March 8, 1927. 1,620,134

F. SCHLEY

LATCHING MEANS FOR GATES

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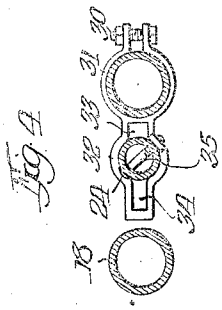


Fig. 4

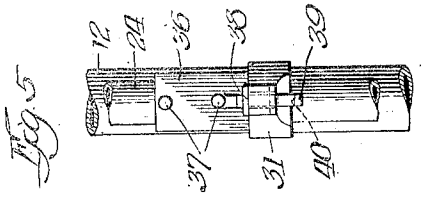


Fig. 5

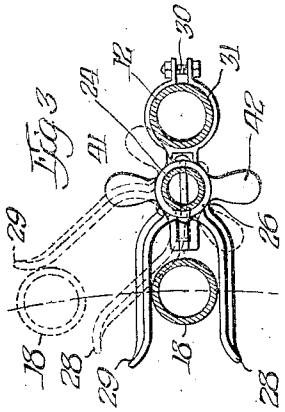


Fig. 3

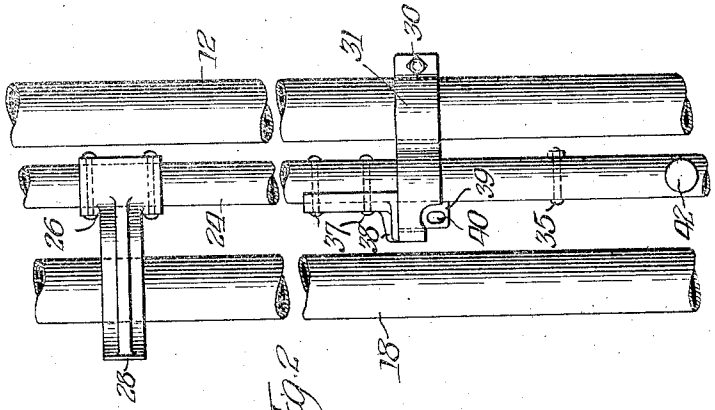


Fig. 2

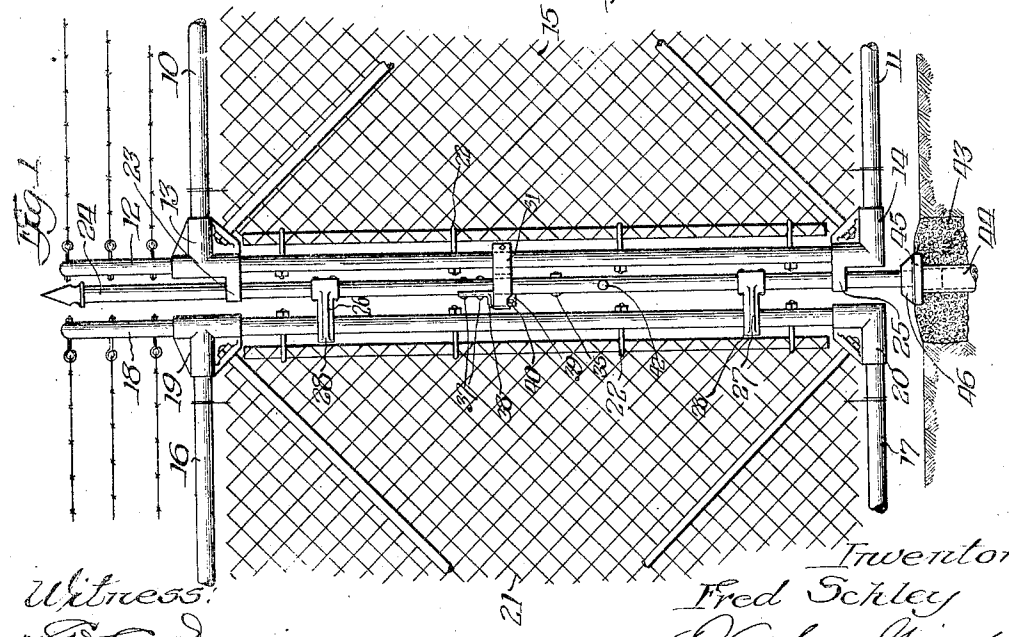


Fig. 1

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED SCHLEY, OF WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS.

