

M. T. MALOY.
FOLDING POULTRY COOP.

No. 398,338.

Patented Feb. 19, 1889.

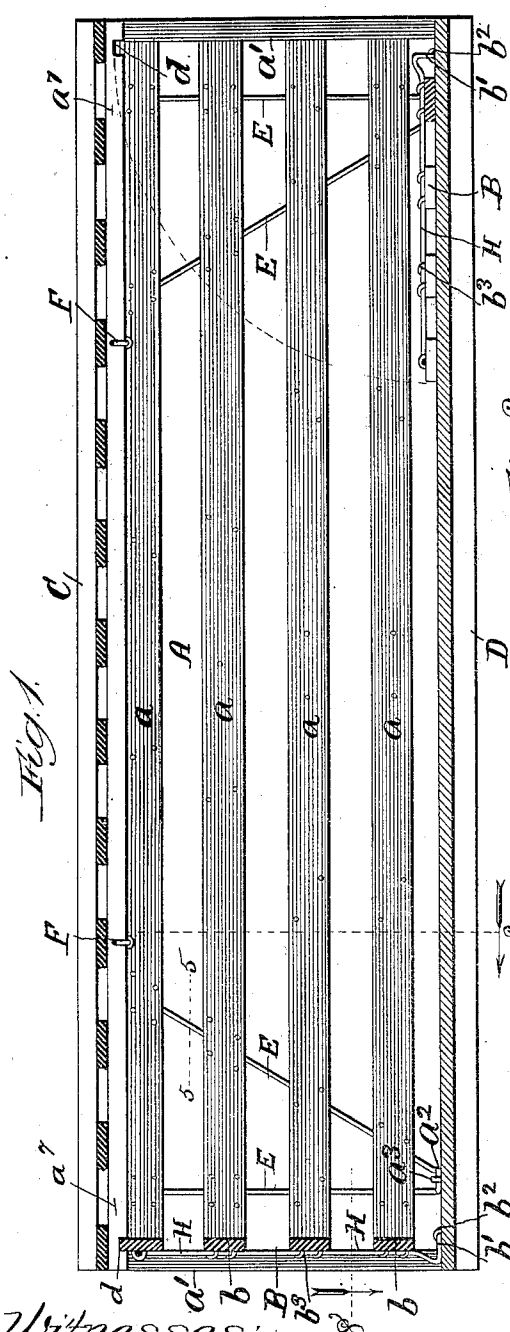


Fig. 1.

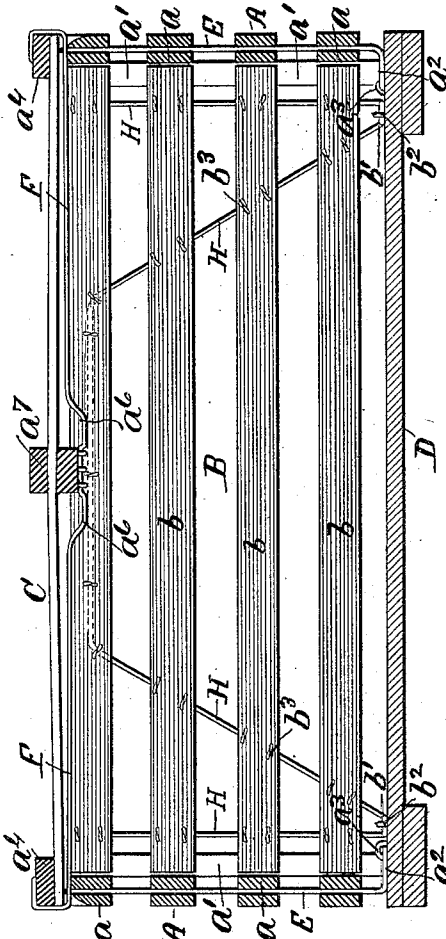


Fig. 2.

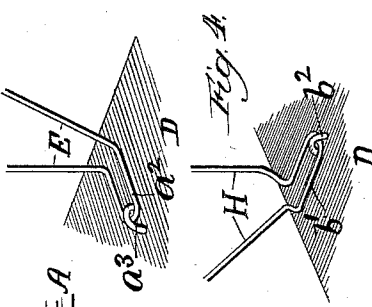


Fig. 3.

