

No. 627,652.

Patented June 27, 1899.

L. N. NICHOLS, Dec'd.

R. E. NICHOLS, Administratrix.

HEN'S NEST.

(Application filed June 6, 1898.)

(No Model.)

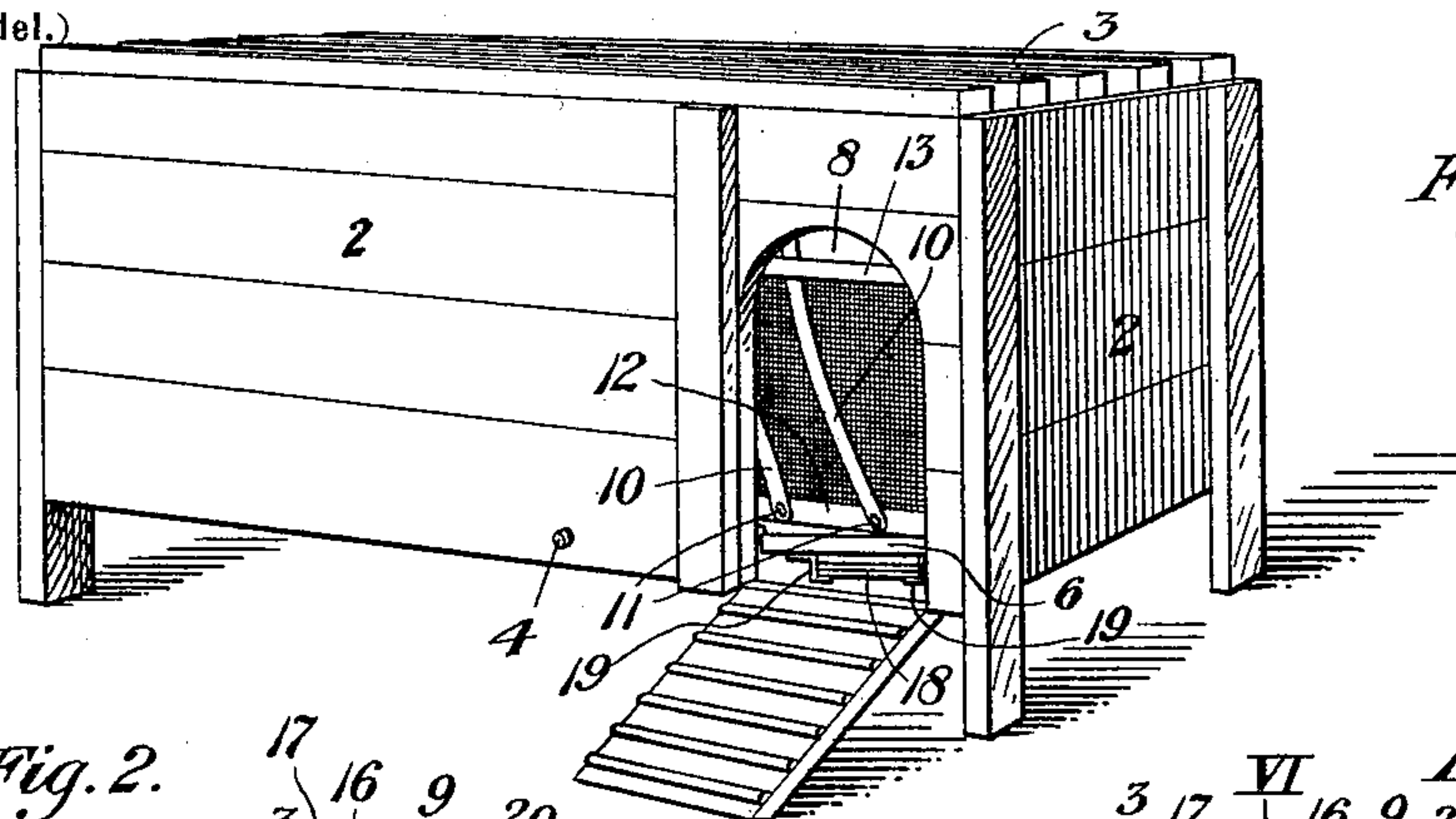


Fig. 1.

