J. KLEIN.

CHICKEN FENCE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 13, 1919.

1,319,290. Patented Oct. 21, 1919.

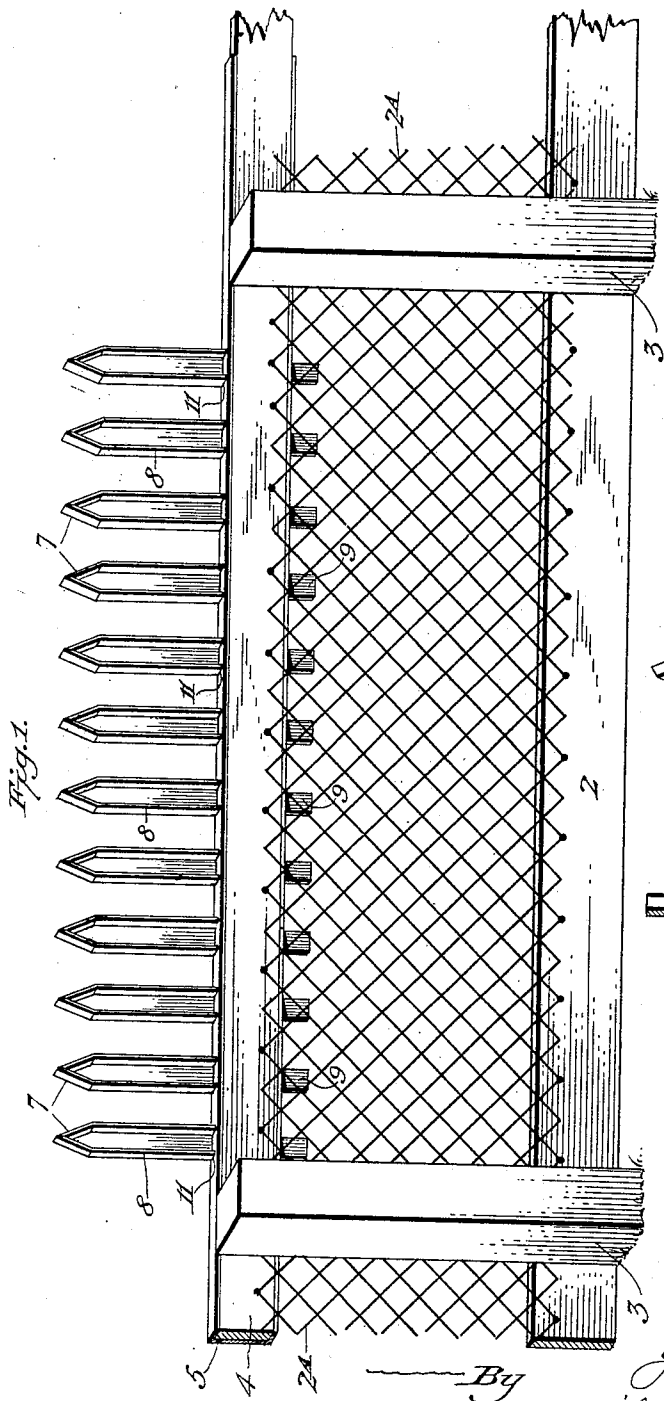


Fig. 1.

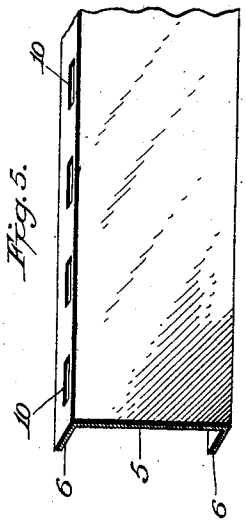


Fig. 5.

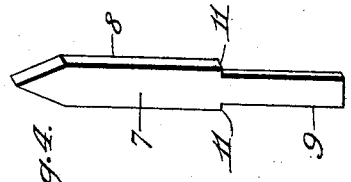


Fig. 4.

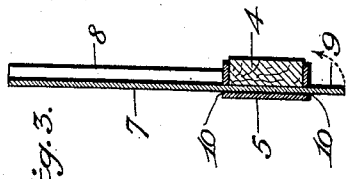


Fig. 3.

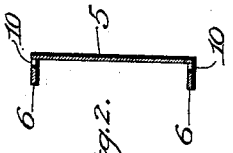


Fig. 2.

Inventor:
Jacob Klein
By
H. S. Bailey Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB KLEIN, OF HAVELOCK, NEBRASKA.

CHICKEN-FENCE.

1,319,290. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 21, 1919.

Application filed January 13, 1919. Serial No. 270,857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB KLEIN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Havelock, county of Lancaster, and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Chicken-Fence, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and novel chicken fence, and the objects of my invention are:

First: To provide a chicken fence that does not have to be built to make a hen or chicken confining or excluding fence higher than from three feet four inches to about three feet six inches high, in order to effectually prevent chickens from flying over it.

Second: To provide a chicken fence, the parts of which are easily and quickly replaceable when they become defective from any cause.

Third: To provide a chicken fence, the essential parts of which are made of thin sheet metal and which are of a construction that enables them to be easily stamped out by punches and dies, and the cost of which to the purchaser is cheaper than some other chicken fences on the market.

I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a chicken fence constructed in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view through one of the picket supporting channel bars.

