

(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

I. Q. BARSTOW.

FOLDING COOP.

No. 302,973.

Patented Aug. 5, 1884.

Fig. 1.

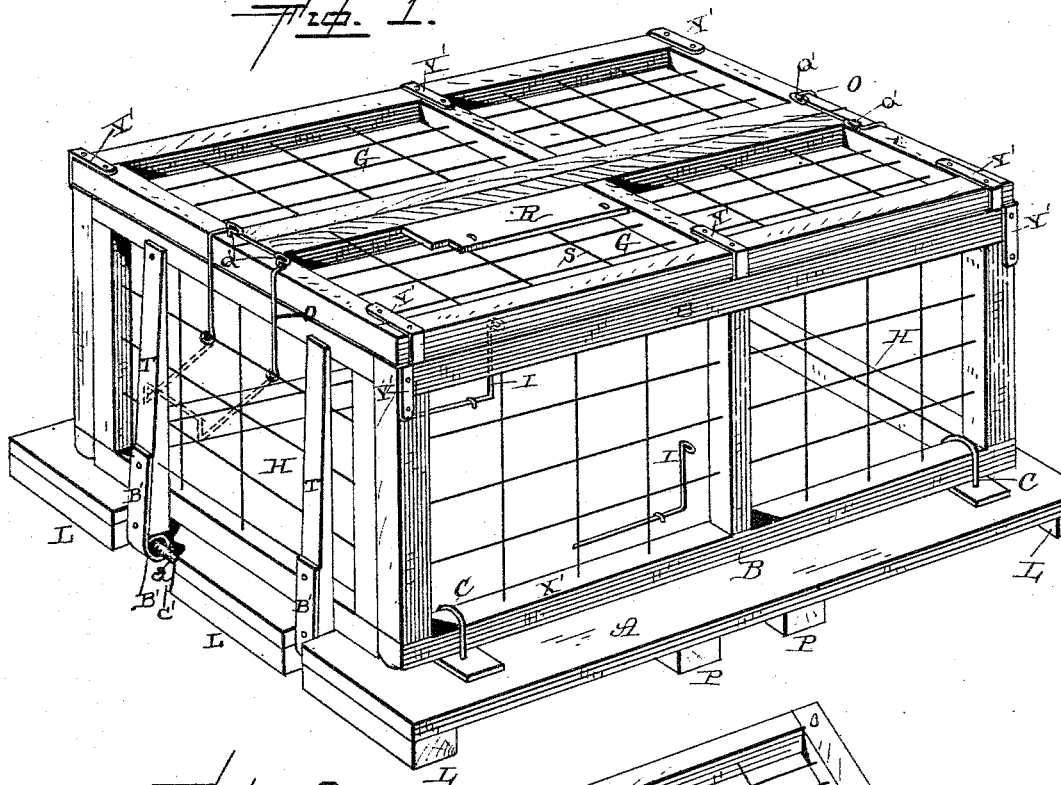
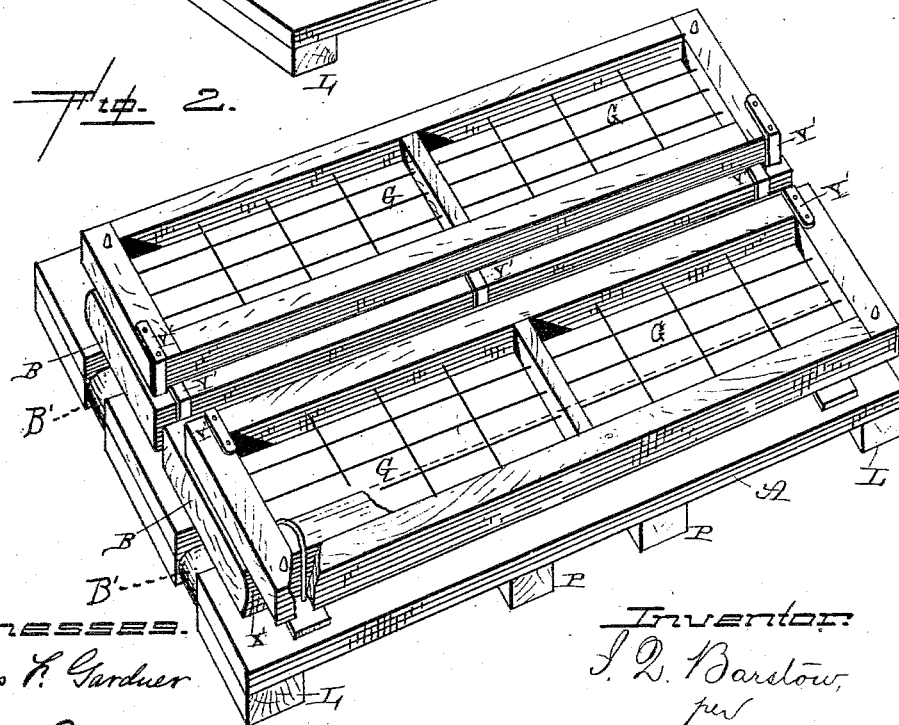


