

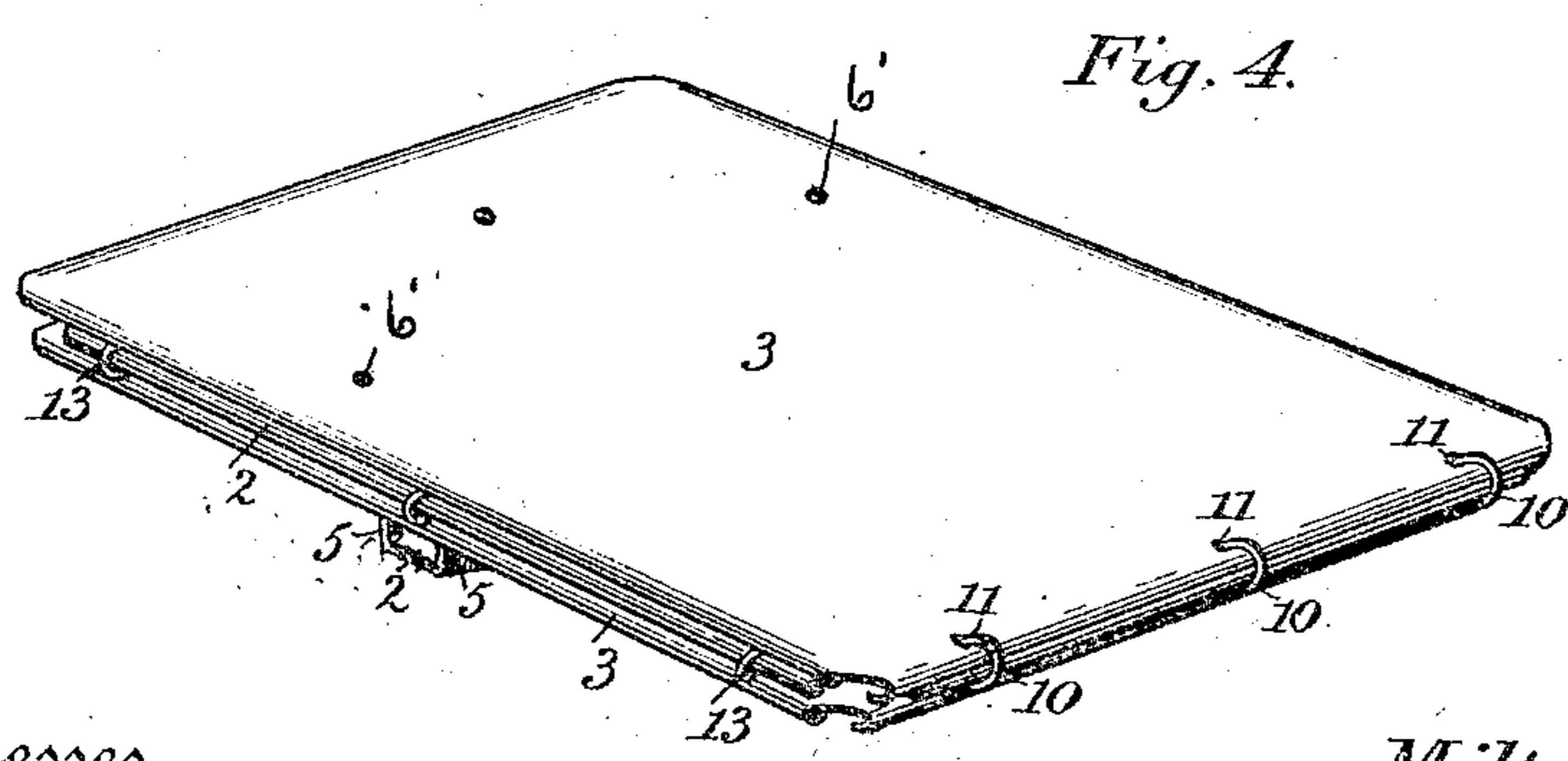
