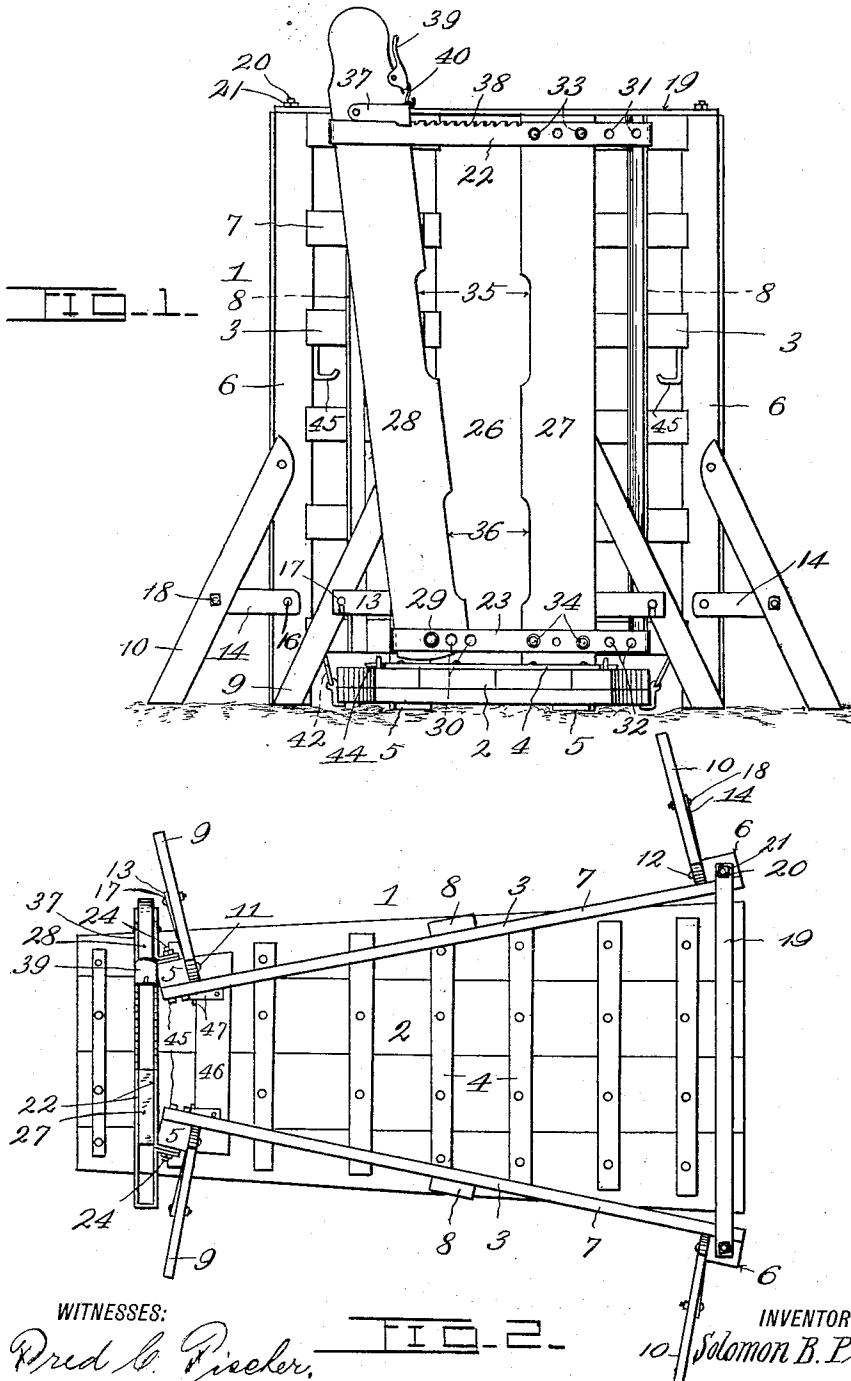


S. B. PIERCE.  
 CONVERTIBLE CATTLE CHUTE AND DEHORNING APPARATUS.  
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 8, 1915.