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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J. A. Lehmann, atty.

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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FOLDING COOP.

No. 302,973.

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Fig. 3.

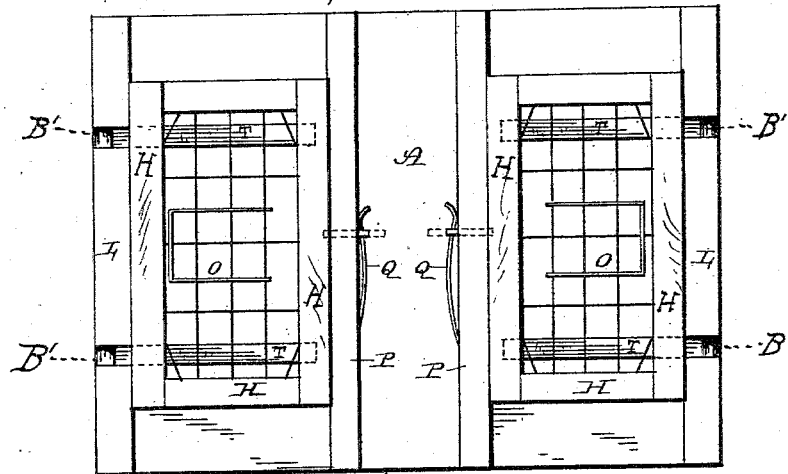


Fig. 4.

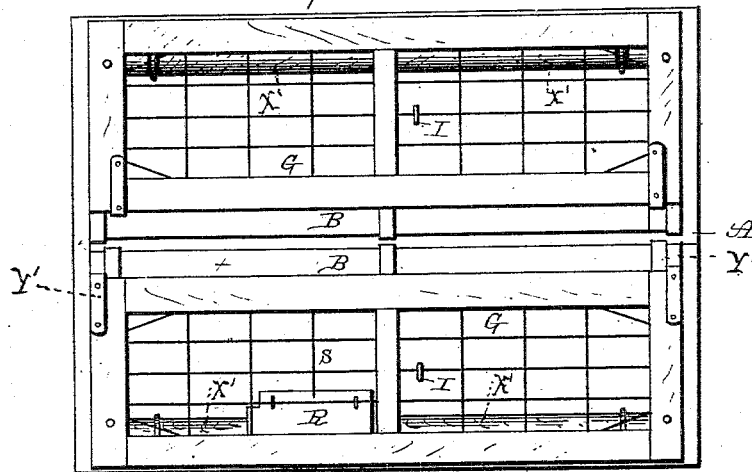
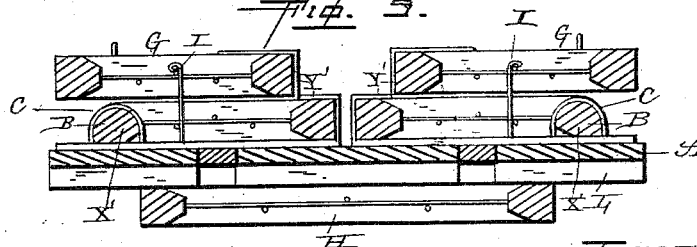


Fig. 5.



— Witnesses. —

Louis P. Gardner

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC Q. BARSTOW, OF REEDSVILLE, OHIO.

FOLDING COOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,973, dated August 5, 1884.

Application filed December 3, 1883. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC Q. BARSTOW, of Reedsville, in the county of Meigs and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Coops; 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 it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in folding coops; and it consists in the combination of the bottom, having pieces secured across its underside; the side pieces which are secured to the bottom by means of staples; the top pieces, which are hinged to the sides; the end pieces, which are hinged to the two cross-pieces which extend across the lower side of the ends of the bottom, and suitable spring-catches on both sides of the bottom, for holding the folding parts in position while the coop is folded together for transportation, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The object of my invention is to provide a coop which, after it has been used, can be folded up into a very small space to be returned to the shipper, and thus not take up any unnecessary room in transportation.

