

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. A. BARKELEW.  
CHICKEN COOP.

No. 441,120.

Patented Nov. 25, 1890.

Fig. 1.

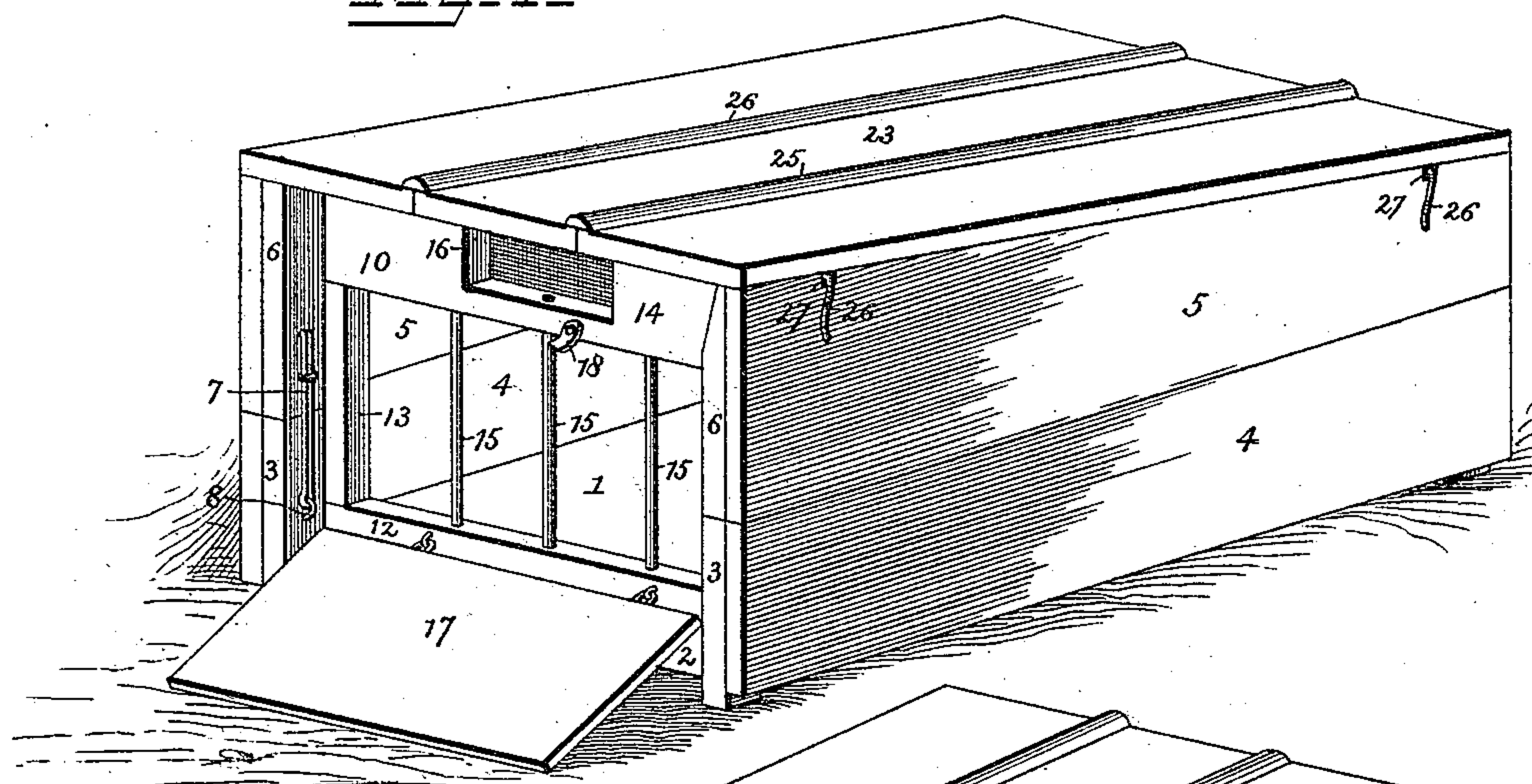


Fig. 2.