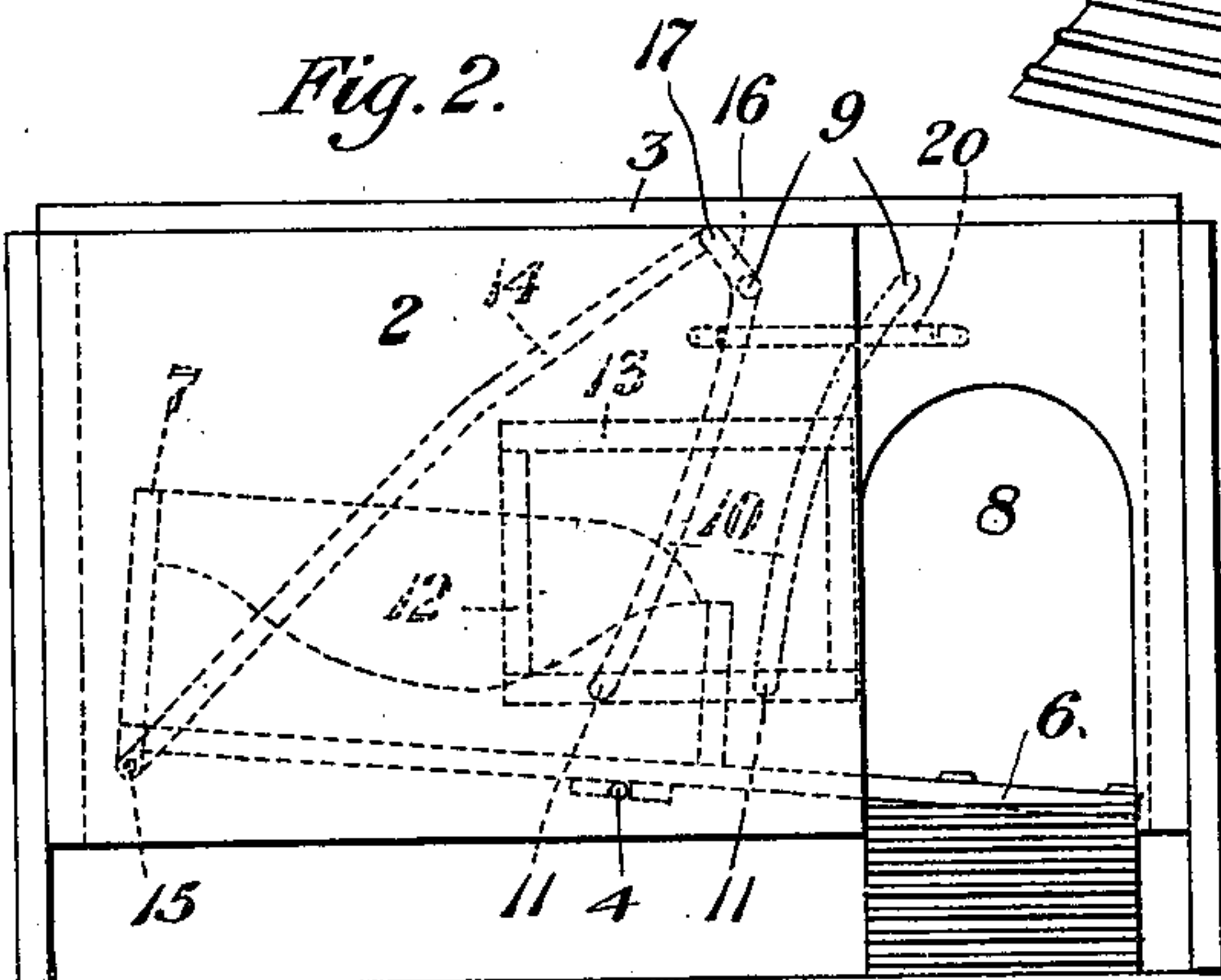


Fig. 2.