Fig. 3 is a transverse, sectional view showing the upper board or stringer of the fence, a channel bar secured thereon, and a picket mounted in the channel bar.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the pickets. And

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a portion of one of the channel bars.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 illustrates a chicken fence embodying my invention. In this figure the numeral 2, represents a ground sill, preferably consisting of a board of preferably one inch thick by about four inches wide, to which one edge of a width of chicken stopping woven wire fence netting 2^A, of a mesh suitable to prevent chickens from going through its open spaces, is secured by nails or staples. Posts 3, are positioned at suitable distances apart to support this wire mesh fence across its width to hold it up straight, and along its upper edge and to the top portions of the posts, a board 4, about one inch in thickness by three inches in width, is secured, this part of my fence being common construction and the sizes of the parts of which it is composed may be varied from those I preferably use, if desired.

To the board 4, is secured a channel shaped strip of thin sheet iron 5, which is made wide enough so that its edges 6, will extend over and fit against both the upper and lower edges of the board 4, while its side is pressed against and nailed at its ends and also along its length to the board 4.

These strips of channel shaped sheet iron members of my fence may be made in any desired lengths and can be formed in rolls of flat strips of sheet iron or stamped out by punches and dies if it is more desirable to make them in reasonably short lengths than in long lengths.

These channel shaped members form the supporting base plate of the top picket members 7, of my fence, that are the essential barriers to the flight of chickens or hens over it. These top members of my fence consist of vertically projecting finger shaped picket members that are made of thin sheet iron, each of which is made in channel form, that is, with its edges 8, turned at about a right angle to its sides, and each picket has a pointed upper end. Each of these pickets is independent of the others, and they are placed preferably about two inches apart along the length of the base plate. The channel form which I give to these pickets gives them strength enough to resist quick and rough handling and to resist high winds against their sides that might bend them laterally if they were not strengthened by their turned edges. Each one of these pickets is adapted to be secured to my sheet iron channel form of base plate, and while they may be secured in a number of different ways, my invention contemplates that each picket be secured to the base plate independent of the others, and in a manner that will enable each to be removed from the base plate and another put

in its place if, from any cause, it is necessary to replace one or more of them at any time during construction of the fence or afterward. Consequently, I preferably carry out this feature of my invention in the following manner:

Each one of the pickets is provided with a downwardly projecting leg portion 9, that extends down from the side of each picket between its side edges 8, and the edges of the base plate close to its side are provided with two slots 10, that extend in alinement with each other through both edges, so that the leg portion of each picket will fit loosely but closely in these slots. The leg 9 of the picket is then inserted in the top slot and it extends across the side of the picket and through the lower slot of the base plate and a short distance below it. The lower ends 11, of the turned edges of each picket are squarely shouldered so that they will rest flat on top of the upper edge of the base plate, and thus brace the picket on the top edge. The lower end of the leg extends far enough below the lower edge 6, of the base plate to be bent around its edge and overlap, if desired, the lower edge of the board 4, which will lock the picket to the base plate and board. Each one of the pickets is secured in this manner to the base plate, which secures them firmly to it against accidental displacement, while the leg can easily be bent out straight from and around the edge of the base plate and the board when it is desired to remove a picket from its recess in the base plate, and the pickets are preferably made about twelve inches long, and they can be stamped out of thin sheet iron by suitable punches and dies, thus reducing their cost of production to a low figure, as well as making them all alike.

My improved hen and chicken fence provides a low practical fence, as hens and chickens cannot fly up and rest on its pointed pickets, and I find in practical use, that it being built at only such a height above the ground as will enable the hens and chickens to plainly see the pickets, they appear to be governed by instinct and also appear afraid to attempt to fly over it. Consequently I build it preferably only three feet four inches high, at which height they can plainly see the pickets, whereas if I should build it eight to ten feet high, they could not plainly see the points of the pickets and would be apt to attempt to and would occasionally, fly over it.

My fence is also ornamental in appearance, and when the pickets are stamped out they can be cheaply made, and is durable against weather conditions, as the base plate protects and stiffens and trusses the top board 4, and consequently tends to hold it straight and prevent it from readily warping.

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

1. In a chicken fence, the combination of a suitable chicken stopping wire netting and suitable supporting members therefor, with a channel form of sheet iron strip secured along the length of said netting's upper support, said channel member being provided with slots at short distances apart along its length, and pointed sheet iron pickets of channel form arranged to rest on said strip and to be secured in said slots.

2. In a chicken fence, the combination of the base sill, the chicken stopping netting and the top supporting board, with the sheet iron base plate having turned-over edges over the edges of the top supporting board, and provided with slots through its turned-over edges, and with the sheet iron pointed pickets having turned-over edges adapted to rest on the top edge of said base plate and having a depending lug portion extending through the slots of said base plate and below its lower edge far enough to be bent around and secured to said base plate.

3. In a chicken fence the combination with supports and a chicken wire netting secured thereon, of a metal strip secured to the upper support of said netting, and flat metal pickets having pointed upper ends, the lower end portions of which are secured to said metal strip.

4. In a chicken fence, the combination of the netting, the supports therefor, the sheet iron strip provided with slots at predetermined distances apart, and the sheet iron pickets provided with pointed upper terminal ends and secured in the slots of said sheet iron strip.

5. In a chicken fence, the combination with posts, base boards secured thereto, stringers connecting the upper ends of said posts, and wire netting secured to said base boards and stringers, of channel bars secured upon said stringers having spaced pairs of oppositely arranged slots in their right angled members, and pointed metal pickets having leg portions which extend through the said pairs of slots, and shoulders which rest upon the top portion of said channel bar.

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

JACOB KLEIN.

Witnesses:
TAYLOR M. CAMERON,
A. J. BAKER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."