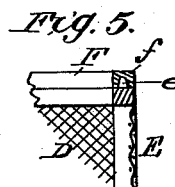
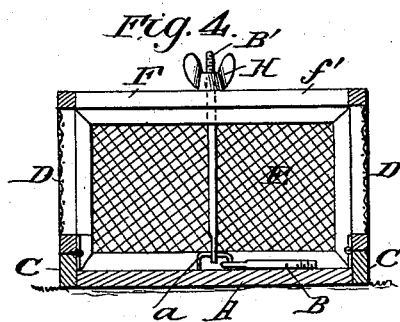
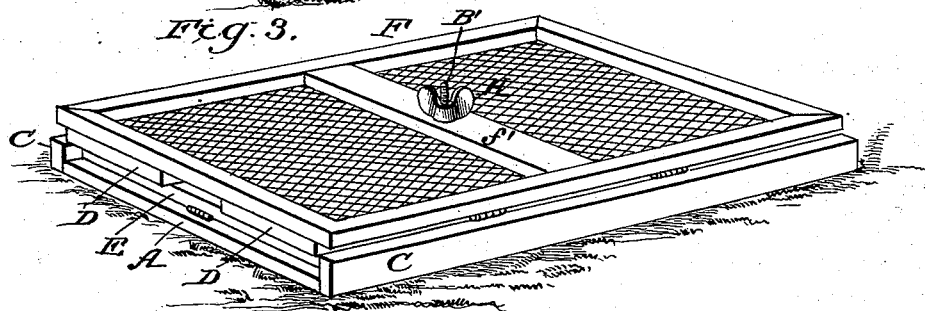
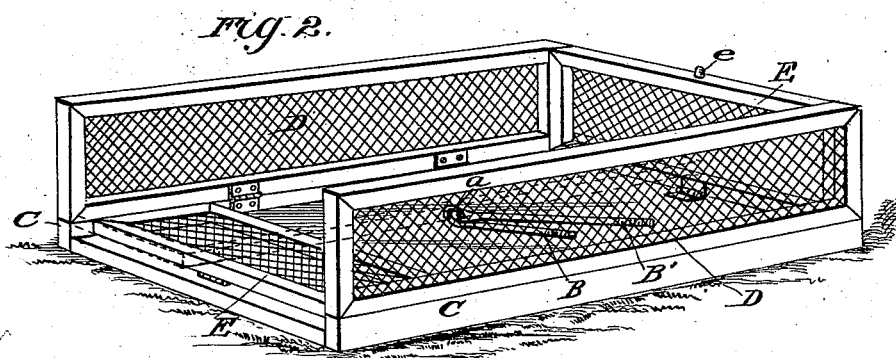
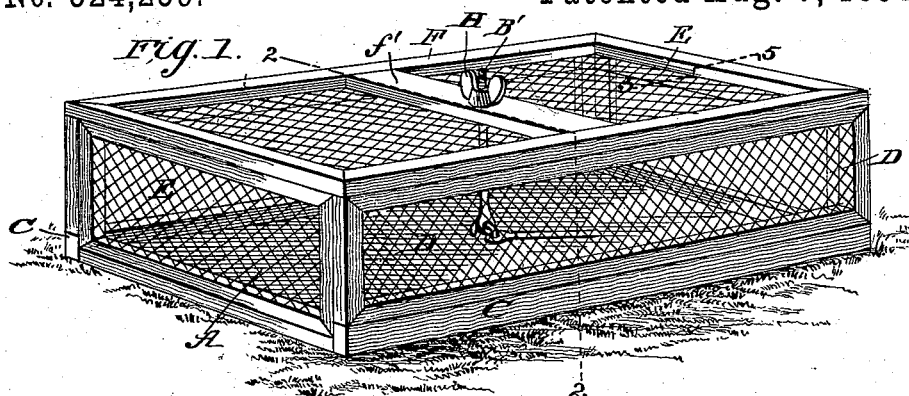


(No Model.)