1,171,878.

Patented Feb. 15, 1916.  
 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

*Fred L. Fischer,*  
*L. J. Fischer*

FIG. 2.

INVENTOR:

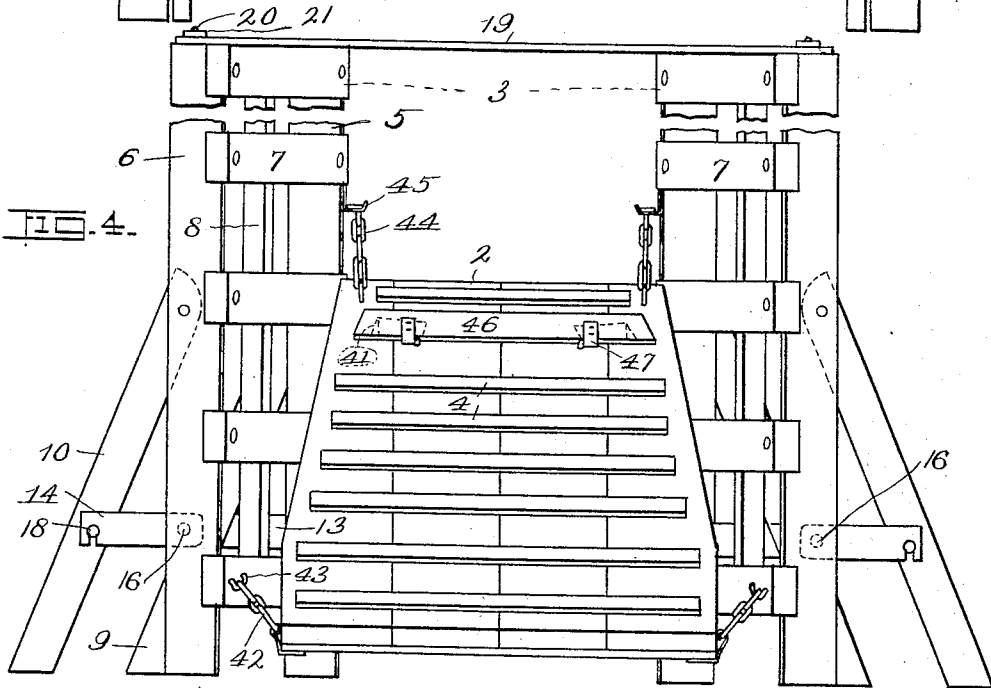
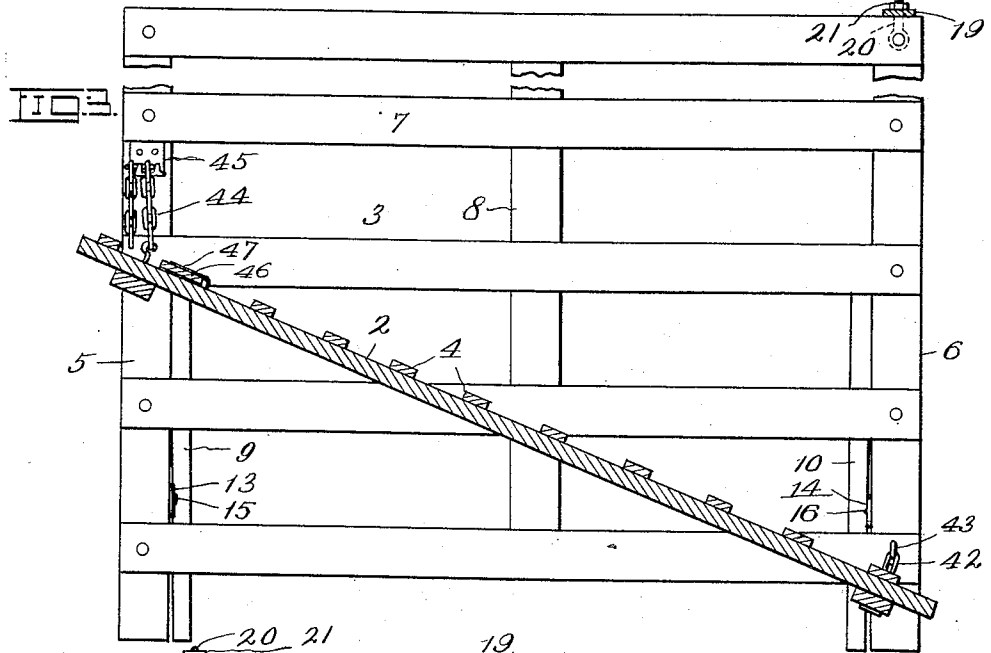
*Solomon B. Pierce,*