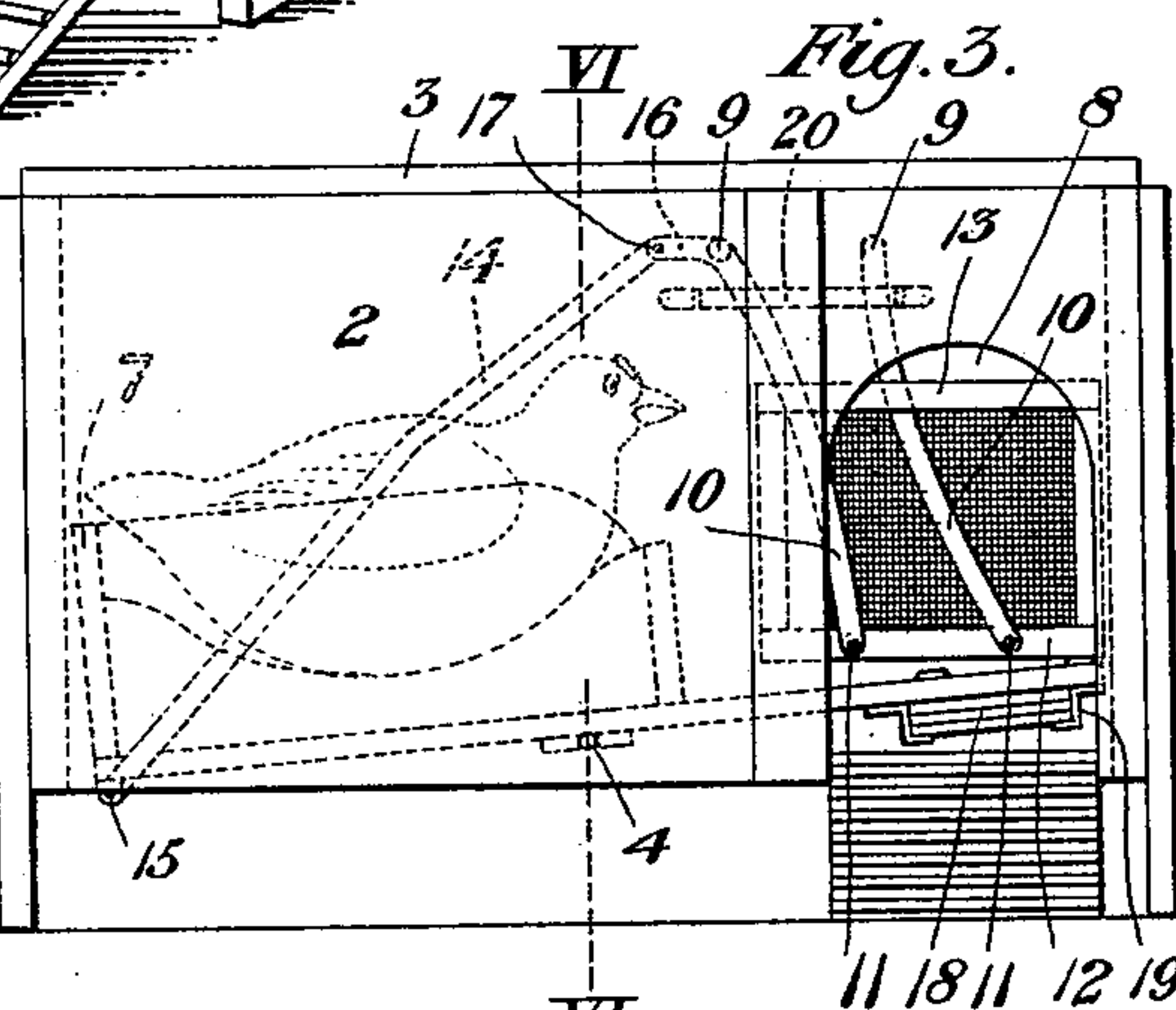


Fig. 3.

