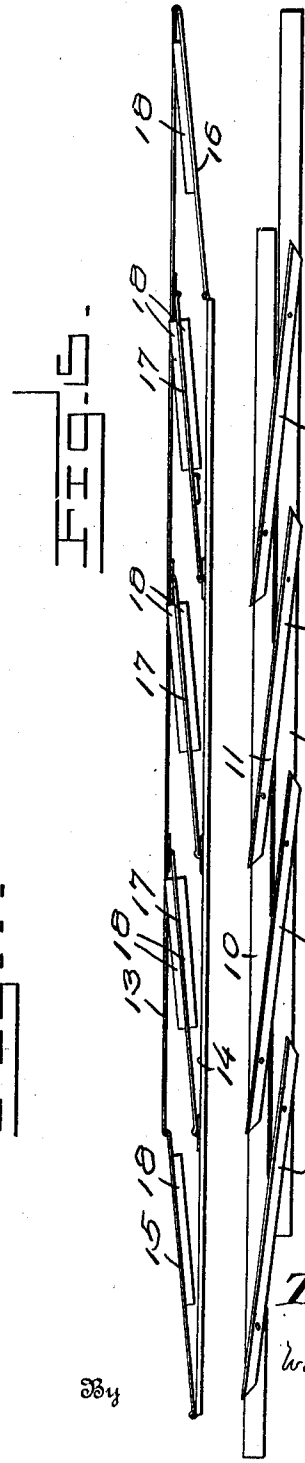


FIG. 5.

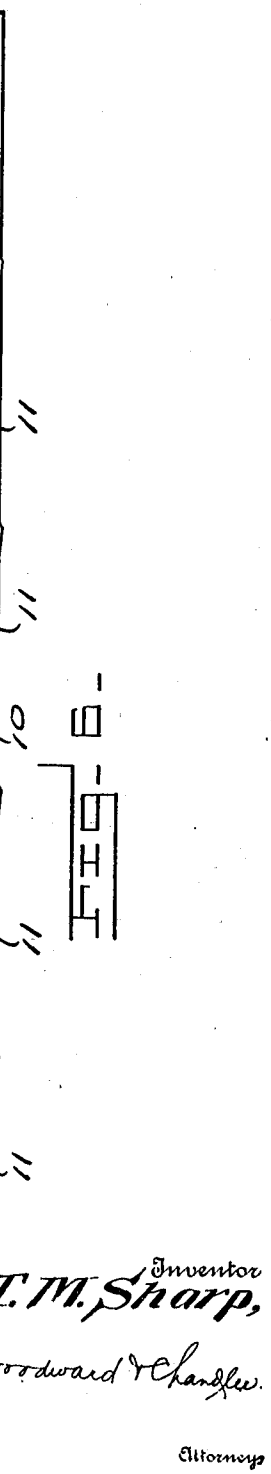


FIG. 6.

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APPLICATION FILED JULY 21, 1910.