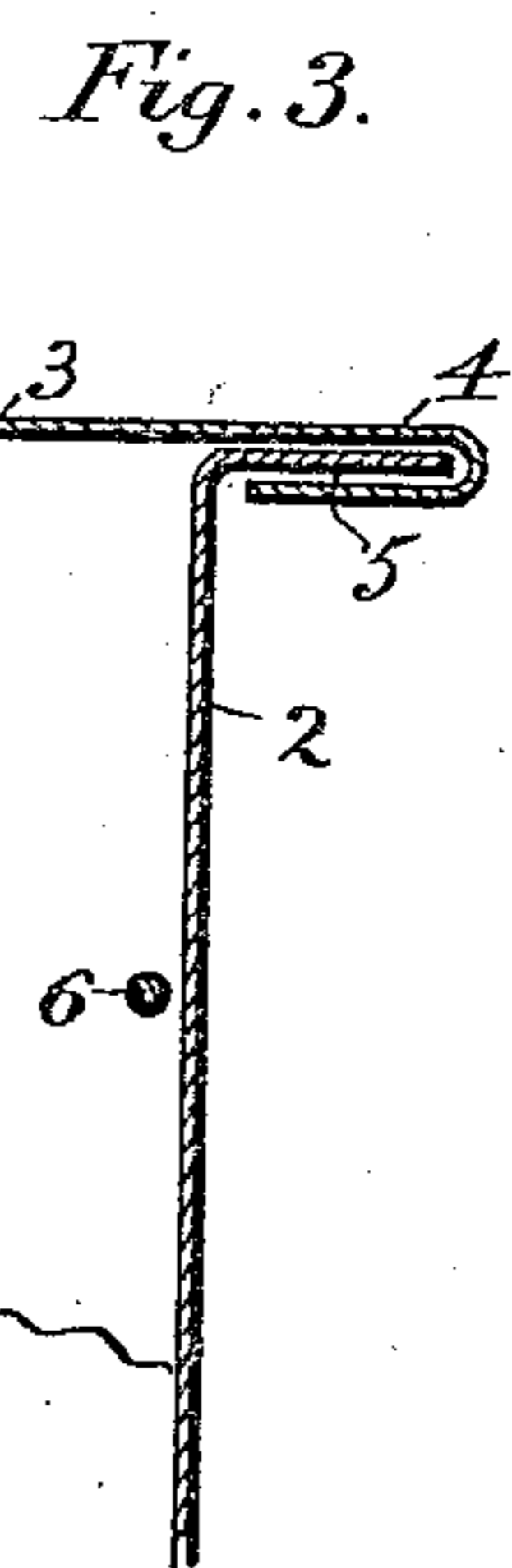
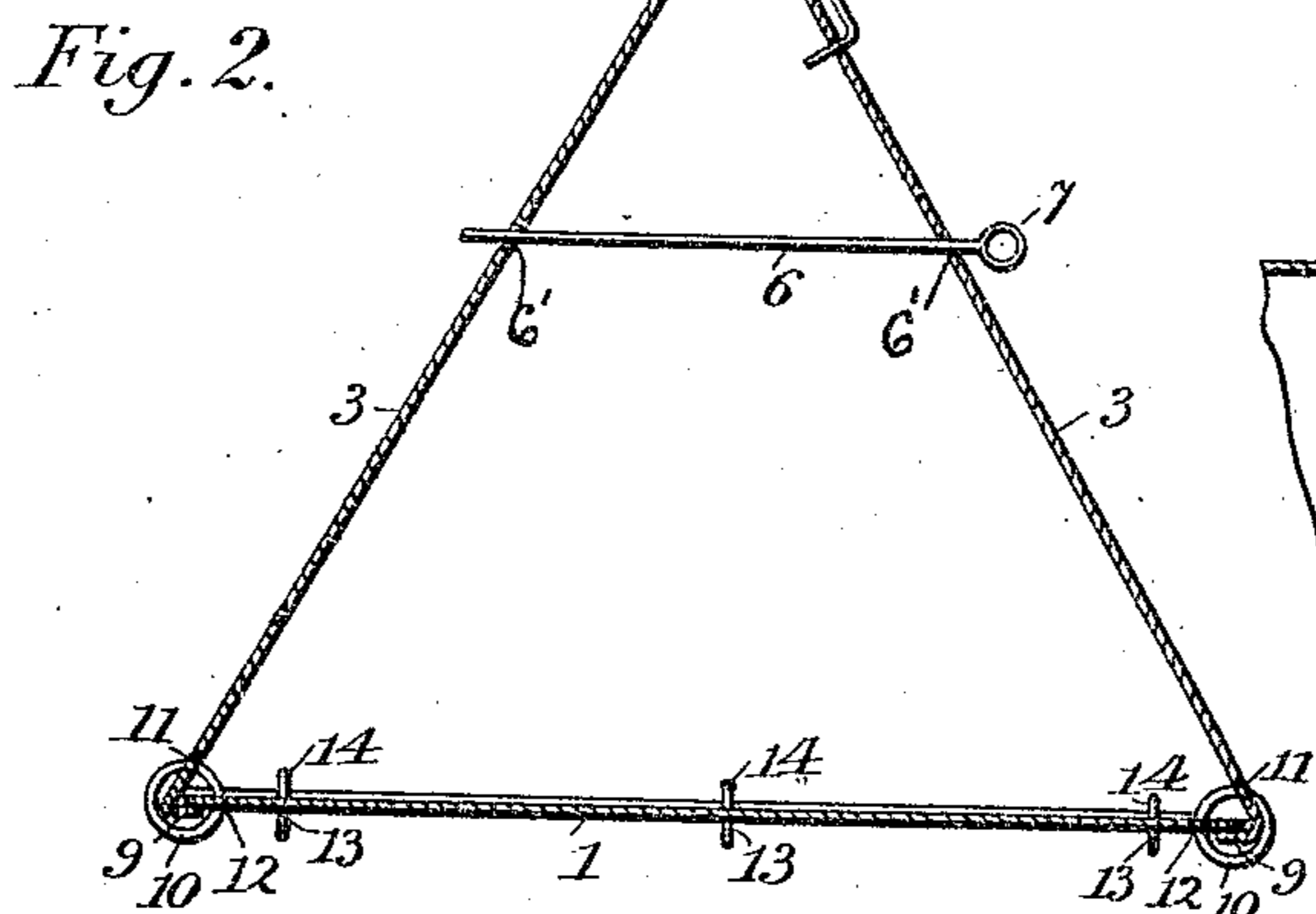