BY *F. J. Fischer,*  
 ATTORNEY.

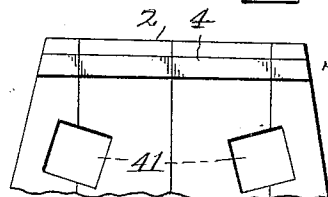
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*Pred. C. Fischer,*  
*L. J. Fischer*



INVENTOR:  
*Solomon B. Pierce,*  
 BY *F. G. Fischer,*  
 ATTORNEY.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SOLOMON B. PIERCE, OF GASHLAND, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO HUGH H. PRESTON, OF GASHLAND, MISSOURI.

## CONVERTIBLE CATTLE CHUTE AND DEHORNING APPARATUS.

1,171,878.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 15, 1916.

Application filed April 8, 1915. Serial No. 19,916.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SOLOMON B. PIERCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gashland, in the county of Clay and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Convertible Cattle Chutes and Dehorning Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a collapsible cattle chute and dehorning apparatus, and my object is to provide an apparatus which can be readily converted into a chute for loading hogs and cattle into cars and wagons, or converted into a dehorning apparatus which may also be used to ring hogs.

The apparatus can be quickly set up for use on any comparatively level surface, or placed in knockdown form for shipment or storage.

In order that the invention may be fully understood, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the apparatus arranged for dehorning cattle and ringing the snouts of hogs. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the apparatus arranged for loading hogs and cattle into wagons, cars, etc. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 5 is a broken plan view of a floor employed in carrying out the invention.

In carrying out the invention, I employ a collapsible chute 1, embodying a floor 2 and two adjustable sides 3. The floor 1 is provided with transverse cleats 4, which prevent cattle from slipping down upon said floor when it is arranged in the inclined position disclosed by Fig. 3. Each of the adjustable sides 3 embodies front and rear posts 5 and 6, connected by horizontal slats 7 reinforced intermediate their ends by a vertical slat 8. Each side 3 is held in an upright position by braces 9 and 10 connected by pivots 11 and 12 to the posts 5 and 6, respectively, so that they may fold against said posts when the chute is in knockdown form for shipment or storage. When the chute is set up for use the braces 9 and 10 are prevented from accidentally folding against their respective posts 5 and 6 by hooks 13 and 14 secured by pivots 15 and 16 to said posts 5 and 6 and adapted to engage bolts 17 and 18 on the braces 9 and 10, respectively. The rear ends of the sides 3 are

braced apart by a transverse bar 19 removably secured to the upper ends of the posts 6 by bolts and nuts 20 and 21, respectively, and when the apparatus is arranged for dehorning cattle, as disclosed by Figs. 1 and 2, the front ends of the sides 3 are spaced apart by metallic straps 22, 23, secured to the front posts 5 by bolts 24, and arranged to support a stanchion 26 consisting of an upright member 27 and a lever 28, which latter is pivotally-mounted at its lower end upon a pin 29 extending through the straps 23.