990,014. **Patented Apr. 18, 1911.**

4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

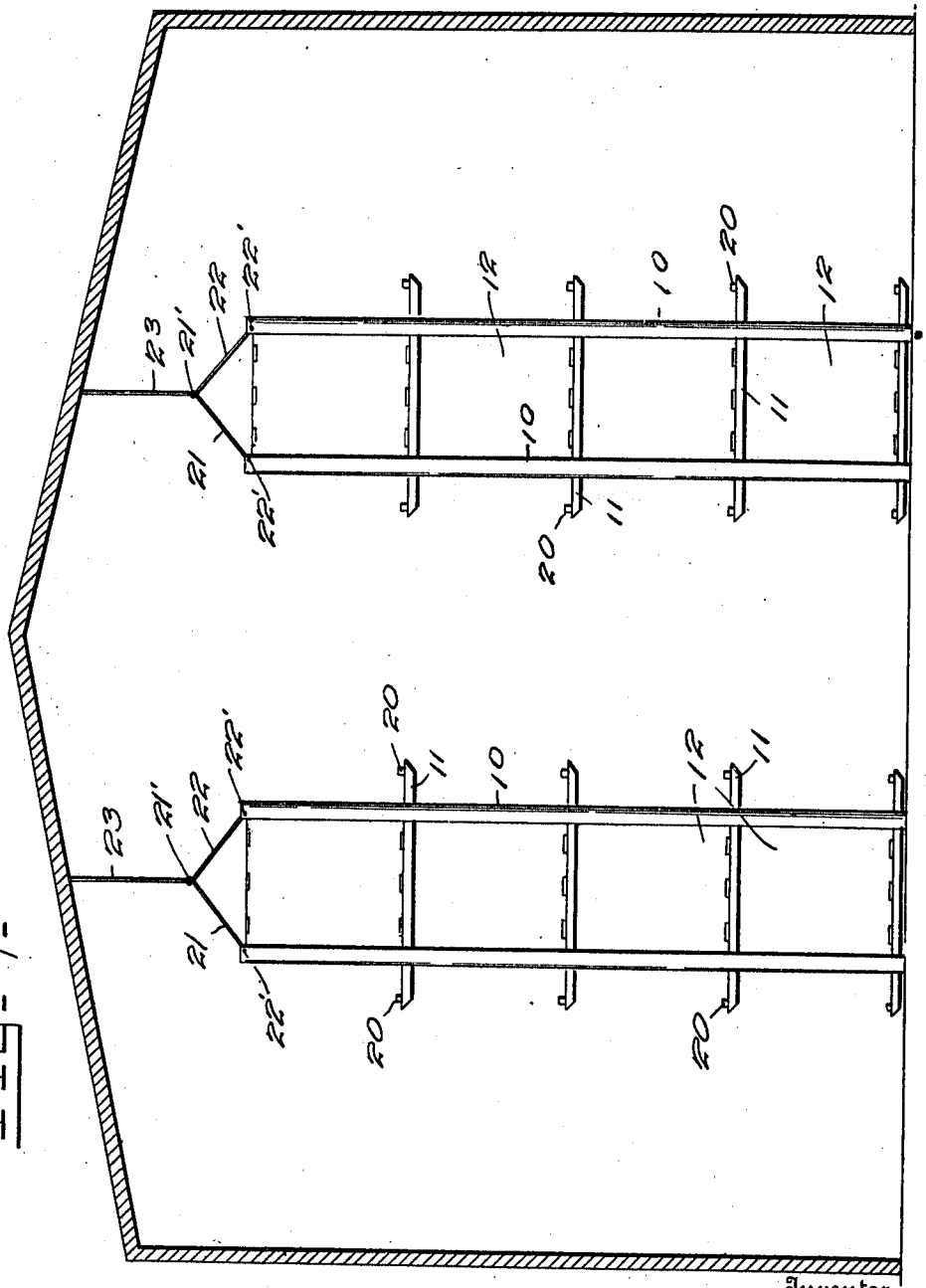


FIG. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THADDEUS M. SHARP, OF TARKIO, MISSOURI.

COLLAPSIBLE HEN'S NEST.

990,014. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 18, 1911.

Application filed July 21, 1910. Serial No. 573,050.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THADDEUS M. SHARP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tarkio, in the county of Atchison and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collapsible Hens' Nests, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in collapsible hen's nests.

The primary object of said invention is to provide a structure for conveniently supporting a plurality of hen's nests.

Another object of the invention is to so construct the nests that the same may be conveniently collapsed for shipment as well as easily cleaned while in their set-up position.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a front elevation of the structure, Fig. 2 an end view, Fig. 3 a transverse sectional view of one of the nest sections, Fig. 4 a longitudinal sectional view, of one of the nest sections, Fig. 5 a detail view of one of the nest members collapsed, Fig. 6 a view of one pair of uprights collapsed, Fig. 7 an end view showing the supports positioned within the house, and Fig. 8 a detail view of the partitioning member.

In the drawings: 10 designates a plurality of upright supporting members, said members being arranged in pairs, supporting members 11 hingedly connect each pair of uprights, the upright members being adapted to fold as shown in Fig. 6. The base portions of the upright members may be embedded in concrete, or suitably bolted to a floor. The supporting members 11 are arranged one above the other, and are adapted to support the nest sections 12 which may be inserted between a pair of upper and lower supporting members in the same manner as a drawer.

