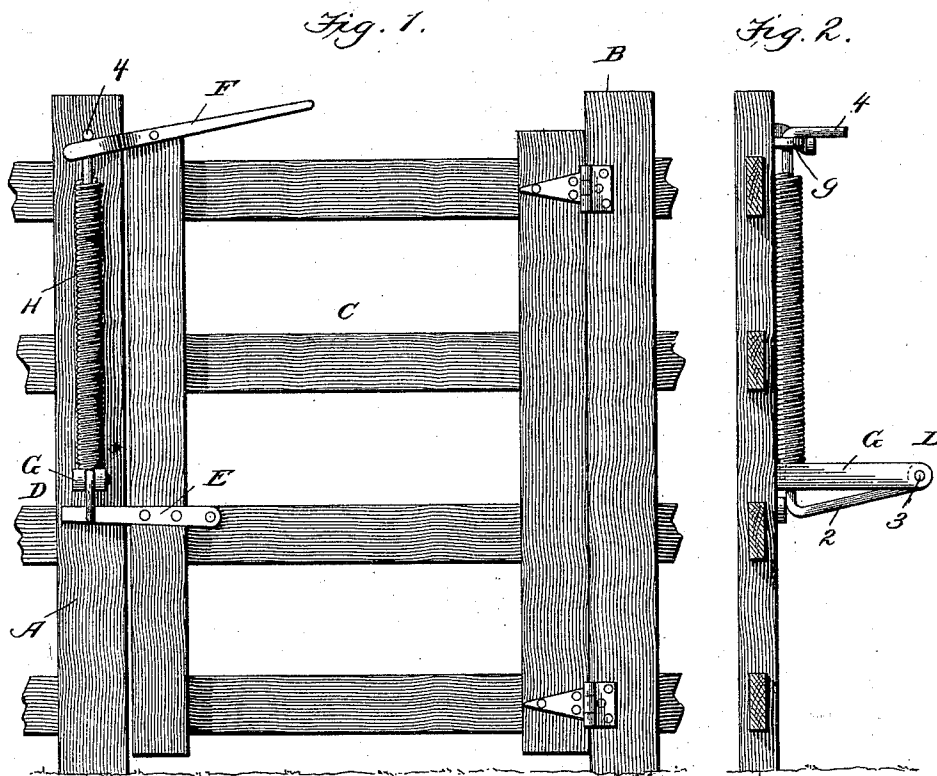


(No Model.)

S. Y. BEAM.
GATE LATCH.

No. 540,086.

Patented May 28, 1895.



WITNESSES:

Edwin L. Bradford

Ralph Wormell

INVENTOR

Samuel Y. Beam

BY

Patrick O'Farrell

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL YATES BEAM, OF NEAR NEW MARKET, VIRGINIA.

GATE-LATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 540,086, dated May 28, 1895.

Application filed September 4, 1894. Serial No. 522,046. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL YATES BEAM, a citizen of the United States of America, residing near New Market, in the county of Shenandoah and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gate-Latches, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

The purpose of the present invention is to equip farm and other gates with a latch mechanism convenient of operation from either approach by persons on foot and mounted on horseback. Heretofore the latch has been generally placed upon the gate. By my invention it is proposed to arrange the latch on the gate post and the stop on the gate, thereby relieving the gate and the hinges of much wear and strain which would result if the latch were carried by the gate.

The invention will be better understood from the following description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a gate, showing the application of the invention. Fig. 2 is a side view.

Referring to the drawings, the letters A and B indicate the posts on each side of the road or gate way, the gate C being hinged to the post B and the post A carrying the latch D.

The gate C is of usual construction and hinged to the post B in any desired manner. An arm E projects outward from the free end of the gate and strikes against the post A to limit the inward movement of the gate and is engaged by the latch D to fasten the gate shut. A lever F is pivoted between its ends to the outer end batten of the gate and normally occupies approximately a horizontal position. The longer arm occupies a position above the top edge of the gate so as to be easily reached from either approach to release the latch from the arm E when it is required to open the gate.

A support G extends from the post A and is slotted at its outer end and apertured near its inner end. The latch is carried by the support and comprises a rod mounted in the support G and a keeper g near the upper end of the post A. The lower end 2 of the rod be-

low the support is bent outward and inclines to the horizontal from the inner to the outer end so that the arm or stop E will ride thereon and compress the catch portion on closing the gate. This end 2 constitutes the catch and the outer end is formed into an eye which is seated in the slot at the outer end of the support and is held therein by a pin 3 on which the catch turns or works. The upper end 4 of the rod is bent outward to provide a handle to be grasped by the hand or engaged by the lever F when it is required to disengage the catch from the stop or support G. A coil spring H is mounted on the rod between the bent ends and is secured at the lower end to the arm E and at the upper end to the inner end of the handle 4. This spring exerts a lower pull on the rod and holds the catch 2 in operative position to be engaged by the arm E.

I claim—

1. The combination with a gate having a projecting arm, of the gate post having a laterally extending support, a rod mounted in a keeper and in the said support, the lower end of the rod being bent to form a catch and pivoted to the outer end of the support, the upper end of the rod being bent to provide a handle, and a spring mounted on the vertical portion of the rod and exerting a down pull thereon, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a gate having a projecting stop, and a post for the gate to close against, of a vertically movable rod on the square post having its lower end bent to provide a latch to engage with the stop on the gate, and having its upper end bent to form a handle, a spring arranged to exert a down pull upon the rod, and a lever pivoted between its ends to the upper portion of the gate, the short arm arranged to come beneath the said handle, and a long arm so as to be easily reached from either approach, substantially as specified.

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

SAMUEL YATES BEAM.

Witnesses:

SAMUEL GARBER,
EDGAR L. ZIRKLE.