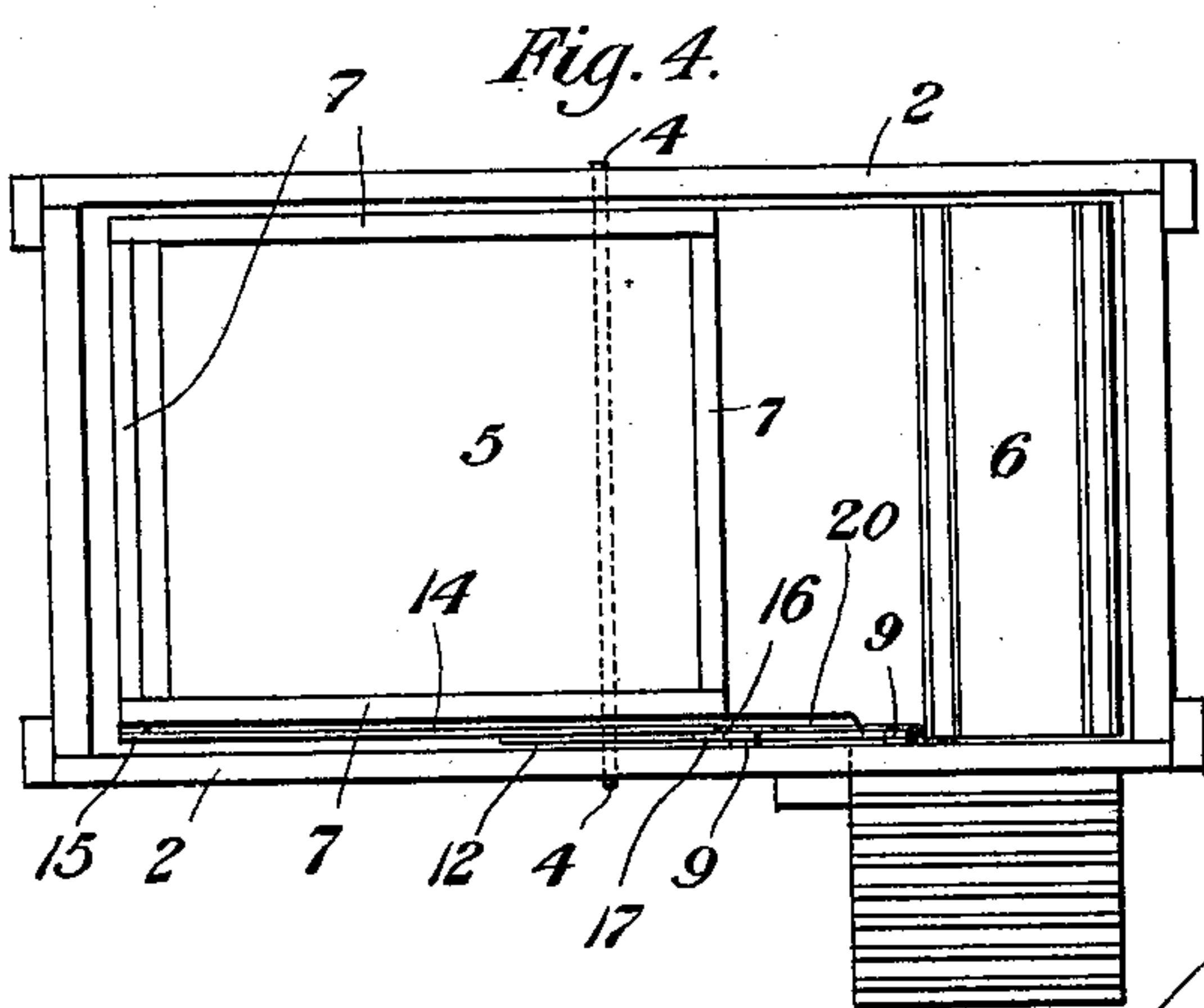


Fig. 4.

