

No. 716,175.

M. E. BEHN.

Patented Dec. 16, 1902.

TOY.

(Application filed May 8, 1902.)

(No Model.)

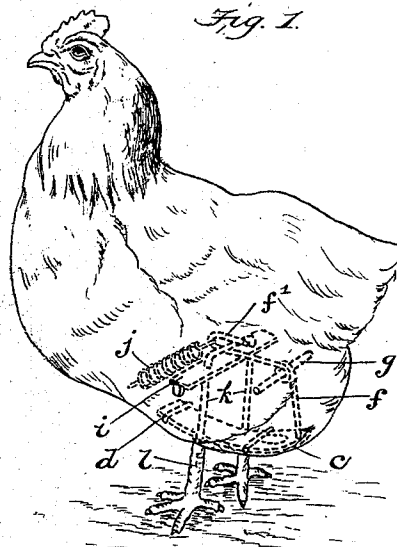


Fig. 2.

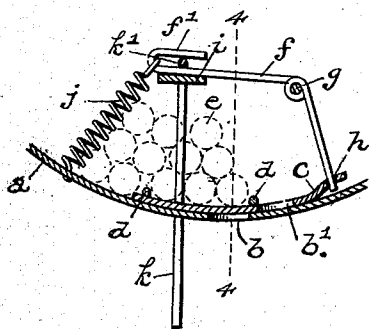


Fig. 3.

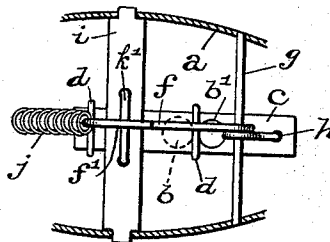
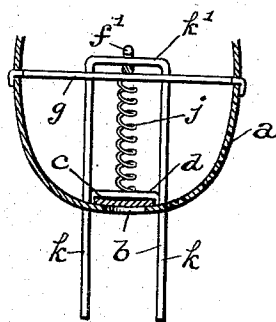


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY E. BEHN, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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TOY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 716,175, dated December 16, 1902.

Application filed May 8, 1902. Serial No. 106,383. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY E. BEHN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toys, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a toy fowl or bird, and has for its object to provide a toy representation of a fowl or bird with mechanism whereby upon the proper manual manipulation a representation of an egg will be dropped or deposited—in other words, it is a toy egg-laying fowl or bird.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the toy fowl or bird, the mechanism being denoted by broken lines. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the egg-depositing mechanism. Fig. 3 is a plan or top view of the mechanism, the sides of the shell or case, constituting a part of the body of the fowl, being in section. Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-section of the shell or case and shows the mechanism.

In applying the invention an imitation of any kind of fowl or bird may be employed. In the present instance Fig. 1 is representative of a hen.

The walls *a* of the shell or case may constitute a part of the body of the fowl or bird. In its bottom this wall has an egg-discharge opening *b*, and slidable on the bottom is a valve *c*, which covers and uncovers said opening *b*. This valve comprises a flat strip of material, which is guided loosely through two loops *d*, so as to slide. The valve-strip has an opening *b'*, corresponding in size with the egg-discharge opening in the case-bottom. The imitation eggs (designated *e*) are contained within the shell or case *a*. It will now be understood that when the valve-strip *c* is covering the egg-discharge opening *b*, as shown in Fig. 2, the eggs inside of the shell cannot be dropped; but when the valve-strip *c* is moved or slid to uncover the opening *b*—that is, moved from right toward the left, so as to bring its opening *b'* into coincidence with the egg-discharge opening *b*—then an egg *e* may be discharged or dropped.

The mechanism for operating the valve-strip *c* comprises parts as follows: A bell-crank lever *f* is pivoted on a cross-rod *g*,

which is secured to opposite sides of the shell *a*, and the lower end of this lever takes loosely in a hole *h* in the valve-strip. The upper end of the bell-crank lever is bent back to form a hook *f'*, and this end normally rests upon a cross-bar *i*, whose ends are secured to opposite sides of the shell. This cross-bar *i* prevents the upper end of the lever from being depressed. A suitable elastic spring *j* has inclined position, and one end of the spring is connected with the case-bottom *a* and the other is connected with the upper end of the lever *f*, and this elastic spring serves to hold the lever resting down on the cross-bar *i*, and thereby keeps the valve-strip *c* in position to cover the egg-discharging hole *b*. This spring *j* may be either a strip of india-rubber or a small spiral spring.

The two legs of the fowl or bird are formed by a wire bent an inverted-U shape, the two legs or prongs *k* projecting down through the cross-bar *i* and also down through the case-bottom *a*, and the connecting-bend *k'* being above the said cross-bar and under the hook *f'* of the bell-crank lever. The imitation feet *l* are secured to the wire legs or prongs *k*, and these feet may rest on a table or other place to sustain the fowl upright. The wire legs or prongs *k* are loose through the cross-bar *i* and case-bottom.

It will now be seen the spring *j* serves another purpose, to wit: It keeps the legs *k* normally pressed downward, and thereby causes the body of the fowl or bird to stand elevated above the feet.

In order to cause an egg to be dropped or deposited, a person must grasp the body of the fowl on top or on both sides and gently depress the body, whereupon the legs *k* will be forced upward, the spring *j* yielding to permit them, and the upper end of the lever *f* will be raised, which movement will cause the lower end of the lever to slide the valve-strip *c* and uncover the opening *b* in the case-bottom. Thus an egg will be dropped. This proves an amusing toy.

The hollow body may be charged or filled with imitation eggs—such as candy, for instance—by merely pressing the legs *k* upward and then passing one egg at a time through the uncovered opening *b*.

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

1. A figure-toy, provided with a casing for
5 a supply of imitation eggs, said casing having a discharge-opening; a valve for said opening; movable legs adapted to support the toy; and mechanism connecting said valve and legs and adapted to uncover said opening
10 when the legs are moved.

2. A toy fowl or bird having a hollow body adapted to contain imitation eggs and provided with an egg-discharge opening; a valve-strip slidable on the bottom and covering and

uncovering said opening; imitation legs for
15 the fowl or bird movable up and down through the case or body; a bell-crank lever having its lower end connected with the valve-strip and its upper end connected with the said legs, and a spring acting on the upper end of
20 the bell-crank lever to normally press it and also the legs downwardly.

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

MARY E. BEHN.

Witnesses:

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