

119. ANIMAL HUSBANDRY,  
 370 Nests & nest appliances,  
 Trap nests, Fowl, Fowl released.

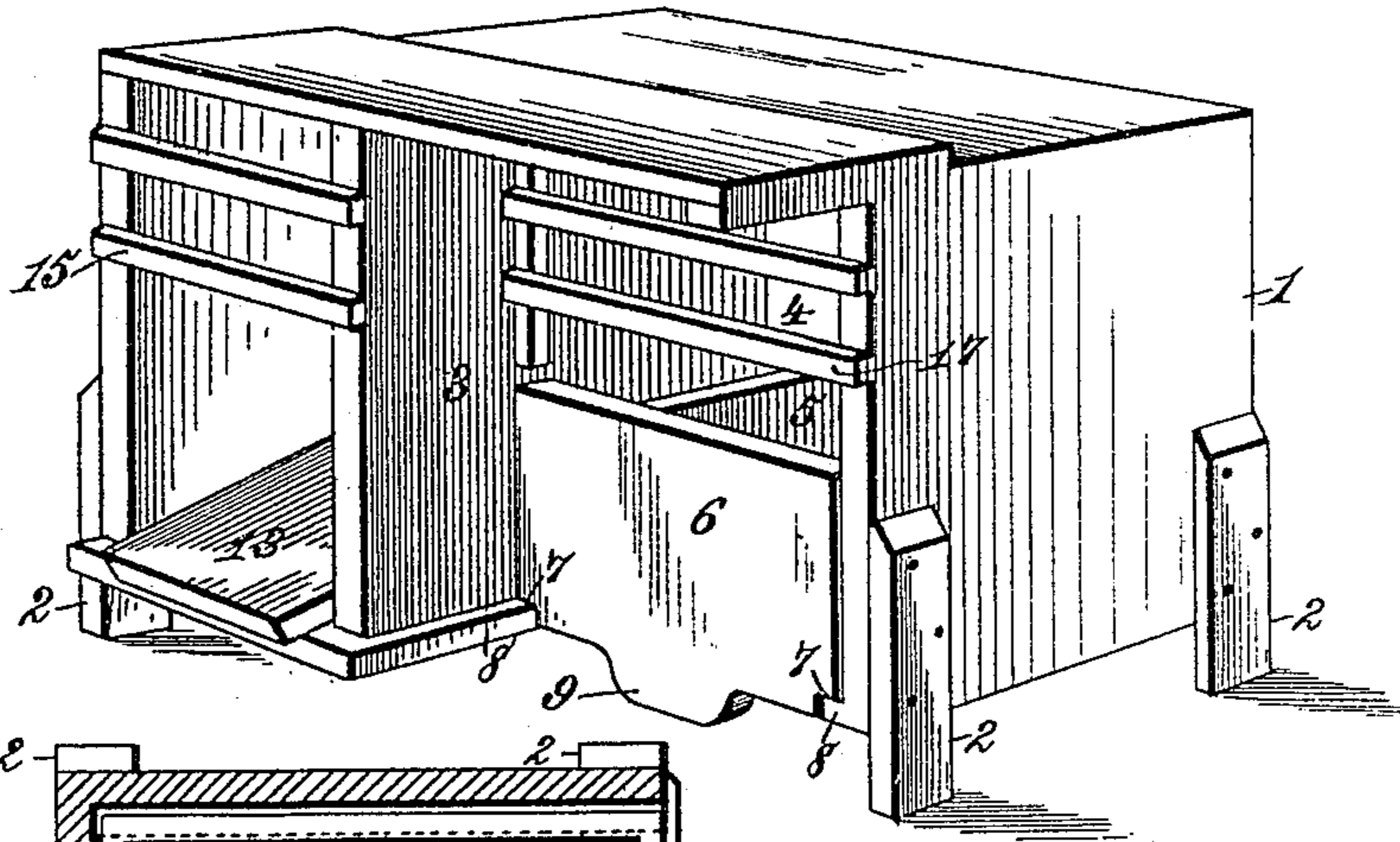
(No Model.)