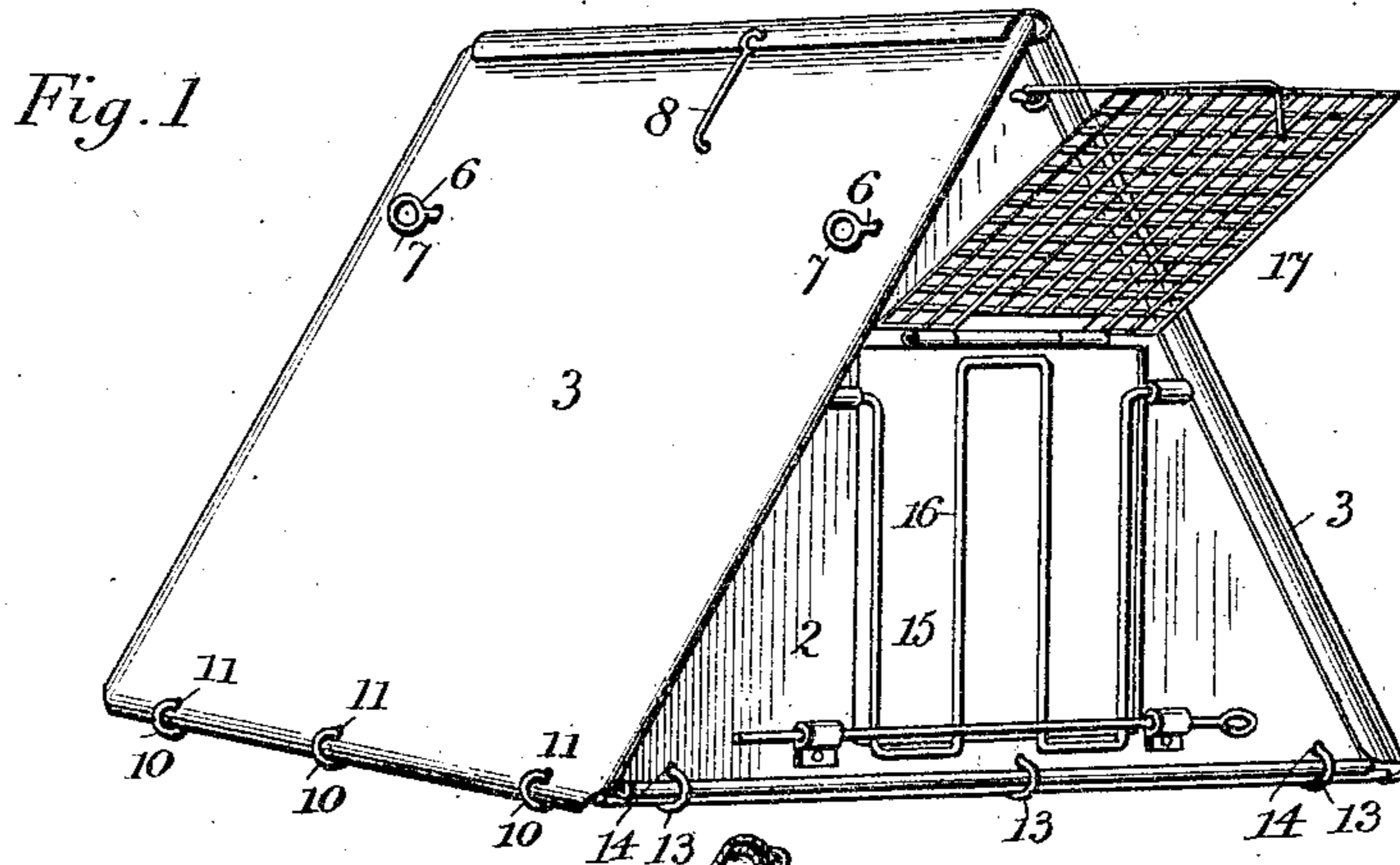
No. 889,596.

