(No Model.)

J. M. HOUSEHOLDER.

COOP FOR FOWLS.

No. 264,293. Fig. 1. Patented Sept. 12, 1882.

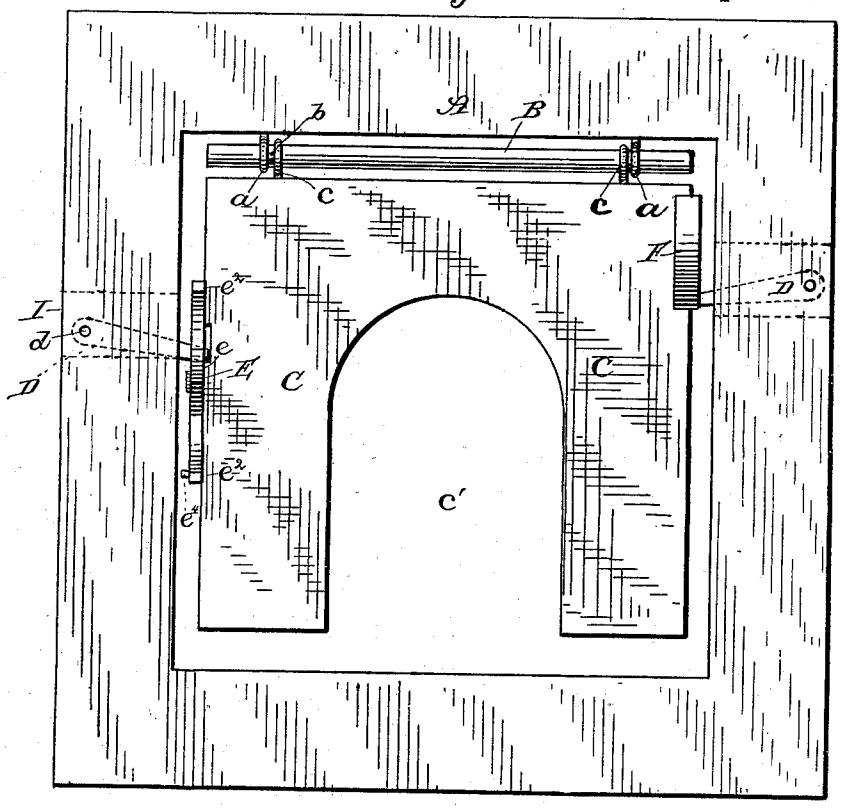


Fig. 2.

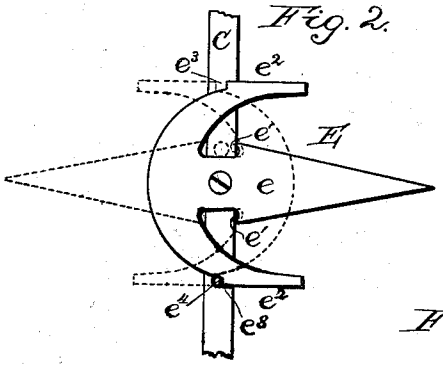


Fig. 3.

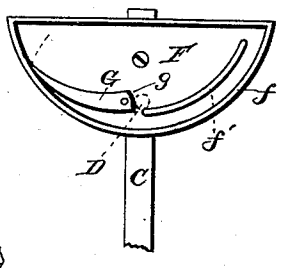
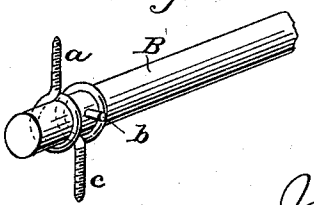


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEHU M. HOUSEHOLDER, OF WINFIELD, KANSAS.

COOP FOR FOWLS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,293, dated September 12, 1882.

Application filed June 21, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEHU M. HOUSEHOLDER, of Winfield, in the county of Cowley and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coops for Fowls; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to hen-coops, the object being to provide a coop with a swinging door adapted to be freely opened outwardly, but held by an automatic latch or locking device against backward or inward swinging to prevent the ingress of fowls while the coop is occupied by a hen.

The invention consists in the improved construction and combinations of devices hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the door-frame of a coop provided with my improvements. Fig. 2 is a detached view of one form of automatic latch adapted for use with my improved door. Fig. 3 is a similar view of another form of latch, and Fig. 4 illustrates in detail my manner of hanging the door.

A represents the door-frame of a poultry-coop, from whose upper cross-bar depend any desired number of loops or rings *a*, those shown being the ordinary screw-eyes adapted to be readily screwed into the frame.

B represents a cylindrical rod, adapted to pass through the rings *a*. The door C is provided at its upper end with rings or loops *c*, adapted to receive the rod B, as shown. A pin, *b*, is passed through the rod B, between the rings *a* and *c*, to retain the rod in position. The door is thus pivotally held in position, and may be freely swung on the rod B. An opening, *c'*, is formed in the door to allow of the entrance of small chickens to the coop without opening the door, and to allow a hen to see into the coop. A longitudinal slot or mortise, I, is formed in one side of the frame A to receive a pawl or catch, D, which is pivotally secured therein by a pivot, *d*.

E represents one of my improved latches for automatically engaging the catch D, said latch consisting of the main central portion, *e*, of spear shape, and provided with shoulders *e' e'*, with which the catch engages, and curved arms e^2 e^2, projecting in opposite directions and extending on either side of the portion *e*, as shown. Each of these arms e^2 is provided on its outer side with a shoulder, e^3, adapted to bear against a stud, e^4, projecting from the side of the door. When the latch E is in the position shown in Fig. 1, with its spear-shaped portion projecting forward from the coop, the door may be freely opened from within, as the upper curved arm, e^2, of the latch will come in contact with the catch D, thus turning the latch, as represented in dotted lines, and allowing the door to be opened; but the contact of the shoulder *e'* with the catch D effectually prevents the inward swinging of the door.

Fig. 3 shows another form of locking device adapted for use with my improved door, in which F represents a semicircular plate rigidly secured to one side of the door, which latter is slotted to receive it. The plate F is provided with a flange, *f*, extending entirely around it, and with a guide-loop, *f'*, the latter being curved to correspond to the curvature of the plate. A pawl, G, is pivoted to the plate F, adjacent to the inner end of the loop *f'*, but sufficiently above said loop to enable the inner end, *g*, of the pawl to serve as a stop against which the catch D of the frame will abut to lock the door against inward swinging. The latch E is designed to lock the door against inward swinging at each alternate opening from within.

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

1. The combination, with a door-frame having a pawl or catch-lever pivoted thereto and a swinging door pivotally secured at its upper end to the frame, of a latch secured to one side of said door, and constructed substantially as described, to automatically engage said pawl or catch to prevent the swinging of the door inwardly, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a door-frame hav-

ing a pawl or catch-lever pivoted thereto and a door pivotally secured at its upper end to the frame, of a pivoted latch secured to one side of the door, and consisting of a central spear portion provided with shoulders to engage said pawl, and an upper and a lower curved arm, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JEHU M. HOUSEHOLDER.

Witnesses:

L. D. ZENOR,

H. E. SILLIMAN.