J. H. MANLOVE.  
 HEN'S NEST.

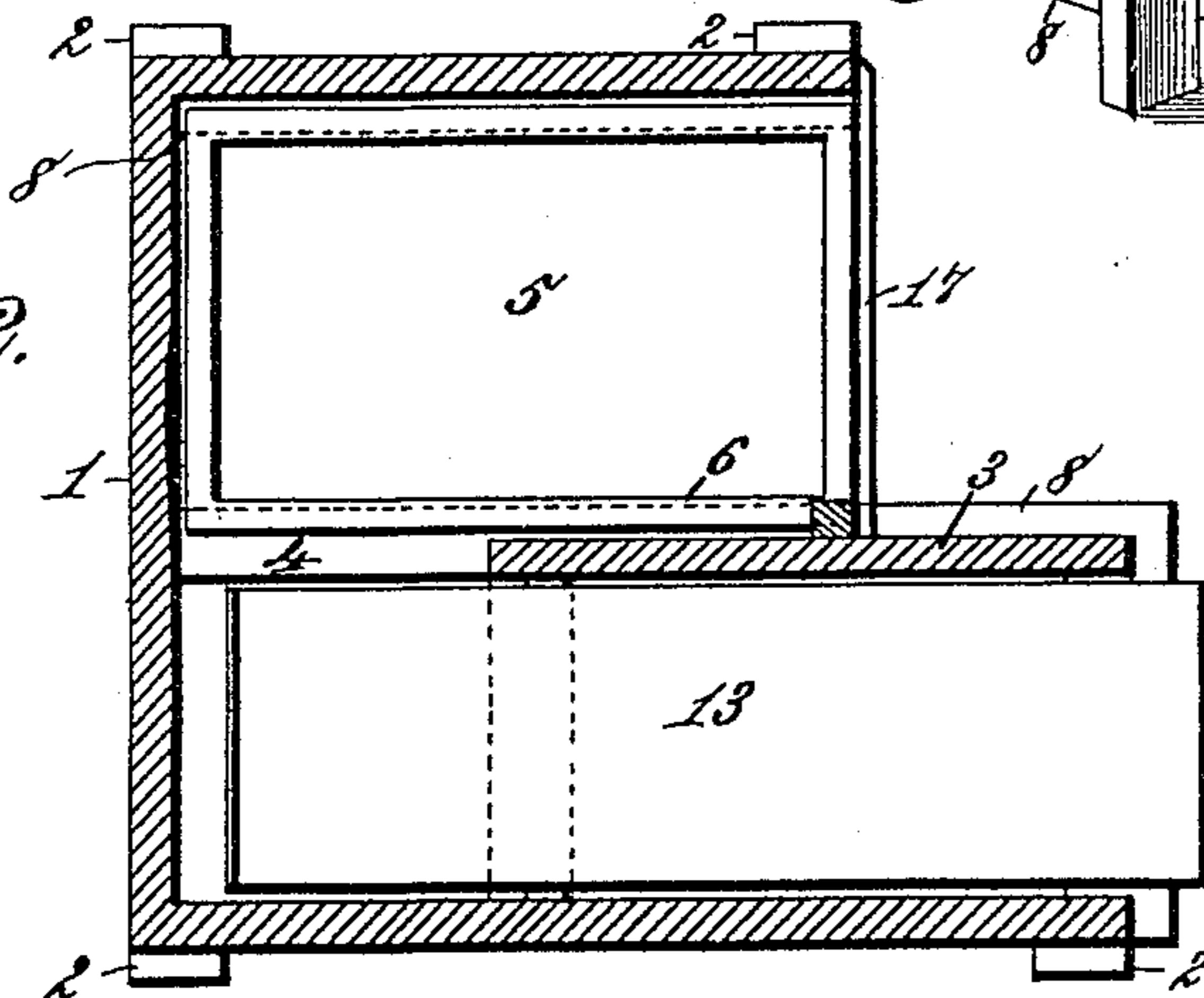
No. 436,249.

Patented Sept. 9, 1890.