PATENTED JUNE 2, 1908.

M. C. FRITS.
COOP.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 3, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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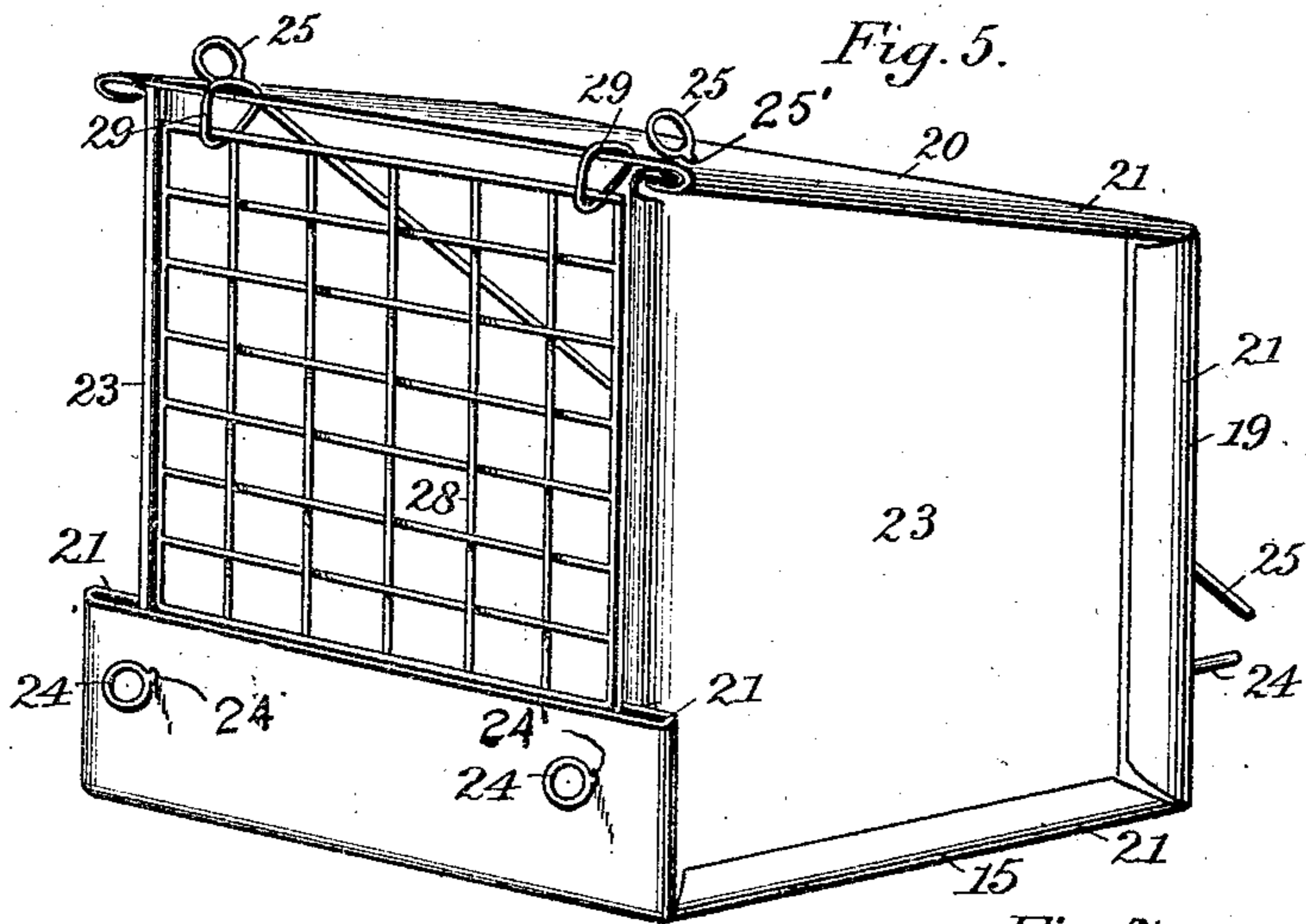


Fig. 5.

