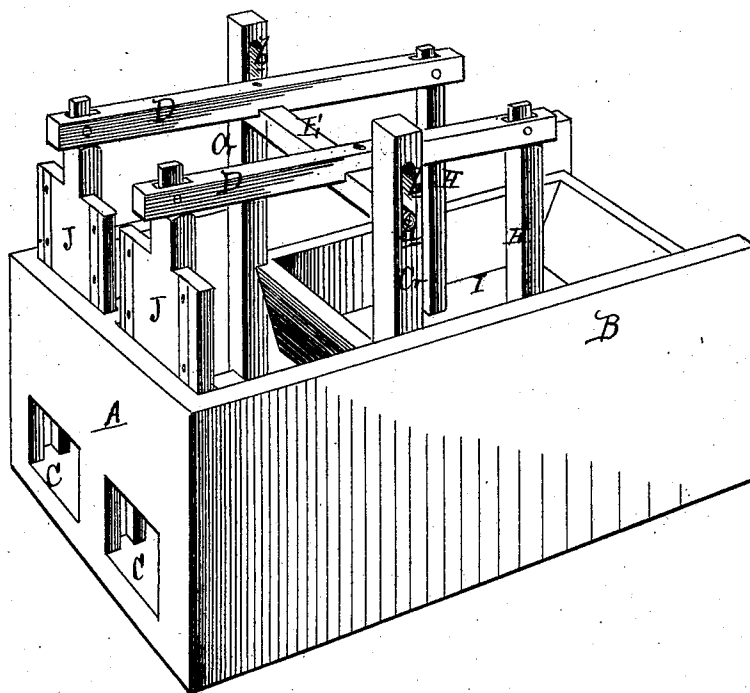


D. J. MOFFITT.

SELF ADJUSTING WATER GATE.

116854

PATENTED JUL 11 1871



ATTEST

Franklin
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INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID J. MOFFITT, OF THORNTOWN, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WATER-GATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 116,854, dated July 11, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID J. MOFFITT, of Thorntown, in the county of Boone and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Self-Adjusting Water-Gates; and I do declare that the following is a true and accurate description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon, and being a part of this specification, in which my invention is shown in perspective.

The nature of this invention relates to an improved self-adjusting water-gate, so arranged that, as the water rises, the water will be cut off from the race, so that the danger of freshets washing and injuring the race is avoided, and so that, as the water falls, it may be let into the race—or, in other words, a gate that will automatically regulate the flow of water through the race. The invention consists in the combination and arrangement of the various parts, constructed as more fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, A represents the head of a race, B, provided with openings C for the admission of water into the race. These openings are provided with the usual vertically-operating gates J, which are pivoted at their upper ends to the levers D, which, in turn, are rigidly secured at their longitudinal center to a rock-shaft, E, both ends of which are provided with journals *a*. G are vertical posts, provided with vertical slots *b*, within which the journals *a* of the rock-shaft have their rocking or semi-rotary movement, and also, under certain circum-

stances, a vertical movement. To the opposite ends of the levers D, by means of suitable connections, H, is pivoted the boat or float I within the race.

Should, from any cause, the water rise in the race beyond the height desired, the float I rises with it, thereby partially closing the gates and preventing an influx of too much water in the race, or closing the gates entirely and shutting off the water from passing through the gates. Should the banks of the race become overflowed in a freshet, if the rock-shaft were journaled into the posts in the usual manner there would be danger from the extraordinary pressure of the water upon the float—which would be prevented by the rigidity of the connection from rising any farther than that point—of swamping and tearing away the float and its connections. To avoid this and allow the float to rest upon the surface of the water, no matter how much the rise, the rock-shaft is journaled into the slots in the posts, as before described.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the float I, the levers D, the rock-shaft E pivoted in the slots *b* in the posts G, and the gates J, all constructed, arranged, and operating substantially as described and shown, for the purposes set forth.

DAVID J. MOFFITT.

Witnesses:

ROBERT LAVERTY,
JOSEPH VAN ARSDEL.