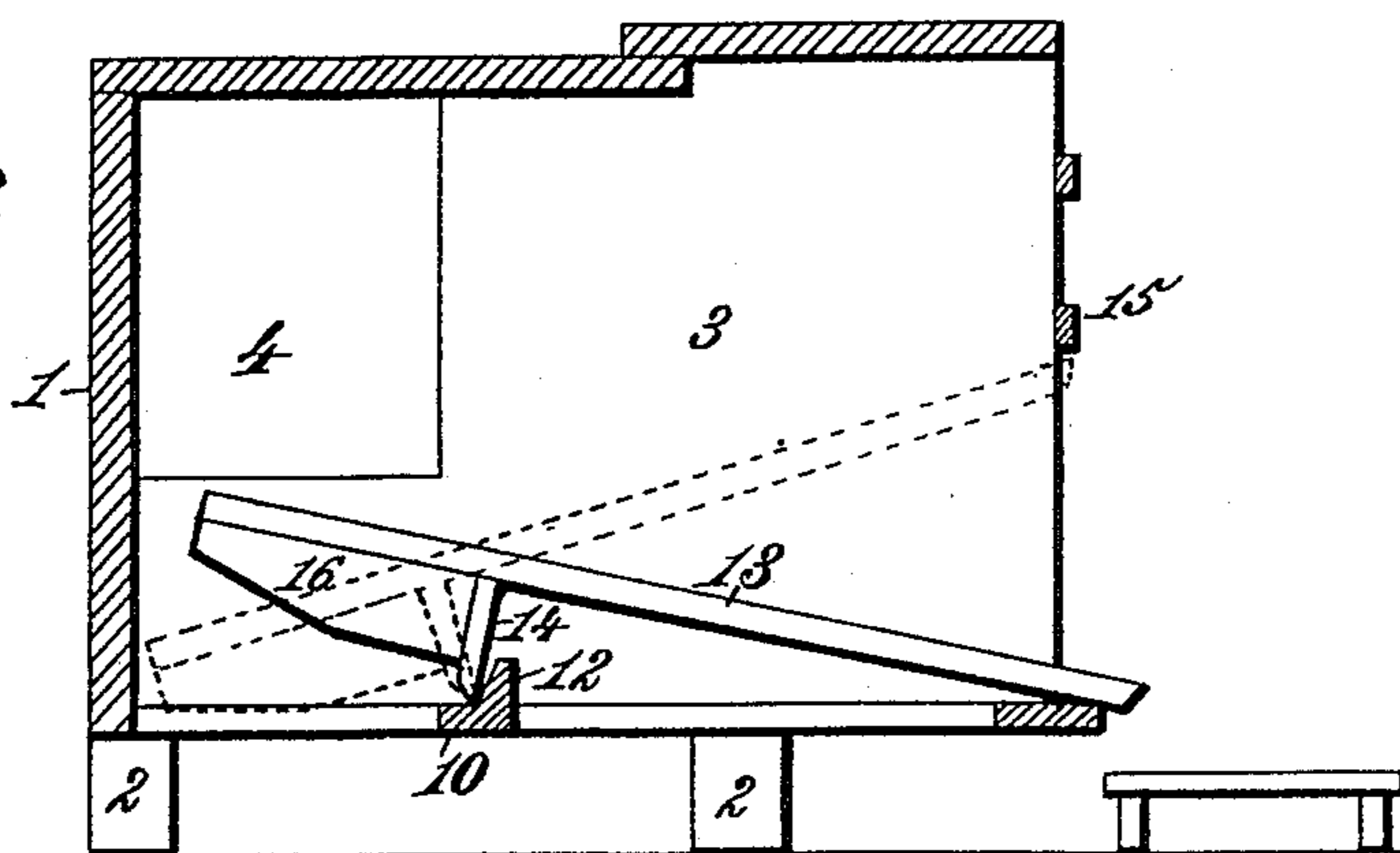
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses:  
 Phil Grubb,  
 Dennis Sully.

Inventor:  
 John H. Manlove.  
 By James L. Norris,  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. MANLOVE, OF COOPER, TEXAS.

## HEN'S NEST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 436,249, dated September 9, 1890.

Application filed April 25, 1890. Serial No. 349,531. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN H. MANLOVE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cooper, in the county of Delta and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Hens' Nests, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that type of hen-nest wherein a tilting platform is employed to protect the setting hen from intrusion while permitting her to freely pass to and from the nest.

The objects of my invention are to improve the prior construction and to provide novel means whereby the hen setting or hatching chamber is separated from the passage containing the tilting platform by a division-wall having a rear doorway, in such manner that the eggs are isolated and in a measure hid and protected while the hen is seeking food.

The invention consists, essentially, in a box-like structure having a vertical partition-wall and lateral doorway at the rear, a tilting platform arranged in the passage formed at one side of the partition-wall, and a hen setting or hatching drawer or other chamber at the opposite side of the partition-wall, the construction being such that the fowl in passing to the drawer or chamber overbalances the rear end of the platform, and thereby causes the front end thereof to obstruct or close the entrance, while the fowl can pass laterally through the rear doorway to the eggs in the setting-chamber, and thus be shielded or protected against intrusion and annoyance from other fowls, which is a source of so many objections.

The invention is illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view looking at the front of the nest. Fig. 2 is a top plan view, omitting the roof or top wall of the structure. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view taken centrally through the passage containing the tilting platform and looking toward the lateral doorway.