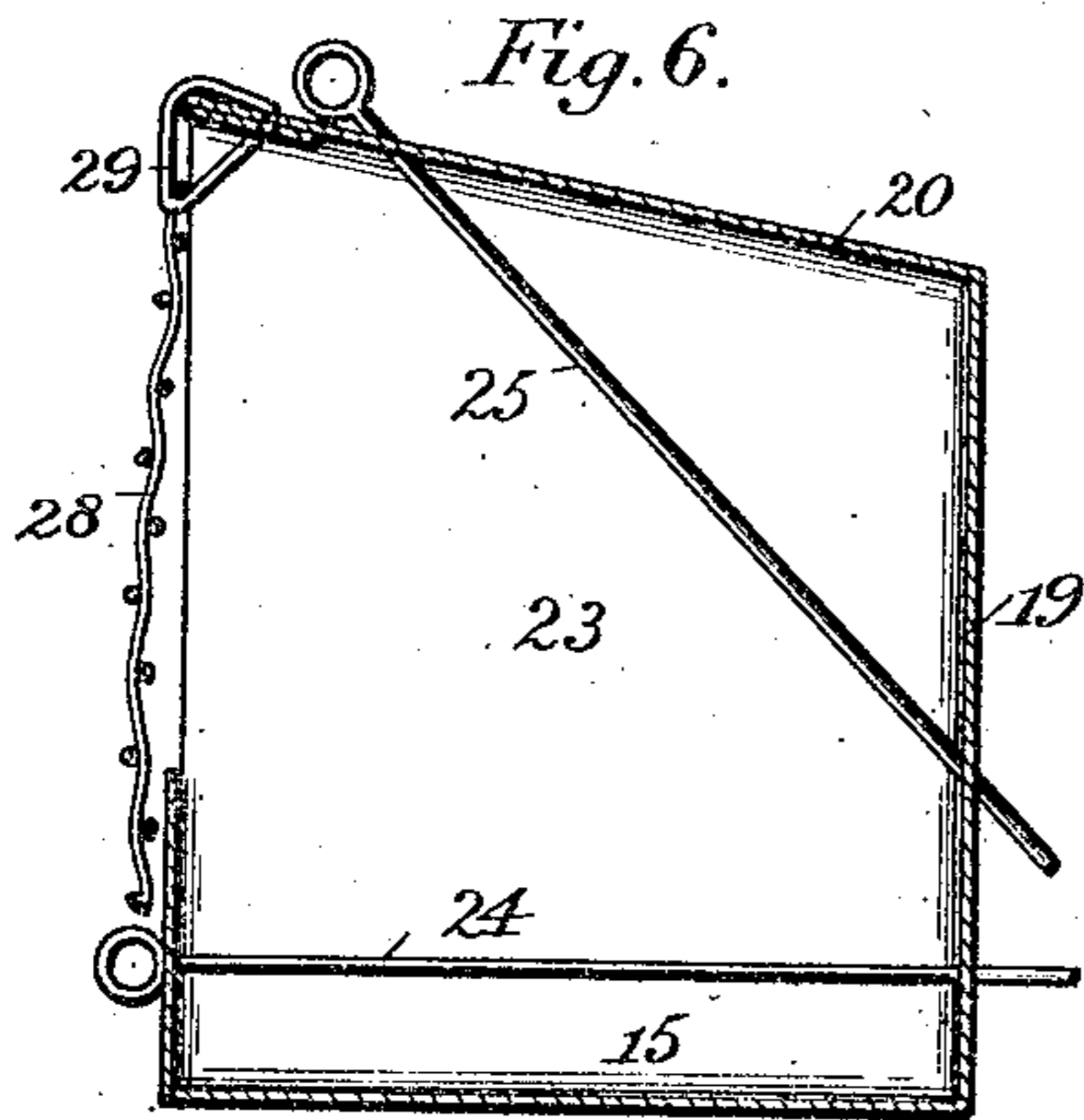


Fig. 6.