LATCHING MEANS FOR GATES.

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My invention relates to latching means for gates and has for its primary object the provision of latching means which holds the gate securely in position and which is simple and efficient in operation and which does away with the necessity of providing stop means for preventing the over-swinging of the gates.

Another object of my invention is the provision of latching means which are particularly adaptable for double gates requiring a simple latching means by means of which the two sections of a double gate are held against opening in locked relation with each other and which is so positioned that the sections of the gate in swinging together are automatically brought into locked relation with each other or in such position that the locking means may be easily secured in position so that the sections of the gate are held against opening.

Another and further object of my invention is the provision of latching means for gates which provides an attachment by means of which a padlock can be easily attached to the locking means and the gates held without the use of chains, hasps or other fastening means.

These and other objects of my invention will be more fully and better understood by reference to the accompanying sheet of drawings and in which—

Figure 1 is an elevational view of my improved locking means applied to a pair of double gates;

Figure 2 is a detailed elevational view of sections of the locking members;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the members shown in Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a cross sectional view of the locking member showing the means for supporting the latching bar when the gates are in open position; and

Figure 5 is a detailed elevational view of the parts to which a padlock is attached for locking the gates in closed position.

Referring now specifically to the drawings a pair of inwardly swinging gates are shown, one of said gates having an upper horizontally extending frame member 10, a lower horizontally extending frame member 11 and a vertically extending end member 12, these members being preferably formed of pipe and having a T 13 at the upper side thereof within which the end of the member 10 is positioned and through which the member 12 passes. A lower angle member 14 is provided within which the lower end of the member 12 and the outer end of the member 11 is positioned with the usual woven wire gate fabric 15 secured to the frame members in any suitable manner.

The opposite gate has a top horizontal frame member 16 and a bottom horizontal frame member 17 with an end vertical frame member 18, with a T 19 joining the end member 18 and the upper frame member 16, with an angle 20 by means of which the lower end of the member 18 and the lower frame member 17 are secured together with the usual woven wire fabric 21 secured to these members by means of clips 22 or any other suitable manner. The bracket 13 has a projection 23 extending outwardly therefrom, the said projection having an opening therethrough within which a vertically extending rotatably mounted latching bar 24 is positioned, the said angle 14 having a projection 25 extending outwardly therefrom through which the latching member 24 extends at its lower end, the latching bar being capable of movement in a vertical direction through the brackets 23 and 25. Mounted upon the latching member 24 interminate the projections 23 and 25 and in spaced relation with each other, is a pair of forks 26 and 27, these members being secured to the latching member 24 by rivets in fixed engagement with this member or in any other suitable manner, the forks 26 and 27 having outwardly turned ends 28 and 29 so they are adapted to receive the member 18 as the gates are closed, the member 18 being received in and held by the forks 26 and 27 when the gates are in closed position.

Attached to the member 12 by means of a rivet or bolt 30, is a bracket 31, this bracket being clamped around the member 12 in fixed engagement therewith and has an opening 32 therein through which the latching bar 24 extends. This bracket 31 has a slot 33 adjacent the frame member 12 on one side of the latching bar 24 and has another slot 34 on the outside of the said latching bar 24 which provides means through which the head of a bolt 35, which is inserted through the latching bar 24 a short distance below the bracket 31 when the device is in locked position, the said bolt 35 performing the function when the gates are in unlocked position of supporting the

latching bar 24 and holding it out of engagement with the locking block hereinafter described and also out of engagement with the ground as the gates are opened and closed. A second bracket 36 is provided which is fastened to the latching bar 24 by means of rivets 37, 37, the said bracket 36 having an outwardly projecting portion 38 which is adapted to rest on top of the bracket 31 in normal locked position of the device and with a tongue 39 projecting downwardly below the portion 38 through the slot 34 within which a hole 40 is provided which is adapted to receive the bow of a padlock should it be desired to lock the gates against opening by some one without the use of a key.