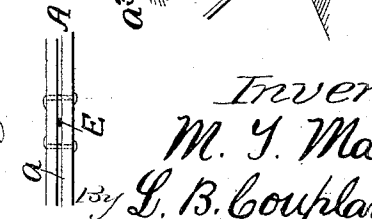
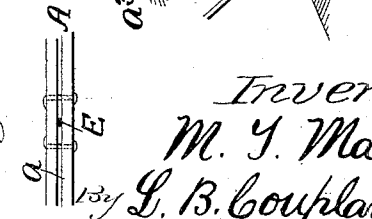


Fig. 4.

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Fig. 5.

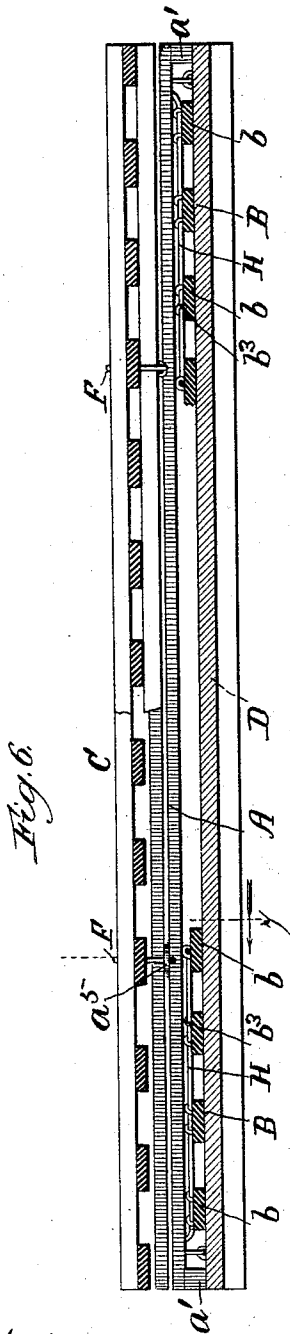
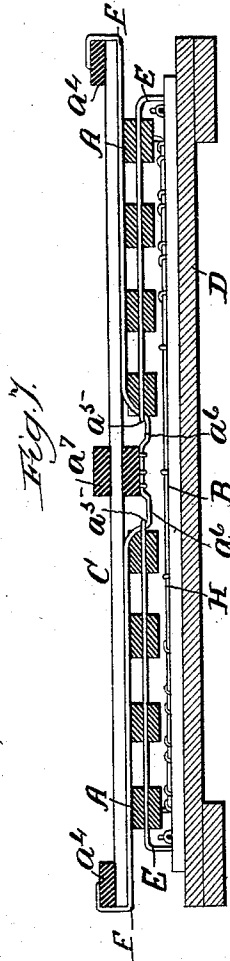
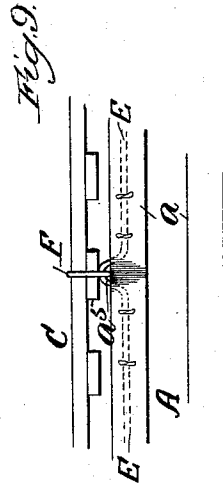
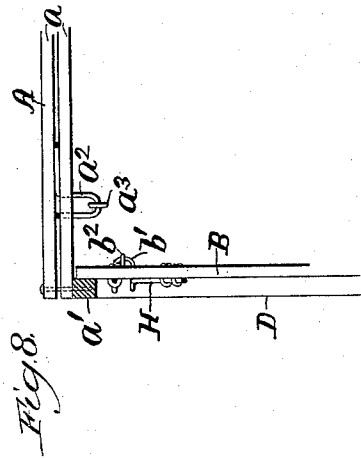


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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL T. MALOY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO JAMES H. BATCHELDER, OF SAME PLACE.

FOLDING POULTRY-COOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 398,338, dated February 19, 1889.

Application filed December 4, 1888. Serial No. 292,606. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAEL T. MALOY, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Folding Poultry-Coop, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, that will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

This invention relates to coops of the "knockdown" class, used principally in the transportation of poultry, the object being to provide an article of this character which may be compactly folded, so as to occupy but little space in storage on return shipment when empty.