Figure 1 is a perspective of the coop complete when ready for use. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the coop folded together for transportation. Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the under side of the folded coop. Fig. 4 is a plan view showing the top part closed down upon the bottom. Fig. 5 is a vertical cross-section taken through the folded parts.

A represents the bottom of the coop, upon the top of which are secured the two side pieces, B. These side pieces, B, are secured in position by means of rings or loops C, which act as hinges, and which allow the side pieces, B, to be raised from a horizontal position upon the top of the bottom into a vertical position, as shown in Fig. 1. The inner lower edges of the bottom bars, X', of the sides B are rounded away, so that the sides B can be readily closed down upon the top or the bottom A; but the lower outer edges of these parts X' are not rounded away, so that when the sides

are raised into a vertical position (shown in Fig. 1) this outer square edge will serve as a stop to prevent the side B from moving past a vertical position. Connected loosely to the top edge of each one of these sides B is the top G, the two parts being connected together by flexible hinges Y', which allow the top to be turned backward when the coop is being folded together upon the top of the side pieces, B. These flexible hinges consist, preferably, of leather straps, two of which are used at each end, but only a single one at the center. Where two straps Y' are used at the ends of the folding parts, each one has one end secured to one side of one of the parts, then passes over the edges of both parts, and then has its other end fastened to the opposite side of the opposite folding side or top part. Nothing novel is claimed in these hinges, because they are old in other connections. When the sides are raised into a vertical position and the top turned over into a horizontal position, their inner edges come together, as shown in Fig. 1. These side and top pieces are then supported and braced into position by means of the folding end pieces, H. Each one of these end pieces has two bars, T, secured rigidly to it, and to the lower ends of these bars are secured suitable straps or hinges, B', as shown. The lower ends of these straps are bent around the pins a, which form the pintles of the hinges. These pins a are secured between the parts of the cross-pieces L which are secured across the lower side of the ends of the bottom A. When the side and top pieces are folded down upon the top of the bottom piece, A, they are held in position by means of the spring snaps or catches I, which are fastened to the bottom, and which have their upper ends to catch over the wires, as shown. Through one of the top pieces is made an opening, through which the fowls can be removed from or introduced into the coop, and this opening is closed by a spring-actuated door, R. Springs are applied to the door for the purpose of causing it to close quickly after having been opened. As here shown, this door is pivoted upon one of the wires, and its outer edge is made to extend beyond the wire upon which it is pivoted

to catch against the top of the spring-rod S. As soon as the door is released, after having been opened, the spring causes it to instantly close. The end pieces, H, when not in use, are folded against the under side of the bottom, as shown; but when in use they are turned from under the bottom up into a vertical position, so as to catch between the ends of the side and top pieces, as shown in Fig. 1. When turned up so as to catch between the ends of the side and top pieces, they form braces or supports for keeping the side and top pieces rigidly in position. In order to hold these parts in position after the coop is ready for use, suitable pins, Q', or catches are passed down through the ends of the top pieces, so as to catch in the top edges of the end pieces, and thus prevent the coop from being accidentally opened.

In order to add still further to the security of the coop, suitable clasps or holding devices, O, are secured to the end pieces, and these holding devices extend up over the ends of the top pieces and assist in locking them in place. When the end pieces are folded down against the under side of the bottom piece, A, their top edges catch behind the two cross pieces or clips P, which extend across the bottom of the piece A, and through these cross pieces are passed the spring snaps or catches Q, for holding these end pieces in place.

After the coop has been used and it is desired to either return it to its owner or to take it away until again required, the sides and top pieces are folded down upon the top of the bottom piece, A, and the end pieces are turned back against the under side of the bottom, and all of these parts are locked in position by means of the spring snaps or catches used for that purpose.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

The combination of the bottom A, having the pieces L P secured across its bottom, the side pieces, B, secured to the bottom by means of the staples C, the top pieces, G, secured to the side pieces by means of the hinges Y', the end pieces, H, which are connected by suitable hinges or connections with the pieces L, and suitable spring-catches, Q, fastened to the cross-pieces P, for locking the end pieces in position against the under side of the bottom, and the catches I, for locking the side and top pieces in position upon the top of the bottom, substantially as specified.

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

ISAAC Q. BARSTOW.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. KIBBLE,
V. J. PACKARD.