(No Model.)

B. McM. REED.

HEN'S NEST.

No. 348,054. Patented Aug. 24, 1886.

Fig. 1.

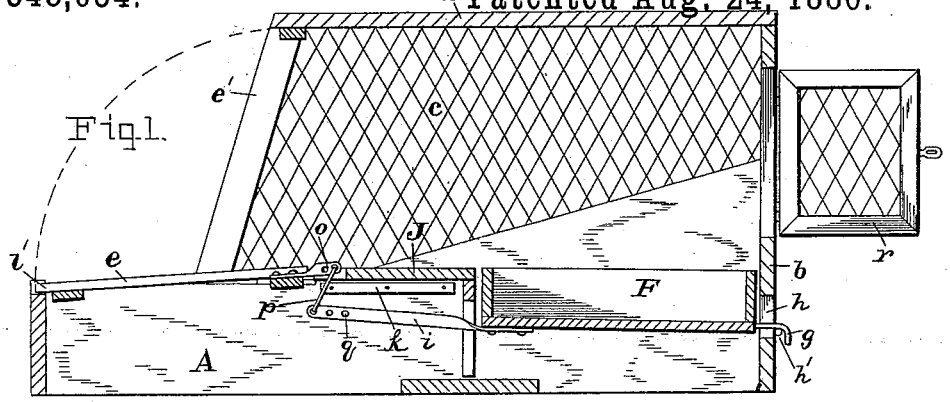


Fig. 2.

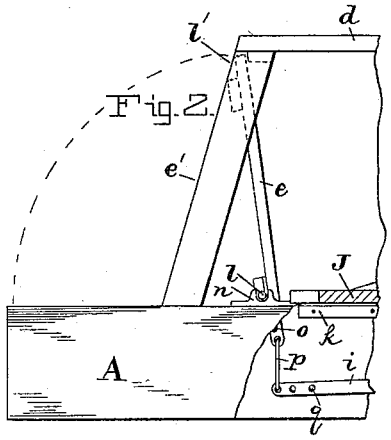


Fig. 3.

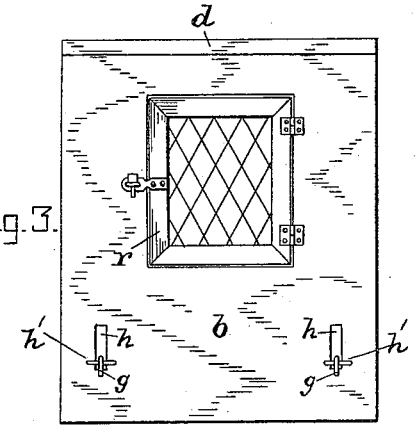


Fig. 4.

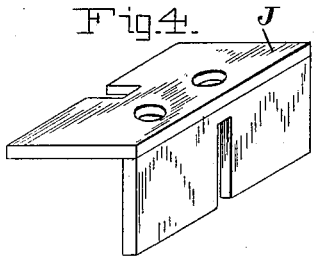
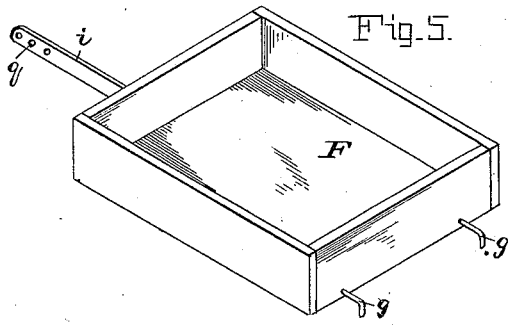


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

A. C. Eader

John E. Morris.

INVENTOR:

Brent McM. Reed

BY Chas B. Mann

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BRENT McM. REED, OF ARLINGTON, MARYLAND.

HEN'S NEST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 348,054, dated August 24, 1886.

