Dec. 12, 1950 L. FINNEY 2,533,445

POULTRY EVISCERATING TOOL

Filed June 2, 1947

Fig. 1.

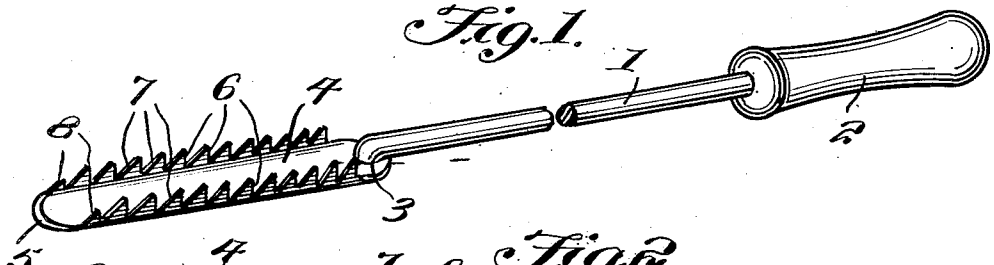


Fig. 2.

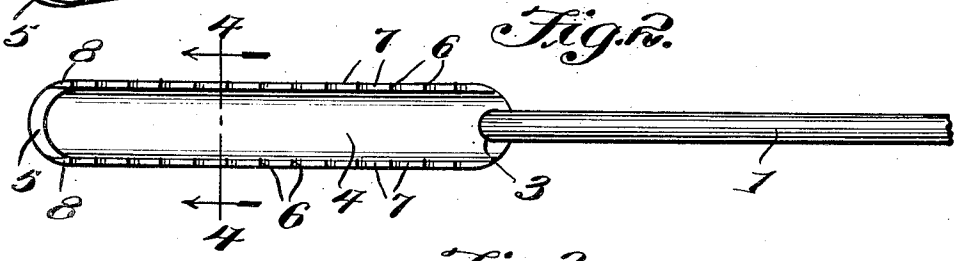


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

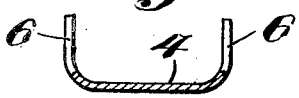


Fig. 5.

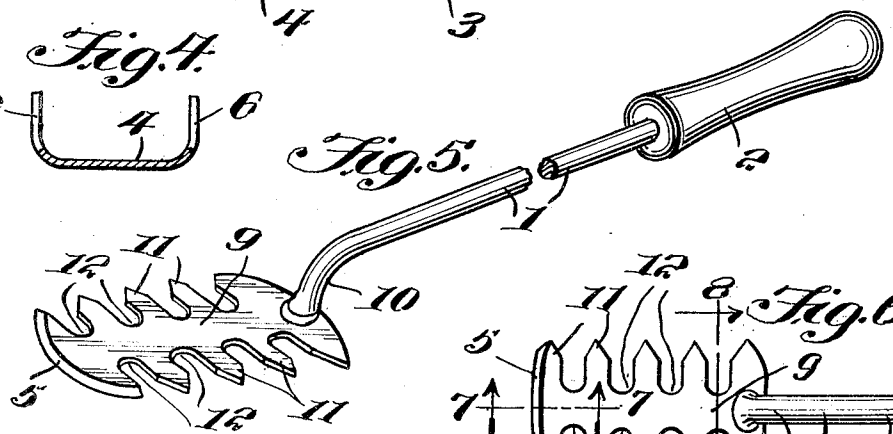


Fig. 6.

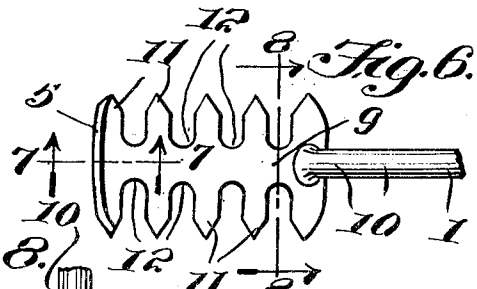
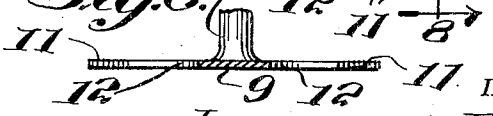


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.



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Patented Dec. 12, 1950 2,533,445

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,533,445

POULTRY EVISCERATING TOOL

Lawrence Finney, Georgetown, Ill.

Application June 2, 1947, Serial No. 751,919

3 Claims. (Cl. 17—11)

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My present invention relates to the general class of butchering implements, and more specifically to an improved poultry eviscerating tool or manually operated instrument for general use in the severing and removal of internal organs of various types of poultry or fowl.

The tool or instrument of my invention is made in various sizes and shapes for use with the carcasses of birds of differing sizes to facilitate the drawing operations; and the primary object of the invention is the provision of an instrument of this type that may be handled with facility, in accurately severing and removing from a carcass, the desired organs without material disruption of parts; and the instrument may be maintained in clean sanitary condition for use in successive operations.

