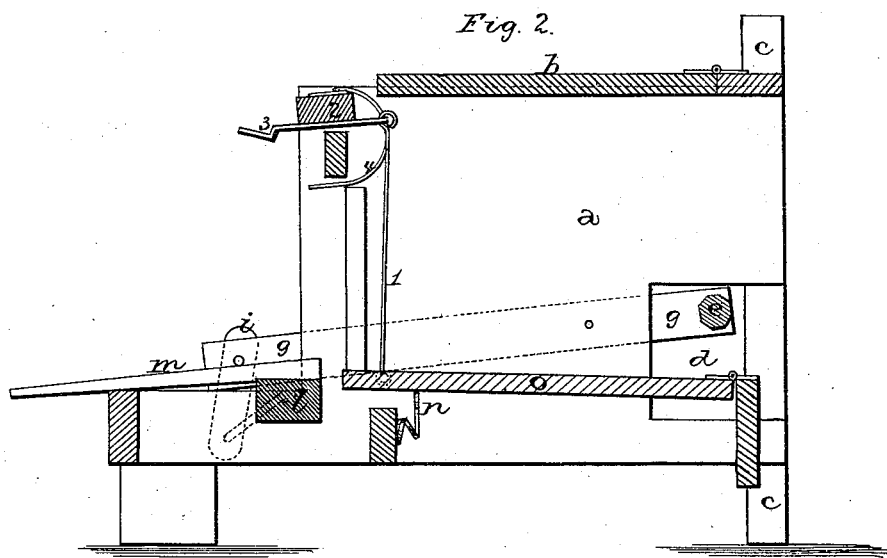
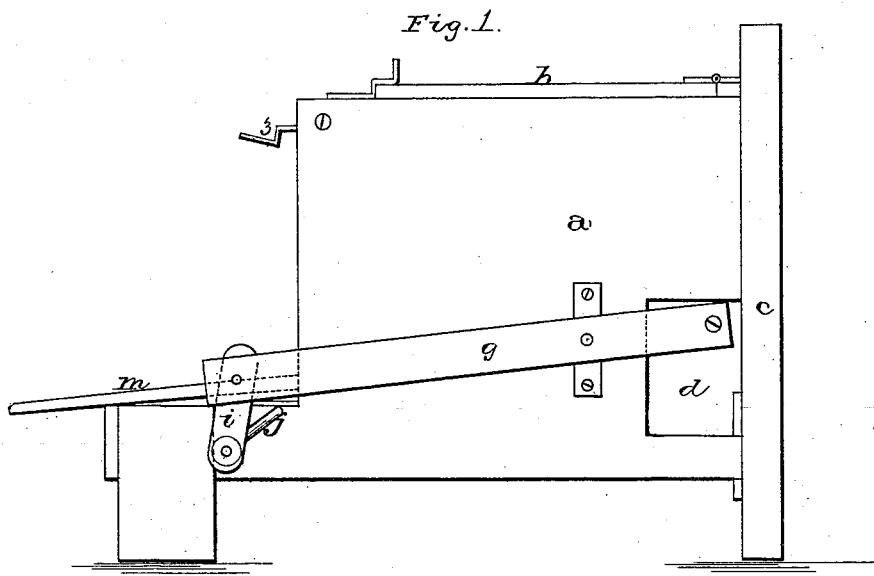


H. B. MORRISON.

HENS' NEST.

No. 191,166.

Patented May 22, 1877.



WITNESSES:

J. W. Garner
Wm. S. Haines

INVENTOR:

H. B. Morrison
per
F. A. Lehmann
att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HORATIO B. MORRISON, OF MASON CITY, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN HEN'S NESTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 131,166, dated May 22, 1877; application filed February 10, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HORATIO B. MORRISON, of Mason City, in the county of Cerro Gordo and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hen's Nests Door and Entry; 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 hen's-nest door and entry; and it consists in the arrangement and combination of devices that will be more fully described hereinafter, whereby, as the hen enters the door, and passing through the entry, she closes a slatted door behind her, so as to keep out other hens, and as the hen leaves the nest this door opens before her and leaves the nest open.

The accompanying drawings represent my invention.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same.

a represents the door and entry, of any desired shape or size, through which a hen passes to get to the nest, and which is provided with a hinged cover, *b*, so as to enable a person to have easy and free access to the nest. On each side of the entry, at the back end, is secured posts *c*, which have holes through each end, so as to enable the entry to be fastened to a barrel, box, or any other suitable place in which a hen may have her nest. Through each side of the back end of the entry *a* is cut an opening, *d*, and extending through the openings entirely across the entry, at some distance above the floor, is a bar, *e*, which has its ends fastened to the two short ends of the pivoted levers *g*. These levers are pivoted, outside of the entry, to the couplings *i*, with the cranks *j* on the ends of the shaft *l* or beam, to which the slatted door *m* is rigidly secured. These slats are rather widely separated from each other, so as to admit light, and induce her to walk to-

ward that end of the entry to get out, and leaves the door open for the next hen.

The bottom of the entry is hinged at the back end of the entry, and has its opposite end held constantly pressed upward by means of the spring *n*. The free end of this bottom *o* is connected, by means of a rod, *1*, with a pivoted rocking bar, *2*, in the extreme upper corner of the entry. As the bottom is pressed downward by the weight of the hen as she walks toward the door, the bar *2* is pulled downward on its inner side, throwing the outer edge upward, and thereby raising the spring-catch *3*, secured to it, from over the edge of the door. Also secured to this rocking bar *2* is a curved rod, *4*, which, as the bar tilts, strikes the door from the inside and pushes it down, leaving the hen free to walk out. As the hen passes through the entry she steps on the bar *e*, which causes the short end of the lever *g* to be depressed, and the long ones to draw the crank *j* upward, thereby closing the door behind her, which rises upward, and is held in that position by the catch *3*.

When the hen moves toward the door, and steps on the floor of the entry, her weight on the floor opens the door, and she passes out, leaving the door open for the entrance of another hen. As the door falls the bar *e* is raised upward, and remains in that position until again depressed by the weight of the hen.

By means of this invention only one hen at a time can set on a nest, instead of two or more getting in the same nest. When a number of hens get in the same nest, as they always will do when let alone, they are apt to get killed or sick, and the eggs in the other nests get cold and spoil. It also prevents the hens, while in the nest, from being destroyed or killed by animals of any kind.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a hen's-nest entry, the combination of the bar *e*, lever *g*, crank *j*, and a door for closing the end of the entry, substantially as shown.

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2. The combination of a hinged floor, spring connecting-rod, pivoted rocking-bar, and the catch, whereby the door is held shut and released, substantially as described.

3. The rocking-bar, connected to the floor, and provided with a catch for holding the door and a device for pushing the door open, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of January, 1877.

HORATIO B. MORRISON.

Witnesses:

J. J. CLARK,

JAMES ALLINGHAUS.