Attached to the latching bar 24 is a pair of handles 41 and 42 which project outwardly from the latching bar 24 on opposite sides thereof and which perform the function of handles for raising and lowering the latching bar 24 and also act as stops to limit the rotation of the latching bar 24 as the gates are opened and closed so that as the gates are closed the frame member 18 is in position to engage the forks 26 and 27 as the gate is closed. A catch block 43 made of concrete or the like, is embedded in the ground and placed midway between the gates with a pipe 44 positioned therein within which a catch member 45 is mounted, this member having a slot 46 in the top thereof, this slot being parallel with the frame members 14 and 17 of the gate when in closed position and which is adapted to receive the lower end of the latching bar 24 and thus holding the gates in locked position when the lower end of the latching bar 24 is positioned in the slot 46.

In operation the device is exceedingly simple in that when it is desired to open the gates the operator grasps one of the handles 41 or 42 and lifts the latching bar 24 upwardly out of engagement with the catch member 45 and preferably high enough so that the bolt 35 passes through the slots 33 and 34, the lower end of the latching bar having passed out of the slot 46, the gates can be swung to one side or the other with the result that the latching bar 24 is rotated and its weight sustained by the bolt 35 resting on the top of the bracket 31. The gates can thereupon be opened to their full distance and when closed the gate upon which the latching bar 24 is mounted is brought into position so the latching bar 24 is over the holding block 45, the opposite gate is brought up into alignment therewith, in which position the frame member 18 engages in the forks 26 and 27, the gates are pulled into alignment with each other, resulting in the rotation in a counter-clockwise direction of the latching bar 24 so that the bolt 35 is brought into alignment with the slots 33 and 34, the latching member drops downwardly into the slot 46 and the locking block 45 and the gate in this position is locked against movement in either direction. If desired, when in this position, the bow of a padlock is inserted through the hole 40 in the tongue 39 and the lock fastened so that the latching bar is held against upward movement and the gates held in locked position. If desired, a rivet can be used instead of the bolt 30 or the threads on the end of the bolt battered in such manner that this bolt cannot be loosened easily so that the gate cannot be opened without breaking some of the locking parts.

It will be understood that I have described a locking device for use upon double gates which are adapted to swing in either direction but the latching means can be used equally well upon a single gate adapted to swing in either direction by providing a stationary member adapted to be engaged by the forks 26 and 27 in the same manner as shown with respect to the frame member 18.

While I have described more or less precisely the details of construction, I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself thereto, as I contemplate changes in form and the proportion of parts and the substitution of equivalents as circumstances may suggest or render expedient without departing from the spirit or scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. Fastening means for gates comprising in combination a slidably positioned rotatably mounted latch member, means for securing said latch member to a gate frame, forks carried by said latch member for engagement with a cooperating gate, a catch member adapted to engage said latch member, a bracket secured to said gate frame having an opening therein through which said latch member extends and a rest member carried by said latch member adapted to retain said latch member out of engagement with the catch member when the gates are out of engagement with the catch member.

2. Fastening means for gates comprising in combination a slidably positioned rotatably mounted latch member, means for securing said latch member to a gate frame, forks carried by said latch member for engagement with a cooperating gate, a catch member adapted to engage said latch member, a bracket secured to said gate frame having an opening therein through which said latch member extends, a rest member carried by said latch member adapted to retain said latch member out of engagement with the catch member when the gates are out of engagement with the catch member, and a bracket having a tongue thereon adapted to project through said bracket,

the said tongue having an opening therein adapted to receive the bow of a padlock.

3. Fastening means for double gates comprising in combination a vertically movable rotatably mounted latch member, mountings for said latch member on one of the gates adjacent the upper and lower frame members of the gate, a plurality of forks fixed upon said latch member adapted to engage the cooperating gate, the said forks being spaced from each other, a catch member adapted to receive the lower end of the latch member when the gates are in closed position, and means whereby the said latch member is held out of engagement with the ground when the gates are in open position.

Signed at Waukegan, Ill., this 4th day of March, 1926.

FRED SCHLEY.