L. MATTHEWS.
FOLDING CHICKEN COOP.

No. 524,259.

Patented Aug. 7, 1894.



WITNESSES:

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LUTHER MATTHEWS, OF PARIS, TENNESSEE.

FOLDING CHICKEN-COOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 524,259, dated August 7, 1894.

Application filed March 15, 1894. Serial No. 503,749. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LUTHER MATTHEWS, residing at Paris, in the county of Henry and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and Improved Folding Chicken-Coop, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to folding chicken coops, and it has for its object to provide a simple and inexpensive coop of this kind, which can be easily spread or folded and be held locked in either position.

The invention consists in a coop constructed in the peculiar and novel manner hereinafter first described in detail, and then pointed out in the claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved coop the parts being opened out showing the coop ready for use. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same showing the top removed, one of the ends folded down in full lines, and one of the sides shown down in dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3—3 Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the coop knocked down and folded, and Fig. 5 is a detail cross section on the line 5—5 Fig. 1.

In the practical construction of my improved coop the same embodies a bottom portion, side and end portions hinged thereto, a detachable top portion, and locking means whereby such parts are held secure in either the unfolded or folded positions. The coop proper may be formed in practice of either wire network, slatted members, or a combination of slat and wire portions.

In the drawings I have shown, and for inexpensiveness I prefer to form the bottom A of wood, centrally of which is formed an eye or staple *a* to which is pivotally secured a pair of screw bolts B B' of different lengths for a purpose presently explained. At the sides of the bottom, strips C C are secured which project up a distance equal the thickness of the ends, and to such strips are hinged, to fold inward, the sides D D, which as well as the ends and top is made of suitable skeleton framing and woven wire as shown. The end pieces E are hinged directly to the bottom piece to fold inward, and at the upper ends such end

pieces have studs *e*, for a purpose presently explained.

So far as described it will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 2, that by first turning the end members down on the bottom piece, and then the sides down onto the end sections the body of the coop will be packed flat in a space equal the thickness of the bottom, the ends and side portions.

F indicates the top section which is formed substantially as shown in Fig. 1, its end members having sockets *f*, *f*, which when the coop is arranged for use, fits over the studs *e* on the end members E, and holds such members from being pushed inward, and such top F has centrally an apertured bearing portion *f'*, through which is adapted to pass the threaded end of either one of the lock bolts B B', on which is adapted to be secured the lock nut H. It will be noticed by reference to Fig. 2, such bolts B and B' are of different lengths, the shorter one B, being of a length sufficient to project up through the top when the coop is folded to its compact form, while the other B' is of a length sufficient to extend up through such top when the coop is adapted for use as shown in Fig. 1. By thus providing two bolts of unequal length, a simple and effective means is provided for holding the several parts locked either in the extended or folded position, it being obvious that by hinging the ends and sides to fold inward, they cannot be swung outward beyond a vertical position, and by arranging the end pieces between the ends of the side members, and providing such end pieces with stops adapted to engage lock notches in the top, such side pieces, as also the ends, will be securely held from being pushed inward when the top is held thereon in a locked position.

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

1. A folding coop comprising a bottom, end sections hinged to fold inward flat onto the bottom, side sections hinged to fold flat onto the end sections, a pair of screw bolts of unequal length pivotally secured centrally to the bottom, a removable top having a central aperture and a lock nut adapted to be fitted

on either of such bolts when projected through the aperture in the said top, all arranged substantially as shown and for the purposes specified.

5 2. In a folding coop having inwardly folding side and end sections, a bottom member having a centrally disposed eye or staple, a pair of eye bolts of unequal lengths pivotally connected thereto, having screw threaded
10 ends, a detachable top member having a cen-

tral aperture adapted to receive alternately the said threaded ends, as the crate is folded or adjusted to an extended position, a winged nut adapted to fit the projected end of such bolts, all arranged substantially as shown and 15 described.

LUTHER MATTHEWS.

Witnesses:

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