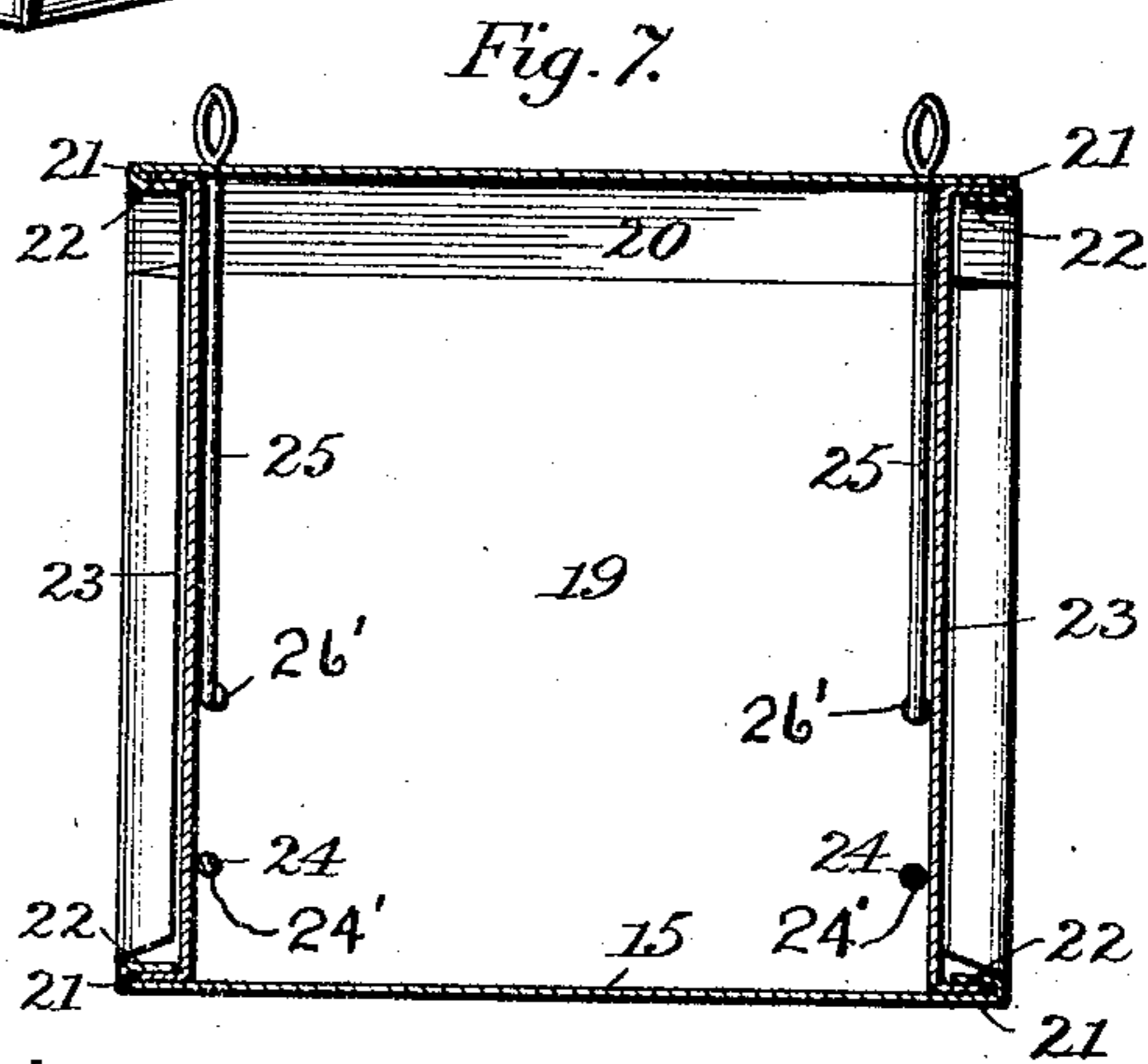


Fig. 7.