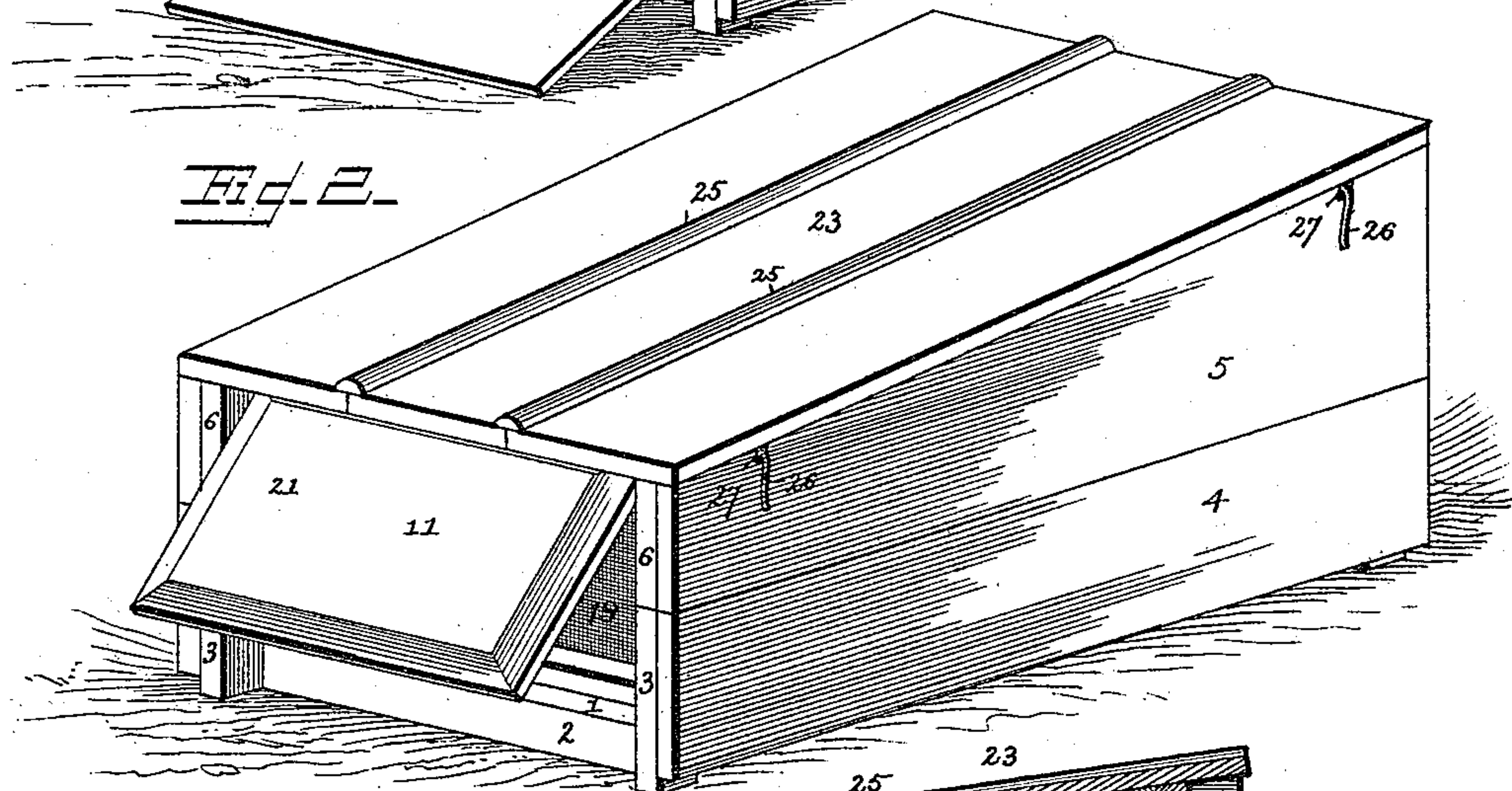
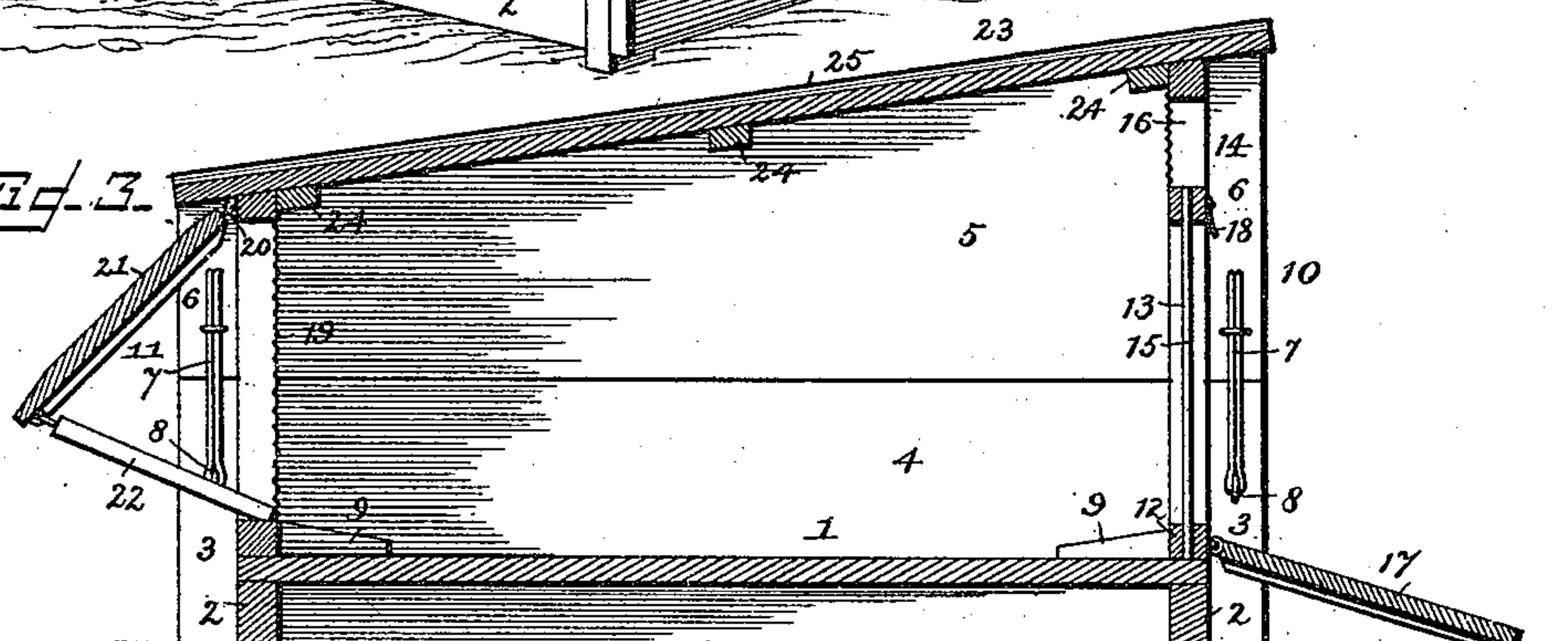