In order to enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will now describe the same in detail, referring to the drawings, wherein—

The numeral 1 indicates a box-like structure,

which is preferably mounted on legs 2 to elevate it above the ground or floor, and 3 indicates a vertical partition-wall extending from the front to near the back wall, where a lateral doorway 4 is provided. The partition-wall divides the structure into a straight passage at one side and a setting or hatching chamber 5 at the opposite side, which communicates at the rear with the passage by the lateral doorway. The setting-chamber contains a setting-drawer or egg-holder 6, provided with parallel guides 7, resting on guide-supports 8, whereby the drawer can be slid into and out of place, for which purpose a suitable handle 9 is applied to its front. The drawer is of such length that it extends beside the lower portion of the lateral doorway, and therefore the hen can step through the doorway directly into the drawer containing the nest proper.

The straight passage at one side of the partition-wall is provided near its rear end with a bar or pivot support 10, having an upward-projecting flange or shoulder 12, and the tilting platform 13 is provided near its rear end with a pendent rib or pivot-plate 14, which rests on the bar or pivot support 10 and bears against the rear side of the flange or shoulder 12. The platform comprises a rectangular board of a length and width approximately coextensive with the length and width of the passage, and such platform is adapted to oscillate on its rib or pivot-plate as a center, so that when the rear end is lowered the front end is raised and bears against a stop, which, as here shown, is composed of a bottom strip of a slatted front 15. The rear end of the platform is provided on its under side with a counter-weight 16, preferably constructed to balance the platform when in a horizontal plane in such manner that a preponderance of weight in front or rear of the pivotal point of the platform will tilt the latter to its opened or closed position. If the front end of the platform is lowered and the entrance thereby opened, the hen can pass up the inclined platform, and immediately the preponderance of weight falls behind the pivotal point the platform tilts and its front rises and obstructs or closes the entrance to the nest, while the fowl can step laterally through the

rear doorway into the setting drawer or chamber. The exit of the hen is effected by her passing up the platform, when the preponderance of weight will lower the front end of the platform and raise the rear end.

To secure the desired range of movement of the front end of the platform to open and close the entrance without producing an undue inclined plane for the travel of the fowl, I arrange the pivotal point of the platform between the rear extremity thereof and the center of its length, and fix the counter-weight stationary on the under side of the platform back of the pivotal point of the latter. By this construction and arrangement a wide range of movement is imparted to the front end portion of the platform by a comparatively small movement of the weighted rear end thereof, and hence the angle of inclination of the platform is reduced, which is an advantage. The passage containing the platform is extended outward beyond the slatted front of the setting-chamber, and the partition-wall, by dividing the passage from the said chamber, in a measure serves to isolate the nest proper. Inasmuch as the setting-drawer can be readily slid into and out of place, it can be preserved in a clean condition, while convenient access to the nest proper is provided. By extending the walls of the passage forward of the setting-chamber and projecting the roof or top wall to the front edge of such extension the slatted front of the setting-chamber is shielded from the weather.

A series of portable nest structures made as described may be placed in different places about the inside or outside of a barn or poultry-house, or they can be placed side by side in a row or one row above another, and their construction is such that setting hens will not be interfered with by other fowls, thus effecting a saving of eggs and an increased production of young, for where other fowls have access to the setting-boxes of hens many eggs are broken or spoiled, while hens lay to setting hens, which is a serious objection. The

structure is also such that the eggs are protected in a large measure from the depredations of animals, such as rats, minks, and weasels.

In the construction shown the platform can be loosely set in the box structure without pivot-pins arranged in journal-bearings, while longitudinal displacement is prevented by the flange or projection in front of the rib or pivot-plate and the rear wall of the structure.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is—

1. A hen-nest consisting of a box structure, a passage, and a setting-chamber divided by a vertical partition-wall provided at the rear with a lateral doorway, which places the passage in communication with the setting-chamber, and an oscillating platform located in the passage and tilted by the hen to close and open the entrance, substantially as described.

2. A hen-nest consisting of a box structure having a passage and a setting-chamber divided by a vertical partition-wall provided at the rear with a lateral doorway, which places the passage in communication with the setting-chamber, and an oscillating platform pivoted at a point between its rear end and the center of its length and provided with a counter-weight fixed stationary to its inner end, substantially as described.

3. A hen-nest consisting of a box structure having a passage and setting-chamber separated by a vertical partition-wall, provided at its rear with a lateral doorway, which places the passage in communication with the setting-chamber, a sliding removable drawer arranged in the setting-chamber, and an oscillating platform in the passage, which serves to obstruct the entrance when the rear end of such platform is lowered, substantially as described.

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

JOHN H. MANLOVE.

Witnesses:

E. M. MORRIS,  
MARK FOSTER.