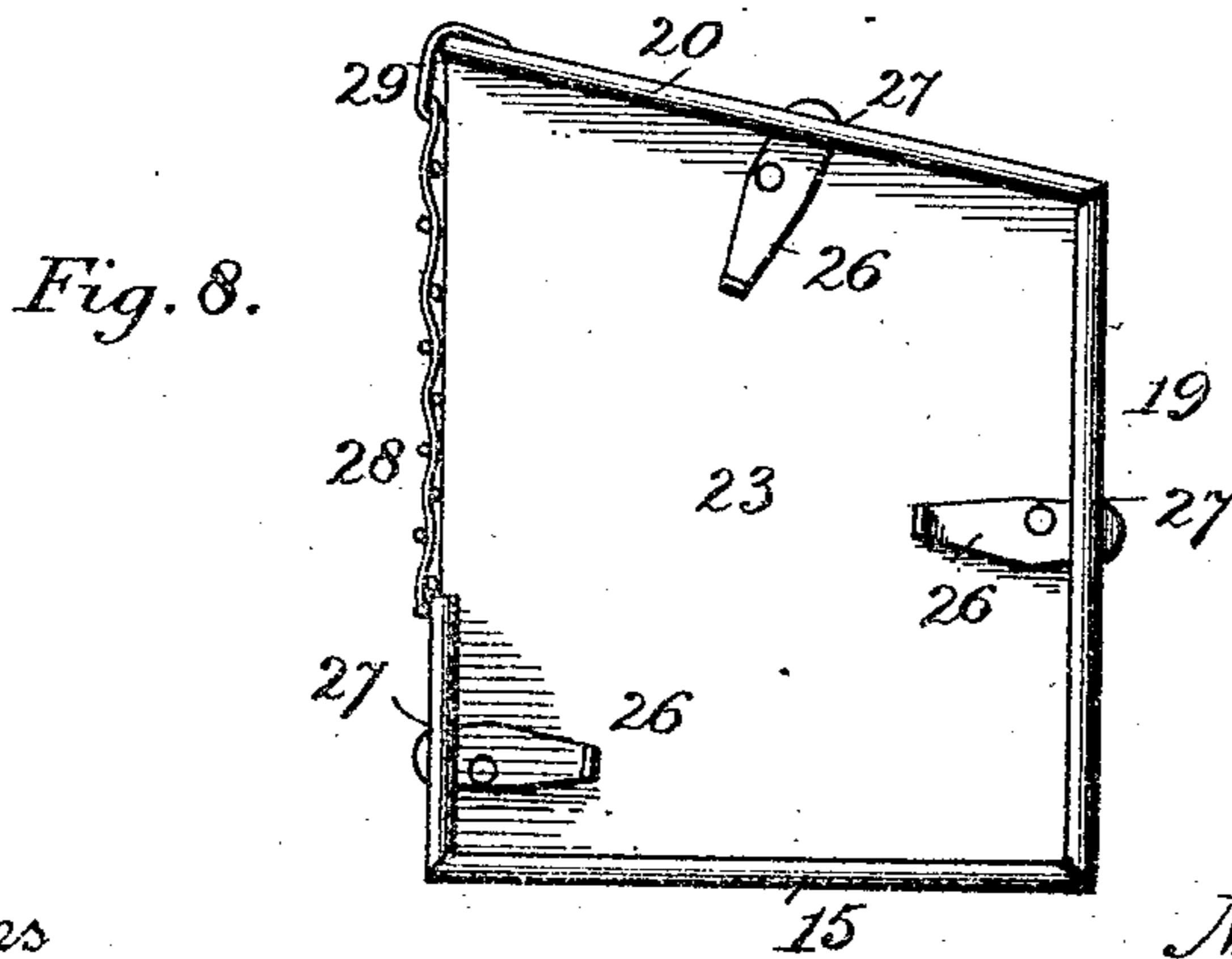


Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COOP.

No. 889,596

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 2, 1908.

Application filed December 3, 1906. Serial No. 346,119.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILTON C. FRITS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Loraine, in the county of Adams and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coops; and I do 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 appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in coops and nesting boxes for fowls.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of this character constructed of sheet metal sections adapted to be quickly folded or knocked down into a compact form when not in use, means being provided whereby the parts of the same are firmly supported and held in position when set up.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a coop constructed in accordance with the invention; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same; Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view through the top and one of the ends, showing the manner of joining these parts; Fig. 4 is a perspective view, showing the coop folded; Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a modified form of the coop; Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view of the same; Fig. 7 is a similar view taken at right angles to Fig. 6; and Fig. 8 is a side view of the coop, showing a modified form of the fastening devices for holding the side wall of the coop in an upright or operative position.

Referring more particularly to the first four figures of the drawings, in which the coop is shown in A-form, 1 denotes the base or bottom plate of the coop, 2 denotes the triangular end pieces, and 3 denotes the inclined side walls, which also form the cover or roof of the coop. The upper end of the side walls 3 are bent inwardly, said inwardly-bent ends being lapped one over the other when the coop is set up in position for use, thus forming a water-tight joint.

The front and rear edges of the inclined side walls 3 are bent or folded inwardly upon themselves, as shown at 4, and with said inwardly-bent edges are adapted to be engaged with outturned flanges 5 on the edges of the trian-

gular end pieces 2, thereby forming an interlocking joint between the ends and the side walls of the coop as illustrated in Fig. 3.

In order to support the end walls and hold the same into engagement with the inwardly-bent edges of the side pieces, movable members in the form of fastening rods or bars 6 are provided, said rods being inserted through aligned apertures 6' in the side pieces near the upper end thereof and immediately in rear of the end pieces of the coop. The rods 6 prevent the inward movement or collapsing of said end pieces and firmly brace the parts of the coop when set up in an operative position. On one end of the rods or bars 6 are formed rings or loops 7, by means of which the same may be readily withdrawn or inserted through the apertures in the sides of the coop.

In order that the side pieces of the coop may be firmly secured together at their upper ends, a fastening hook 8 is provided. Said hook 8 is pivotally connected to the overlapping portion of one of the side pieces, and is adapted to be hooked into an aperture formed in the opposite side piece, as shown.