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of a folding coop embodying my improved features, one of the ends being turned down in a folded position; Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section in plane 2, Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are detached details of construction showing the lower ends of the hinge and brace rods and the manner of securing the same to the bottom of the coop; Fig. 5, a section in plane 5, Fig. 1, showing the brace-rod E and the clamping-nails securing the two thicknesses of lath together; Fig. 6, a longitudinal section showing the coop in a folded position; Fig. 7, a transverse section in plane 7, Fig. 6; Fig. 8, a horizontal corner section in plane 8, Fig. 1; and Fig. 9, a broken-away side view.

Referring to the drawings, A A represent the sides; B B, the ends; C, the top; and D, the bottom.

The slats *a*, forming the sides of the structure, usually consist of two thicknesses of lath properly secured together. The ends of the side slats are rigidly secured to the corner-posts *a'*. The sides are stiffened and strengthened by means of the angular wire rods E E, which extend upwardly and inwardly in a diagonal plane from the bottom to the top, as shown in Fig. 1. The rods E are composed of a single piece, and are firmly clamped and held between the two laths or strips forming the series of slats *a*, as shown in Fig. 5. The highest part of the rod or rods E lies in a horizontal plane between the two thicknesses forming

the upper slat on each side. At the junction with the bottom of the coop (see Fig. 3) the brace-rods E are bent to form the loop *a*², and are loosely secured to the bottom by the staple *a*³, forming a hinged joint for the movement of the sides. The end parts of the brace and hinge rod E extend vertically and terminate at a point near the top of the sides, as shown in Fig. 1.

About one foot from each end of the structure are the transverse brace and guide rods F F, which run along the under side of the top C, the terminal ends overlapping and being rigidly secured to the top edge bars, *a*⁴, of the cover, as shown in Fig. 7. The brace and hinge rods E are provided with the loop *a*⁵ at their point of junction with the companion rods F, so as to engage with the same, as shown in Fig. 9. Thus the sides of the structure will ride on the rods F when being converted from one position to the other. The central parts of the braces F are bent downward to form the offset *a*⁶ (see Fig. 7) and pass under the longitudinal central ridge-bar, *a*⁷. The braces F are rigidly fastened to the under side of the ridge-bar *a*⁷. When folded, the offset *a*⁶ in the braces F permits of the sides assuming a flat horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 7, the top and sides being thus adjustably secured together and folding simultaneously.

The ends B B of the structure consist of the series of slats *b*, which are retained in proper relative position by the brace and hinge rods H H. These rods are provided at their junction with the bottom of the coop with loops *b*¹, (see Fig. 4,) and are secured thereto by means of the staple *b*², thus forming a hinged joint for the folding movement of the ends and securing the same as an integral part of the structure. The braces H extend upwardly in a diagonal plane in the direction of the center, and then horizontally along the central part of the top slat. The braces H are placed on the outside of the slats forming the ends, the slats and braces being clinched together by means of the staples *b*³, the terminal ends extending upwardly from the bottom and being secured to the slats in the same manner.

The ends of the slats *b* stop inside of and against the slats forming the sides, whereby the ends of the structure have a tendency to wedge out the sides and hold the same in a true perpendicular position.

The under side of the ridge-bar *a'* is provided at each end with a notch, *d*, (see Fig. 1,) for the engagement of the upper edge of the top slat of the ends and to lock the parts when in an unfolded position. These parts are easily sprung sufficiently to disengage the ends from the ridge-bar when the coop is to be folded. The ends are first folded inward and lie flat on the bottom. Next the sides are pressed inward, the top following, thus bringing all the parts into a horizontal and compact folded position.

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

1. In a folding coop, the combination, with the bottom, of the folding sides, the brace and hinge rods *E E*, the top, the brace or guide rods *F F*, secured to the under side of said top, the folding ends, and the brace and hinge rods *H H*, adjustably securing said ends to said bottom, whereby all the parts are adapted to fold in a horizontal position, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a folding coop, the combination, with the bottom and the folding ends, of the brace and hinge rods *H H*, as described, and the ridge-bar *a'*, provided at each end with a notch for the engagement of said ends, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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