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

Chas. H. Curand

W. S. Duvall

By

Attorneys,

C. A. Snow & Co.

Inventor

JULIUS A. BARKELEW

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Fig. 4.

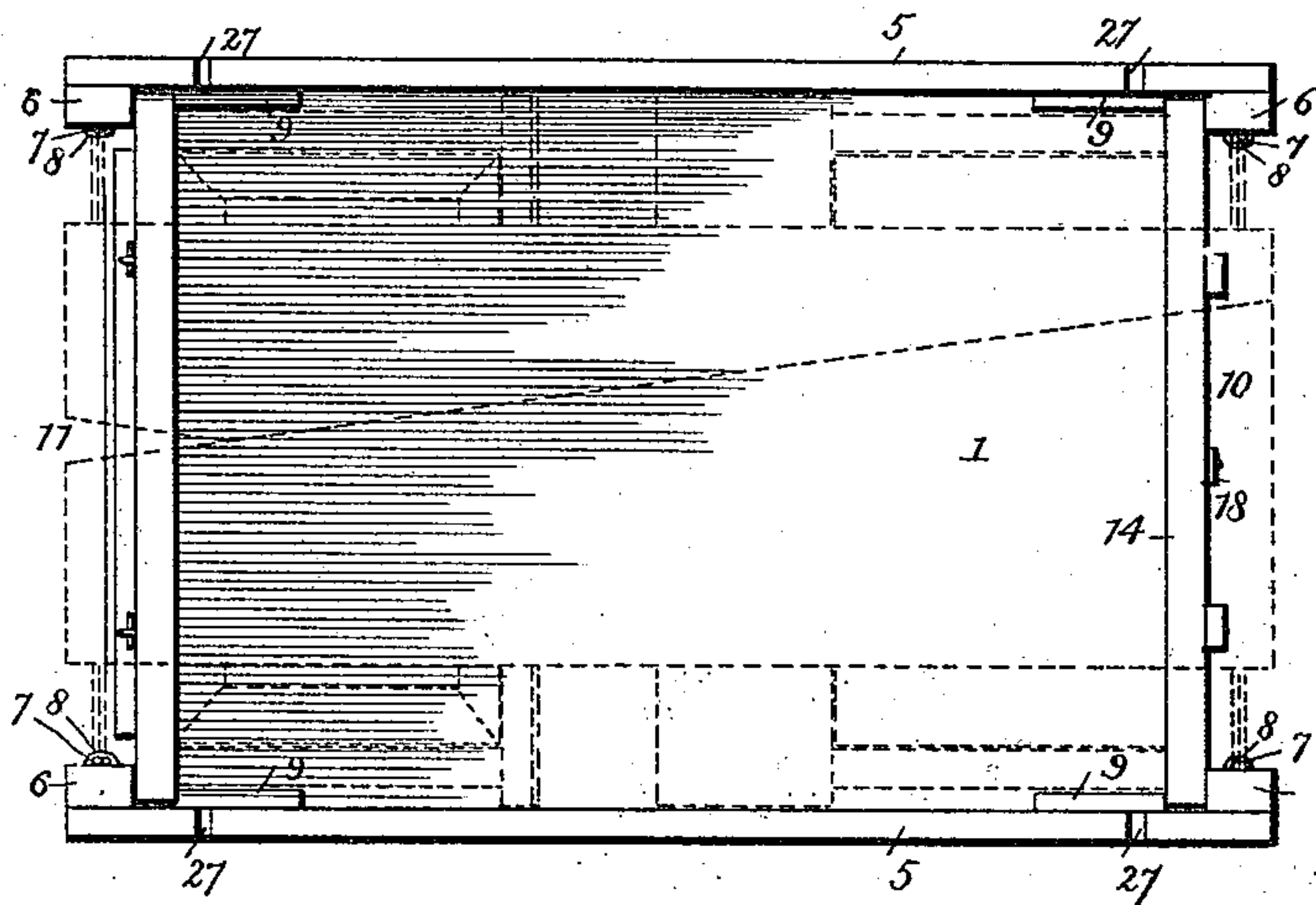
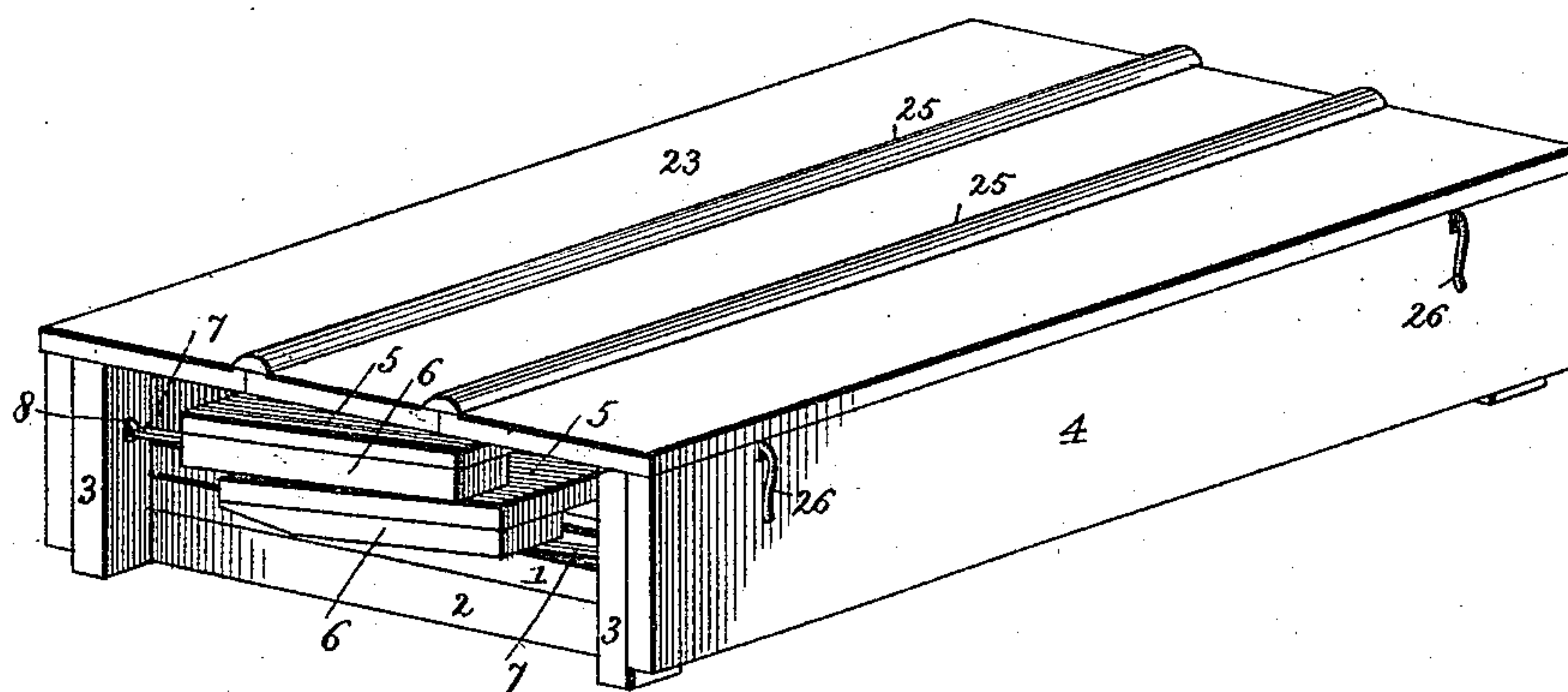