The lower edges of the sides of the coop are preferably bent inwardly to form flanges 9, upon which the bottom plate or base 1 is adapted to rest. The side pieces or walls of the coop are further connected to the bottom or base plate by means of wire rings 10 that are inserted through apertures 11 and 12 in the adjacent edges of the side and base pieces of the coop. The front and rear edges of the base piece 1 are connected to the lower edges of the triangular front and rear end of the coop by means of rings 13 inserted through apertures 14 in the adjacent edges of said front and rear pieces and the base plate. By thus loosely connecting the pieces of the coop together at their lower edges, the same may be readily folded inwardly when it is desired to take down or pack the coop.

If desired one or both of the ends 2 may be provided with openings 15 adapted to be closed by a slatted door or grating 16 and a wire netting door 17, which are hung or hinged at their upper edges to swing upwardly, as shown.

The slatted door 16 is provided for use when the coop is employed to confine a hen and brood of chickens, said slatted door permitting the chickens to enter and leave the coop at will but preventing the escape of the

hen. When it is desired to also confine the chickens and to keep out intruders, the wire netting door 17 is closed.

In Figs. 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the drawings is shown a modified construction of coop, the same being here shown as being of substantially rectangular form, and is intended more particularly for use as a nesting box. In the construction shown in the above figures, the base 15, back piece 19 and the top 20 are preferably formed from one piece of sheet metal bent at suitable intervals to form said parts. The base piece 15 is also bent upwardly at its forward edge to form a lower portion of the front of the coop or box. The side edges of the top, back and base pieces are bent or folded inwardly, as at 21, to receive the right angularly bent flanges 22 of the side pieces 23 of the coop, thus forming an interlocking construction between said edges of the side pieces and the other parts attached thereto.

In order to prevent the side pieces of the coop from falling inwardly and collapsing, I provide lower fastening members or rods 24 that are inserted through the upwardly-bent forward edge of the base piece and through aligned apertures 24' formed in the back piece. The rods 24 engage the inner walls of the side pieces adjacent to their lower ends. In addition to the rods 24 I may employ upper fastening members or rods 25, which are inserted through apertures 25' in the top piece of the coop and project downwardly and rearwardly at an angle cross the inner wall of the side pieces and project through apertures 26' formed in the back piece above the lower rod, thereby firmly securing the side pieces in position.

Instead of the fastening rods 24 and 25 for holding the side pieces in position, I may, if desired, employ movable fastening members in the form of catches 26 consisting of substantially triangular plates pivoted upon the outer wall of the side pieces and adapted to be turned to bring one end of the same through aligned slots 27 formed in the right angularly-bent flanges of the side pieces and the adjacent portions of the front, top and back sections of the coop, thus securely locking said parts together. The inner ends of the catches 26 are preferably bent outwardly to form grips by means of which the catches may be operated.

The upper portion of the front of the box or coop shown in the last figures of the drawings may be closed by a wire netting door 28, which is hinged or loosely connected to the forward edge of the top section or roof, as shown at 29.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:—

1. A coop of the type described embodying side and end walls, a pair of said walls being movable one relative to the other, one of the movable walls having inwardly folded, substantially U-shaped edge flanges and the other being provided with right-angularly out-turned edge flanges designed for interlocking engagement with said U-shaped flanges to form an interlocking joint connection for preventing movement of the movable wall in one direction, and means independent of said flanges for fixing the relatively movable wall against movement in the opposite direction and to hold the flanges in interlocking engagement.

2. A coop of the type described embodying side and end walls, a pair of said walls being movable one relative to the other, one of the movable walls having inwardly folded, substantially U-shaped edge flanges and the other being provided with right-angularly out-turned edge flanges designed for interlocking engagement with the first-named flanges to prevent movement of the movable wall in one direction, and movable members independent of said flanges for fixing the relatively movable wall against movement in the opposite direction and to hold the flanges in interlocking engagement.

3. A coop of the type described comprising end walls having right-angularly out-turned edge flanges, side walls having inwardly folded, substantially U-shaped edge flanges designed for interlocking engagement with the first-named flanges to form an interlocking connection between the walls and prevent relative movement thereof in one direction, removable rods extended through the side walls in rear of the end walls for fixing the latter against movement in the other direction and to hold the flanges in engagement, inturned flanges formed on the lower edges of a pair of said walls, a base or bottom piece arranged to rest on said inturned flanges, and means for loosely pivoting the edges of the base piece to the lower edges of the side and end walls, thus adapting the parts to fold one upon another.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MILTON C. FRITS.

Witnesses:

A. J. REED,
H. E. JACKSON.