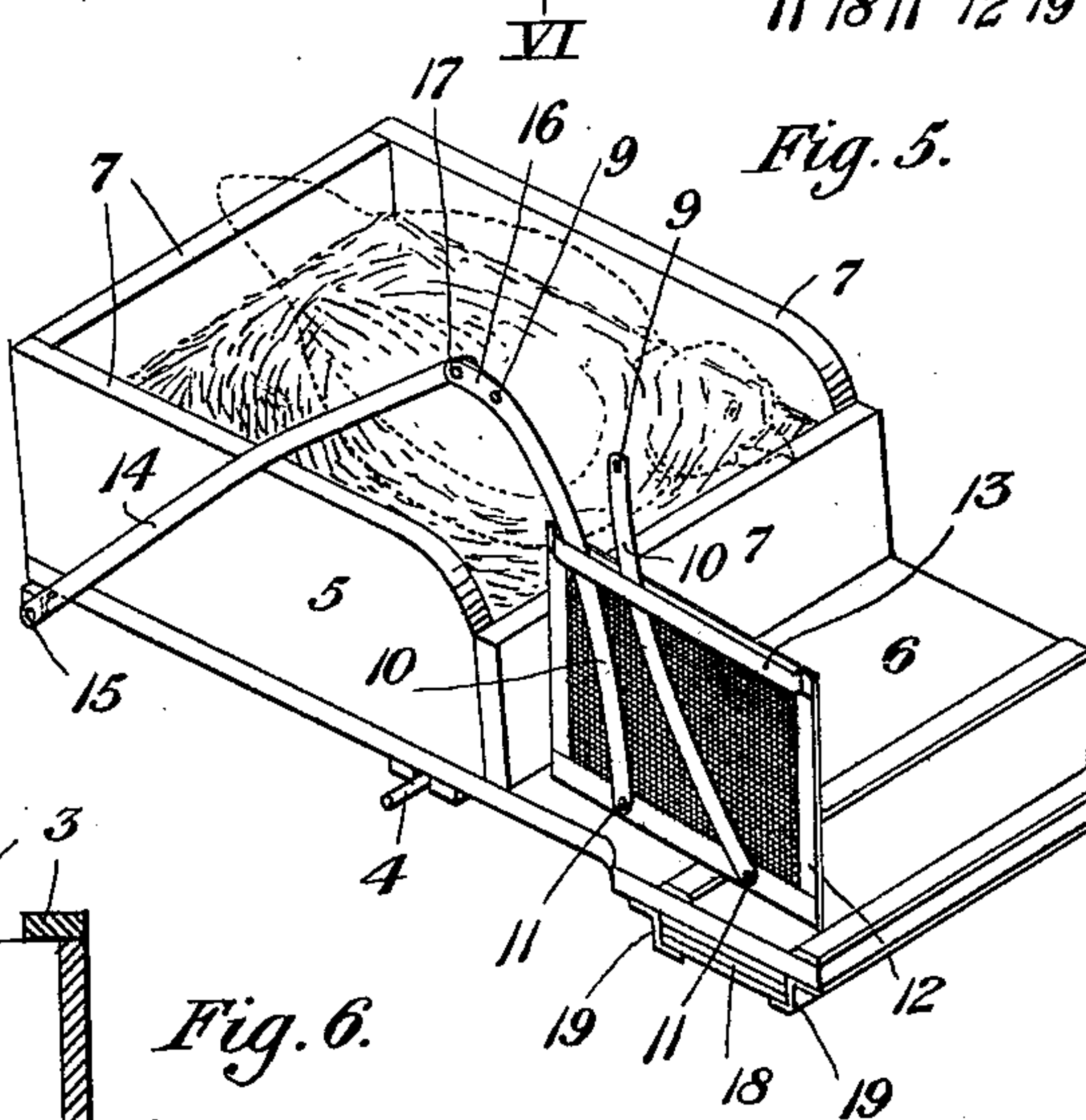


Fig. 5.