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

Chas H. Curand

Inventor

*JULIUS A. BARKELEW.*

By

Attorneys,

W. S. Dwall.

Chas. W. Snow



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIUS A. BARKELEW, OF CANTON, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
SILAS M. RAMSEY, OF SAME PLACE.

## CHICKEN-COOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 441,120, dated November 25, 1890.

Application filed April 12, 1890. Serial No. 347,687. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JULIUS A. BARKELEW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canton, in the county of Lewis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Chicken-Coop, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to chicken-coops, the object of the invention being to provide an exceedingly simple, cheap, and healthy coop, one adapted for a thorough ventilation and for a convenient accommodation of the chickens, adapted to be knocked down or folded for transportation, packing, &c., to be readily separable for cleaning purposes, and furthermore to be practically water-proof and a thorough protection to the chickens.

With the above objects in view the invention consists in certain features of construction hereinafter specified, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective, and Fig. 2 is a rear perspective, of a coop constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 4 is a plan view, the roof removed and the parts dotted in their folded position. Fig. 5 is a perspective of the coop in a packed or folded state.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 represents the bottom, which is supported above the ground by opposite transverse cleats 2, arranged at the ends and secured to the under surfaces of said bottom.

3 represents the four corner-posts, which are securely nailed at their lower ends to the opposite ends of their respective cleats, each longitudinal pair of corner-posts being connected by a side section 4. Each of the sides of the coop is also provided with an upper side section 5, the upper edges of which are inclined from front to rear and are securely nailed to vertical corner-posts 6, aligning with the lower corner-posts 3, and loosely connected therewith by means of links 7, depending from the inner surfaces of the posts 6 and engaging eyes 8, projecting from the inner faces of the lower corner-posts 3, considerably below their upper ends. By this con-

struction it will be apparent that the upper sections 5 of the sides are adapted to fold within the lower sections and down upon the floor 1 of the coop, whereby the height of the coop is reduced less than one-half.

The floor 1 at its front and rear ends and at opposite sides is provided with blocks 9, which blocks are arranged slightly in rear of the corner-posts and combine with said posts to form an intermediate space at each of the four corners of the coop. In the spaces thus formed at the front and rear ends of the coop there are arranged front and rear sections 10 and 11, respectively.

The section 10 consists of a transverse bar 12 at the lower end of the section, which has rising from near its ends opposite vertical bars 13, connected at their upper ends by a transverse portion 14 and combining with the posts 13 and the bar 12 to form an exit and entrance for the chickens, which exit-opening is provided with a series of vertical bars to keep out the large chickens. The vertical bars 15 have one of their members made removable, which is accomplished by forming the holes in which the vertical bars are seated through and through the section 14, so that said bar may be raised from its lower socket or opening, and when free at its lower end moved laterally and withdrawn from its upper socket. By the bars the entrance is so contracted ordinarily as to permit only of the entrance of the small or younger chickens, and when the middle bar is removed the hen is also permitted to enter or leave the coop.