In carrying out my invention, the instrument is composed of a minimum number of parts that may be manufactured with facility at low cost of production, and the parts assembled with convenience to insure a handy tool that may be manipulated with rapidity and precision for the performance of its required functions.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts as will hereinafter be described and more specifically set forth in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated a complete example of a physical embodiment of my invention in which the parts are combined and arranged in accord with one mode I have devised for the practical application of the principles of my invention. It will however, be understood, as is evidenced by the modified form of the invention illustrated in the drawings, that changes and alterations are contemplated and may be made in these exemplifying drawings and mechanical structures, within the scope of my claims, without departing from the principles of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an instrument embodying my invention and especially adapted for use in the evisceration of the kidneys from a carcass.

Figure 2 is a face view of the instrument of Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is an edge view, partly in longitudinal section, of the instrument; and

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail transverse sectional view at line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of an embodiment of the invention in a tool especially adapted for use in the evisceration of the lungs of a carcass.

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Figure 6 is a plan view of a serrated blade of the modified form of the invention shown in Fig. 5.

Figure 7 is a detail sectional view at line 7—7 of Fig. 6; and

Figure 8 is a transverse sectional view at line 8—8 of Fig. 6.

In both forms of the invention the tool is equipped with a metal shank or stem 1, and provided with a handle 2 of wood or other suitable material; and in the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 through 4 the shank is welded, or otherwise rigidly fastened at 3 to a blade 4 of stainless steel or other sanitary material. At its front edge 5 the blade is ground or sharpened to form a rounded or curved knife edge or cutting edge for the severance of tendons and other parts of the carcass, and the rear end of the blade is rounded or curved to insure facile rearward movement of the tool without danger of catching on obstructions.

The front curved lip or cutting edge 5 of the blade may readily be inserted in cavities for severing and scooping up organs, as for instance the kidneys, and the blade at its lateral edges is equipped with serrated means for hooking or engaging and drawing tissues, tendons etc. from the carcass.

For this purpose each lateral edge of the blade is fashioned with a series of longitudinally extending and transversely spaced teeth or fangs each having a perpendicular edge 6 and front inclined or angular edge 7, the former for retaining the tissues and preventing them from disengagement with the tool while drawing, and the latter to facilitate self-cleaning of the instrument after evisceration of each successive carcass. The front tooth 8 of each series of teeth is of lesser height than the remaining teeth, and it gradually merges with the rounded cutting lip 5 at the front edge of the blade to facilitate movements of the lip.

In the modified form of the invention in Figs. 5 through 8 the blade 9 is provided with the rounded and sharpened cutting edge or lip 5, and the handle 1 at its junction with the blade is preferably offset as at 10 to facilitate the use of the tool in eviscerating the lungs, and other organs of the carcass.

The blade 9 which may be dished or curved longitudinally is equipped with a series of lateral serrations fashioned in its side edges, and the double-edge or pointed teeth 11 of each series are separated by a comparatively wide space 12, the former for cutting or severing tissues, and the latter for hooking the tissues and drawing out

the severed part, as for instance the lung. In such a procedure one series of teeth is placed against the lung and fastened thereto and then the tool is reversed as to position for severing other tissues in the cavity, after which the severed part may be withdrawn or removed with facility and cleanliness.

In a set of the tools, the smaller ones may be utilized in eviscerating the carcasses of smaller birds, while the larger ones may be utilized in eviscerating the carcasses of larger birds, the selection and use of the tools depending upon the size of the bird or fowl, and the nature of the organs to be withdrawn from the carcass.

From this description taken in connection with my drawings it will be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful tool that may be manipulated by one skilled in the art with facility and rapidity in the performance of its functions, and while the two forms of the invention, in actual practice produce satisfactory results, it will be obvious that these tools are susceptible to additional modifications within the scope of my invention.

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

1. An eviscerating tool comprising a flat plate with arcuate ends and having a centrally disposed back with laterally disposed spaced teeth extended outwardly therefrom, one of the arcuate ends of the plate having a beveled cutting edge, and an off-set handle extended upwardly and rearwardly from the end of the plate opposite to the end having the cutting edge thereon.

2. In an eviscerating tool, the combination which comprises a flat plate with arcuate ends

and having a centrally disposed back with laterally disposed spaced teeth extended outwardly therefrom, the width of the spaces between the teeth corresponding to the width of the teeth, one of the arcuate ends of the plate having a beveled cutting edge, and an off-set handle extended upwardly and rearwardly from the end of the back of the plate opposite to the end having the cutting edge thereon.

3. In an eviscerating tool, the combination which comprises a flat plate with arcuate ends and having a centrally disposed back with laterally disposed spaced teeth extended outwardly therefrom, the width of the spaces between the teeth corresponding to the width of the teeth, one of the arcuate ends of the plate having a beveled cutting edge, and an off-set handle extended upwardly and rearwardly from the end of the back of the plate opposite to the end having the cutting edge thereon, said handle positioned in a plane slightly inclined in relation to the plane of the plate and the width of the teeth and the spaces therebetween being sufficient to permit ready removal of entrails of fowl.

LAWRENCE FINNEY.

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