The nest sections consist of top and bottom plates 13 and 14 which are properly spaced by, and hingedly connected to, end members 15 and 16 which are similar in construction to a plurality of partitions 17 which are similarly hinged to the top and bottom plates, each of the partitions, and the end plates being provided with guides 18 adapted to receive sliding plates 19 which hold the partitions and end plates from swinging, and at the same time form closures for the squared compartments between the partitions. These plates, as before stated, are adapted to slide within guides 18, a plate being arranged at either end of each compartment. Each compartment is adapted to contain a nest, the base plate 14 being provided with the longitudinally arranged plates 12′ which are hingedly connected to its edge portions, said plates being held in a closed position by a plurality of pivotally arranged U-shaped members 12″ which are positioned on two of the partitions. In order to clean the nests, the U-shaped members are swung upward and the longitudinally arranged plates allowed to drop, thus allowing the compartments to be conveniently cleaned.

Any number of nest sections may be employed, said sections being arranged one above the other as shown in Fig. 1, suitable bars 20 being disposed between the end portions of the supports 11 which allow the hens to reach the nests.

It will be noted that the nests may be opened from either side, thus permitting setting hens to utilize the nests on one side of the structure and laying hens the nests on the other side of the structure, the arrangement being such as to effectually prevent the hens on one side of the structure from entering the nests on the other side. In carrying out this feature of the invention, the structure will be positioned within a suitable house, a sufficient number of upright members being provided to extend entirely across the house, thus dividing said house into two or more sections, the number of said sections depending upon the number of rows of nest-supporting members. In order to allow the nest-supporting members to form a complete partition, the pivoted members 21 and 22 are supported on the end portions of the uprights, said pivoted members being provided with curved extensions which extend within the channel formed in the upright members, and receive pins 22′. Pivotally connected to the central bar 21′ on which the members 21 and 22 are pivoted, is a longitudinally extending member 23 which engages the roof of the house as shown in Fig. 7, thus preventing the fowl from flying from one side of the structure to the other.

It will be noticed from the foregoing that the entire structure may be quickly and conveniently knocked down for shipment, all of the parts being readily assembled in positioning the same within the house.

Particular attention is called to the con-

struction of the nest-supporting members which permit the nest compartments to open from either side, and which are so arranged as to allow said compartments to be conveniently kept in a sanitary condition.

What is claimed is:

1. A supporting device for hen's nests comprising, a plurality of upright members, said members arranged in pairs, supporting members pivotally connecting each pair of upright members, a plurality of nest-supporting sections arranged upon said supporting members, said nest sections consisting of spaced top and bottom sections, the end portions of said sections being hingedly connected to plates which space said sections, a plurality of spaced partitions pivotally connected to said top and bottom sections, longitudinally arranged members hingedly connected to the bottom sections, guides arranged on said partitions and said end plates, and plates adapted to rest between said guides.

2. A supporting device for nests comprising a plurality of spaced uprights arranged in pairs, each pair of uprights being pivotally connected, bars secured to each pair of uprights, said bars being adapted to support nest boxes, said nest boxes consisting of an upper and a lower plate, said plates being spaced by, and hingedly connected to a plurality of end plates, partitions pivoted to said plates, and members hingedly connected to the edge portions of the lower plate, said members being locked against movement by U-shaped members arranged on the partitions.

3. A supporting device for nests comprising, spaced uprights arranged in pairs, bars connecting said uprights, nest boxes supported by said bars, longitudinally arranged plates supported by the end portions of said uprights, said plates being provided with ears adapted to extend between the inner walls of said uprights, the edge portions of said plates being pivotally connected to a rod, and a partitioning plate hingedly connected to said rod.

4. A supporting device for nests comprising, upright members arranged in pairs, each pair of members being pivotally connected, and a plurality of folding nest-supporting sections arranged between each pair of uprights.

5. A supporting device for nests comprising, spaced uprights arranged in pairs, members pivotally connecting each pair of uprights, said members forming a rest for nest-supporting sections, said nest supports consisting of a plurality of hingedly connected plates, and a plurality of slidably arranged plates for holding said nest-sections in an open position.

6. A supporting device for nests comprising, a plurality of spaced uprights arranged in pairs, members connecting each pair of uprights, said members being adapted to form rests for nest-supporting sections, said nest-sections being adapted to fold, and sliding means for preventing said sections from folding.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

THADDEUS M. SHARP.

Witnesses:
R. M. STEVENSON,
JAMES STEVENSON.

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