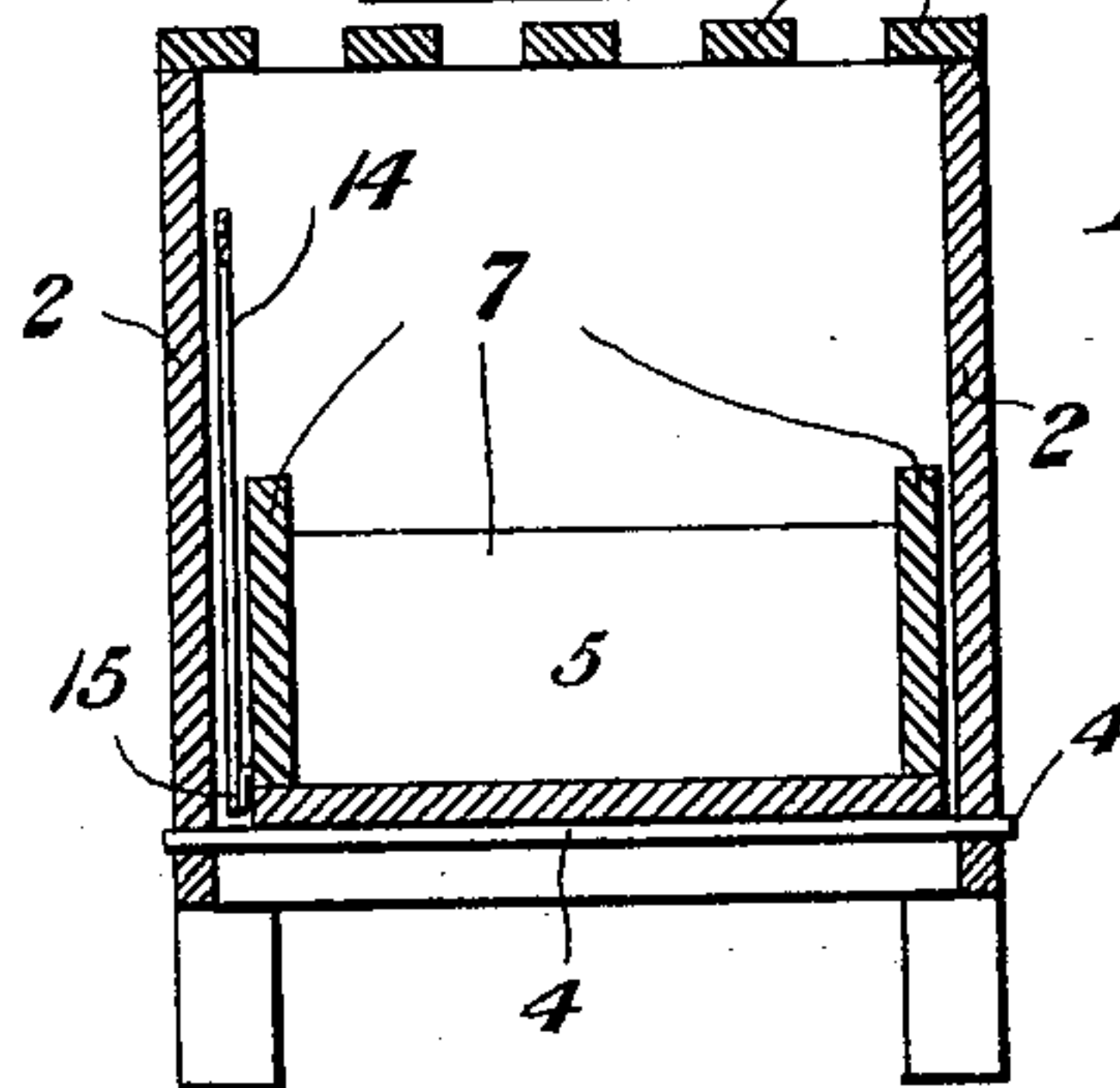


Fig. 6.

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RACHEL E. NICHOLS, OF FINDLAY, OHIO, ADMINISTRATRIX OF LEWIS N. NICHOLS, DECEASED, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO CLARK KETCH, OF FOSTORIA, AND ROBERT A. WEIR, OF RISING SUN, OHIO.

HEN'S NEST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 627,652, dated June 27, 1899.

Application filed June 6, 1898. Serial No. 682,731. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that LEWIS N. NICHOLS, late a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Findlay, in the county of Hancock and State of Ohio, invented or discovered a new and useful Improvement in Hens' Nests, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention, showing the exterior. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the nest unoccupied. Fig. 3 is a similar view occupied and showing the door closed. Fig. 4 is a plan view of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the tilting nest and platform. Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view indicated by the line VI VI of Fig. 3.

The invention consists of an improvement in hens' nests, and is designed for the purpose of isolating a setting or laying hen from the intrusion of other fowls while on the nest.

It consists of an outer inclosing box or shield provided with an opening for entrance and exit and a pivotally-supported nest-box and platform within such box, with means for automatically opening and closing the opening, as will be described.