The upper section of the transverse portion 14 is provided with a ventilating-opening 16, which is covered by wire-gauze, and thus permits the escape of foul air.

The bar 12 of the front removable section has hinged thereto a downwardly-opening and upwardly-closing door 17, which is adapted to fold within and close the openings of the front section and be retained in place by an ordinary turn-button 18. In this manner the chickens may be locked within the coop when desired, and when the door is let down and the coop opened said door may be used as a feed-board to receive the food of the chickens.



The rear section 11 is simply an oblong frame formed by opposite vertical side pieces or bars connected at their upper and lower ends by transverse bars, the lower one of which takes within the spaces formed by the blocks 9. This frame 11 is covered by a wire netting or gauze 19, so as to permit light and air free exit and entrance from or to the coop.

To the upper bar of the frame there is hinged, as at 20, a downwardly-folding door 21, to the lower end of which there is pivoted a supporting-bar 22, which, when having its lower end resting upon the lower bar of the frame or upon the ground, serves as an awning for the purpose of shedding the sun or snow and rain, thus maintaining the coop in a dry and healthy state. By elevating the free end of the strip it is apparent that the door 21 may be folded down within the frame, thus closing the opening.

23 represents the top of the coop or roof, and the same is formed of a series of inclined boards or sections nailed to transverse cleats 24, located under the same, and of a length agreeing with the width of the coop. Strips 25 are secured over the cracks between the planks, so as to render the roof practically water-tight.

From the opposite ends of the end cleats 24 there project laterally and downwardly disposed inverted-L-shaped spring arms or clamps 26, which are adapted to embrace the outer surfaces of the upper side sections 5, and rest within the notches or recesses 27, formed in the upper edges of the same for the accommodation, while the ends of the cleats themselves take within the side walls of the coop.

As thus constructed it will be apparent that a most healthy and convenient coop has been provided without the use of nails or other securing devices tending to tear the parts composing the coop should the same be separated for cleansing or packing purposes, and one in which the end sections may be removed and laid upon the floor, the side sections folded thereover, and the roof laid upon them, so that the height of the coop when packed for shipping is less than one-half its original height, and the coop may be thus conveniently handled and stored, as will be understood.

When the parts are all assembled the spring clamping-arms 26 have a tendency to draw the side walls snugly together against the ends of the cleats 24, and the end sections 10 and 11 serve to brace and space the side walls apart, so that in the completed structure an exceedingly solid and staple coop is provided, and this without the use of nails or

other similar securing devices, with the exception of those portions thereof in which the parts are permanently secured.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a coop, the combination, with the bottom, of the opposite hinged sides, posts provided at the ends of the bottom, and blocks arranged in rear of the posts and combining therewith to form spaces, a roof for the coop, and means for locking the same, and opposite front and rear end sections removably mounted between the blocks and the end posts of the sides, substantially as specified.

2. In a coop, a front section having an entrance-opening, a series of vertical rods or bars for dividing the opening, one of said bars being removable for enlarging the same, and a door hinged to the lower end of the section and adapted to be lowered to form a feed-board and to fold up within the opening, and a locking device for the door, substantially as specified.

3. In a coop, the combination, with the floor and the transverse cleats arranged at the front and rear ends of the same, of the four corner-posts permanently secured at the corners of the floor, and the lower side sections permanently secured to the posts, and of the upper side section 5, provided with end posts aligning with the corner-posts of the coop and each provided with rigid depending links, as 7, the lower ends of the links being pivotally connected to eyes 8, located upon the inner faces of the corner-posts and below the upper ends of the same, and the opposite ends removably mounted between the corner-posts of the floor and sides, substantially as specified.

4. In a coop, the combination, with the bottom and the opposite pivoted sides having recesses at opposite points in their upper edges, of the end sections removably mounted between the sides, and the removable roof having opposite cleats on its under surface of a length agreeing with the width of the coop and adapted to take between the sides, and provided with pairs of opposite inverted-L-shaped clamping-arms adapted to take within the recesses formed in the edges of the sides and to embrace the exterior of said sides, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JULIUS A. BARKELEW.

Witnesses:

L. H. CONDIT,  
A. BOLSER.