

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK C. STOCKDELL, OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

GAME-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 540,197, dated May 28, 1895.

Application filed September 21, 1894. Serial No. 523,726. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK C. STOCKDELL, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Boards; 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 appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This device consists of a board and pointers whereon and wherewith the usual plays and interesting conditions of a game of base-ball may be produced and the board is operated under the rules of base-ball adaptable thereto.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the device as follows:

Figure 1 is a plan of the board, showing the concentric circular series of notations and the pointers adapted to traverse same. Fig. 2 is a view of the pointer-pivoting device, this view being in section.

It is thought that, at this time, the game of base-ball is sufficiently well-known to need no extended description here. Suffice it to say, that a ball is pitched and batted by the batsman, the direction in which the ball is driven by the bat constituting the distinguishing feature of the play and the fact as to whether it is caught before striking the ground or if not caught, whether it is fielded in time to prevent the runner gaining one or more "bases" being the condition of said batsman being out or a runner (called safe) respectively. This device, then, is divided into two sections, each of which has certain divisions and each of which is provided with a pointer capable of designating any radial series thereof.

The outer circle 1 has divisions wherein are letters "B" "F" "S" and "H," signifying, respectively, "ball" (a ball pitched outside of the stated limits, and a certain number of which entitle the batsman to become a runner), "foul" (a ball struck by the batsman which does not fall within fair limits) "strike" (a fair pitched ball, which is missed by the batsman) and "hit" (which is a ball batted

in a direction extended into fair grounds). The next circle, 2, is correlatively divided and in the divisions radially inward from the divisions of the circle 1 requiring by their designation that direction be given a batted ball, are the letters and figures as follows, namely: "P," "2," "C," "R," "FC" and other initials of certain players into whose territory the ball is indicated to have been batted these referring respectively to the pitcher, second baseman, catcher, right-fielder, and so forth, the latter meaning in connection with the "F" in the circle 1 radially outward therefrom, that a foul-fly has been batted to catcher, or to any other player whose initial takes the place of the "C" in the symbol "FC." The initials of all of the nine players usually on the field should be inserted in the divisions of the circle 2, and, as before stated, the ball which is batted as indicated by the outer one of the radial series of symbols or abbreviations is batted into the territory of the player indicated by any one of the symbols which may come under the pointer at the same time therewith. The longer pointer A, indicates positions of the circles 1 and 2, and is pivotally mounted on the pivot C concentrically with the circles. The circle 3, being the next one inwardly, is also divided radially and has alternately therein the letters "S" and "O" signifying respectively "safe" (that the ball has not been caught or fielded with sufficient promptness to prevent the batsman reaching the first base) and "out" (that the reverse of said conditions has taken place), and the batsman is hence indicated to be either a "runner" or is retired by being caught out or put out by timely fielding.

We now come to consider the means for indicating the condition of each runner which may be allowed by the rules in regard to runners to move from one base to another. The circles 4, 5, 6, and 7, govern respectively the runners who may legally proceed from the batter's stand or home to first base, from first to second base, from second to third base, and from third base "home." The letters "S" and "O" associated with "1," "2," "3," and "H" representing these runners as being safe or out on the base designated by said symbols. These circles, 4, 5, 6, and 7, are, as well as the circle 3, traversed by the pointer B,

which is mounted on the pivot C and moves thereon independently of the pointer A.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters

5 Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a game board, a series of symbols arranged in three concentric circles, one series being the initials of base-ball terms indicating plays of the batsman, one being symbols
10 indicating direction of batted ball, and one being initials indicating the result of the fielder's play, a pointer adapted to traverse said series of symbols and means for indicating the progress of runners around the
15 bases.

2. A game-board having thereon seven concentric circles divided radially into sections,

each section of the larger circle containing one of the letters "B," "F," "S" or "H," the next smaller circle containing the initial of a
10 fielder's position, the next circle bearing in its sections alternately the letters "S" and "O," and the remaining four circles bearing in their sections the letters "S" and "O"
25 associated diversely with the number or letter of a base in the runner's path, and pointers adapted to traverse said sections, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FREDERICK C. STOCKDELL.

Witnesses:

ALBERT P. WOOD,
HARDIE L. KEITH.