As some cattle, especially Texas steers, have horns which extend laterally more than others, it is desirable to be able to vary the distance between the members 27 and 28 of the stanchion 26, so I provide for this by forming a series of holes 30 in the straps 23 to receive the pivot 29, and providing the straps 22 and 23 with a series of holes 31 and 32 to receive bolts 33 and 34, respectively, which adjustably secure the member 27 in place. The members 27 and 28 of the stanchion 26, have oppositely-disposed recesses 35 in their upper portions to receive the necks of the cattle, and recesses 36 in their lower portions to receive the necks of hogs when the snouts of the latter are to be provided with rings.

When the lever 28 is adjusted toward the member 27 to secure an animal's neck in the stanchion, said lever is reliably held in any of its adjusted positions by a pawl 37, pivoted thereon and adapted to engage any of the ratchet-teeth 38 on the upper edges of the straps 22. When it is desired to move the lever 28 away from the member 27 to release the animal, the pawl 37 is raised above the teeth 38 by a handle 39, connected to the pawl 37 by a link 40.

When the chute is arranged for dehorning purposes (Figs. 1 and 2), the forward ends of its adjustable sides 3 are adjusted toward each other and the front posts 5 are placed through openings 41 in the floor 2, while the rear end of said floor is suspended by chains 42 from hooks 43 projecting from the rear posts 6.

To arrange the chute for loading cattle into a wagon or car, the stanchion 26, with its straps 22 and 23, is removed from the posts 5, and the latter are removed from the holes 41 and placed upon the ground adjacent the sides of the floor 2, (Figs. 3 and 4).

The rear end of the floor 2 is then suspended by the chains 42 and the hooks 43, after which the front end of said floor is raised until it assumes the desired inclination, when it is secured at such inclination by chains 44 engaging hooks 45, on the adjacent sides of the front posts 5. The holes 41 are then closed, so that the animal cannot step therein, by a lid 46 secured to the floor 2 by hinges 47. If desired the lid 46 may be held in closed position by a suitable latch (not shown).

When the apparatus is to be shipped or stored it can be readily placed in knock-down position after releasing the chains 42 and 44 from the hooks 43 and 45, respectively, removing the transverse bar 19, and folding the braces 9 and 10 against the posts 5 and 6, respectively.

From the foregoing description, it is apparent that I have produced an apparatus which is well adapted for the purpose intended, and while I have shown and described the preferred form of my invention I reserve the right to make such changes in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts as properly fall within the spirit and scope of the claims.

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

1. In an apparatus of the character described, an adjustable chute consisting of a floor capable of being adjusted to horizontal and inclined positions and having two holes in its forward portion, two sides having posts at their forward ends to removably enter the holes in the floor when the same is adjusted to horizontal position, and

a lid mounted on the floor and adapted to cover the holes therein when the posts are removed from said holes and the floor is adjusted to an inclined position.

2. In an apparatus of the character described, a chute consisting of a floor having two holes in its forward portion, two adjustable sides having posts at their forward ends adapted to be set in the floor holes to adjust the forward ends of the sides toward each other or set outside the adjacent margins of the floor to spread the forward ends of said sides away from each other, means to support said sides when adjusted to either position, and means for suspending the floor from the sides at different inclinations when their forward ends are set outside the margins of said floor.

3. In an apparatus of the character described, a chute consisting of a floor having two holes in its forward portion, two adjustable sides having posts at their forward ends adapted to be fitted in the floor holes to adjust the forward ends of the sides toward each other, or set outside the adjacent margins of the floor to spread the forward ends of said sides away from each other, an adjustable stanchion removably secured to said posts, braces to support said sides when adjusted to either position, and means for supporting the floor from the sides at different inclinations when their forward ends are set outside the margins of said floor.

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

SOLOMON B. PIERCE.

Witnesses:

ROY W. ASHBURY,  
CLAUDE F. KNIGHTEN.

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