Referring to the drawings, 2 is an inclosing box of any appropriate shape, but preferably rectangular, and provided with a cover 3, which may consist of slats, wire-netting, or other construction adapted to give good ventilation. Within the box, resting on a cross-bar 4, which forms its pivotal support, is the nest-box 5, having at the front a platform extension 6, the nest proper being contained within the vertical walls 7, the front one of which is somewhat lower than the other three. As shown in plan view in Fig. 4, it will be seen that the nest-box and its platform occupy substantially the entire cross-sectional internal area of the box 2, with a slight surrounding space for clearance, so as to admit of easy limited motion upon the pivotal support 4. At one side of the box, adjacent to the end, is an opening 8 of sufficient size to permit the passage of a fowl, and the platform 6 extends outwardly opposite such opening and substan-

tially on a level with the bottom of the opening when the nest is unoccupied, as shown in Fig. 2. Pivotally connected to the inner face of the box at 9 9 are the supporting-bars 10, also pivotally attached at 11 11 to the bottom of a swinging door-frame 12, across the face of which is stretched wire-netting or slats to provide for ventilation and light, and at the top the door-frame is provided with a guide-plate 13, between which and the door-frame pass the supporting-bars 10. As thus suspended from two points the door is free to swing on the pivots 9 and will always maintain a level position at any point. It is designed that this door shall remain open when the nest is unoccupied and close by the weight of the fowl upon entering the nest, and for this purpose a connecting-rod 14 is pivotally attached to the back of the nest-box at 15 and to an extension 16 of the adjacent one of the bars 10 at 17, which bar thus constitutes a lever and acts to move the door open or shut when actuated by the rod 14. In this manner it will be seen that when the fowl leaves the nest and steps upon the platform 6 it will be gently tilted downwardly, and the door will be thrown back, as shown in Fig. 2, leaving the opening 8 uncovered for passage. It is desired for the purpose of retaining the door in such open position that the platform should remain down and the nest tilted up until the fowl reenters the nest, and for this purpose the platform is made slightly heavier than the nest, so as to overbalance it when unoccupied, and such weighting of the platform may be provided for by the attachment of weights, as plates 18, supported in slides 19 or otherwise, whereby the weight of the platform may be graduated to suit fowls of varying size and weight.

Forward and backward motion of the gate and motion of the nest are controlled by the guide-plate 20, between which and the inner face of the box 2 the bars 10 are inclosed, the guide-plate 20 being provided with shoulders at each end, against which the bars strike at each end of movement.

When thus constructed, the device constitutes a nest that is particularly adapted to

the purposes in view and within which a setting or laying fowl may perform her functions without interruption or intrusion, while being free to leave or reënter the nest at will, 5 in the manner described.

The advantages of such a nest will be appreciated by those familiar with their use, inasmuch as it is very simple and efficient, occupies a limited space, and is inexpensive 10 in construction and not liable to get out of order.

Having described the invention, what is claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

15 1. In a hen's nest, an inclosing box provided with an entrance and exit opening, a pivotally-supported tilting nest provided with a platform projecting opposite to such opening, a laterally-swinging door suspended by 20 rods pivoted to the inner wall of the box adapted to move in a plane parallel with the face of the opening to cover or uncover such opening, and a connecting-rod attached to the tilting nest and to one of the door-supporting rods, substantially as set forth. 25

2. In a hen's nest, an inclosing box provided with an opening, a pivotally-supported tilting nest provided with a weighted platform projecting opposite to such opening, a 30 laterally-swinging door suspended by rods pivoted to the inner wall of the box, and a connecting-rod attached to the tilting nest and to one of the door-supporting rods, substantially as set forth.

35 3. In a hen's nest, an inclosing box provided with an opening, a pivotally-supported

tilting nest provided with a weighted platform projecting opposite to such opening, a laterally-swinging screen-door suspended by rods pivoted to the inner wall of the box and 40 a connecting-rod attached to the tilting nest and to one of the door-supporting rods, substantially as set forth.

4. In a hen's nest pivotally mounted within an inclosing box having an entrance-opening 45 and a laterally-swinging door adapted to close such opening, actuated by movement of the nest; a platform projecting from the nest opposite the opening and provided with adjustable weights secured underneath its bottom, 50 substantially as set forth.

5. In a hen's nest, the combination of an inclosing box provided with an opening, a pivotally-supported tilting nest mounted therein provided with a platform projecting 55 opposite to such opening and having adjustable counterweights secured to its bottom, a laterally-swinging screen-door suspended by supporting-rods pivoted to the inner wall of the box and a connecting-rod attached to the 60 tilting nest and to one of the door-supporting rods whereby the door is opened and closed by movement of the nest, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set 65 my hand.

RACHEL E. NICHOLS,
Administratrix of estate of Lewis N. Nichols,
deceased.

In presence of—

NORA SAMPSON,
W. I. SAMPSON.