Application filed June 12, 1886. Serial No. 204,925. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BRENT McM. REED, a citizen of the United States, residing at Arlington, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hen's Nests, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved hen's nest and door for same; and it consists of the construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter set forth.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of the nest. Fig. 2 is a partly side and partly sectional view of the front end of the nest. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the rear end. Fig. 4 is a view of the stationary platform removed. Fig. 5 is a view of the nest-box removed.

The letter A designates the lower portion of the walls of a box of rectangular shape. The rear wall, *b*, of the box may be made solid, like the lower portion, but I prefer to make the side walls, *c*, of woven wire, or some suitable grated or slatted work to give thorough ventilation to the nest. The top *d* is solid, like the lower portion, A, of the walls. Provision is made by the door *e* for closing the entrance or front end, *e'*.

One of the objects which I have in view by the construction here shown is to provide for readily removing the nest-box, door, and operative parts, in order that they and the box may be thoroughly cleaned.

The nest-box F has at one end two rigid fingers, *g*, each of which project through a slot, *h*, in the rear wall and rest on a metal bearing, *h'*, extending across the slot. Thus the rear end of the nest-box is pivoted, affording to the front end an up-and-down movement. The front end of the nest-box has a rigid arm, *i*, which is attached to the bottom and projects horizontally toward the entrance. Adjoining the nest-box is a stationary platform, J, which is above and covers the rigid arm *i* of the nest-box. When in its position, this platform is stationary, resting on the cleats *k*, but it may be lifted therefrom and entirely removed. The door *e* has pivots or journals *l*, which rest in open bearings *n*, seated on the lower portion of the walls A of the box, and on a plane level with the stationary platform J. Thus pivoted the door may lie horizontally, as shown in Fig. 1, or may be raised to an upright position, and thereby close the entrance, as shown in Fig. 2. When thus raised, the door stands inclined outward—that is, the top or free end, *l'*, stands out beyond the base or pivoted end *l*, and thereby the weight of the door has a constant tendency to throw it down and leave the entrance *e'* open. The door has at its pivoted end a rigid arm, *o*, and a link, *p*, connects this arm *o* with the arm *i* on the nest-box. Both of these arms have several holes *q*, in one of which the link *p* engages. By having several holes the link may be set or adjusted in that one which will effect the best balance between the nest-box and pivoted door. The link *p* should so adjust or balance these parts that normally the door will lie down, as in Fig 1, and thus keep the front end of the nest-box raised. In this position of the parts the door *e*, platform J, and top of the nest-box F are on a level, or substantially on the same horizontal plane.

The hen will enter (see Fig. 1) by walking along the door *e*, and thence upon the stationary platform J, and she will step from the platform into the nest-box F. The weight of the hen upon the nest-box will depress its front end, and the arm *i* and link *p* will draw down on the door-arm *o* and raise the door upright, thereby closing the entrance *e'*. The hen is thus guarded from intrusion or attack. When the hen desires to come out of the nest, she steps therefrom onto the platform J whereupon the door's gravity will cause it to drop and open the entrance, and the hen in departing can walk on the door. It will thus be seen the stationary platform J between the door and nest-box is an important element of the combination.

By the described construction the platform J may be removed, the door *e* lifted from its open bearings *n*, and the nest-box F removed, when each part may be cleaned—these parts out of the box A *b c*. The latter may also be cleaned.

A door, *r*, is in the rear wall, *b*, and gives access to the nest-box for the purpose of placing in or removing eggs.

Having described my invention, I claim and

desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

In a hen's nest, the combination of a box, A *b c*, having an entrance, *e'*, a stationary platform, J, adjoining the entrance on the inside, a nest-box, F, having at its rear end fingers *g*, by which it is pivoted, and provided at its front end with a rigid arm, *i*, a door, *e*, having pivots resting in open bearings *n*, seated on a plane level with the said stationary platform, and provided with an arm, *o*, and a link, *p*, wholly below the platform connecting the nest-arm and door-arm, for the purpose set forth.

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

BRENT McM. REED.

Witnesses:
JOHN E. MORRIS,
JNO. T. MADDOX.