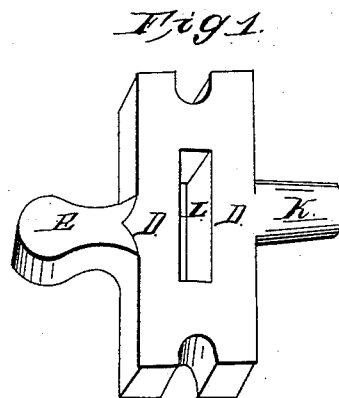
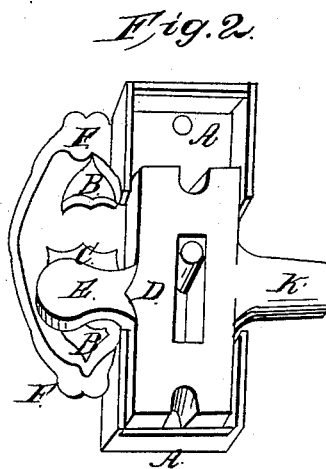
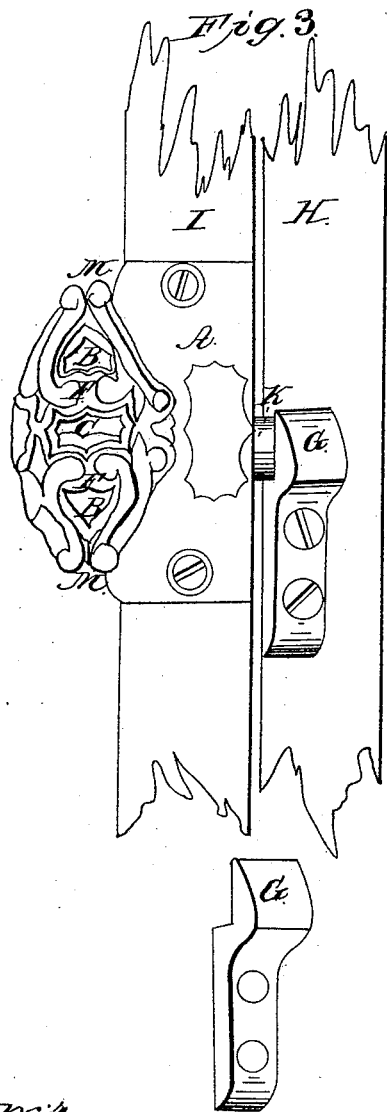


*E. O. Frink,*  
*Gate Latch,*  
*No. 51,710, Patented Dec. 26, 1865.*



*Witnesses:*

*Samuel E. McQuinn*

*H. A. Moore*

*Inventor*

*E. O. Frink*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

E. OTIS FRINK, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

## IMPROVED GATE-LATCH.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 51,710, dated December 26, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, E. OTIS FRINK, of the city of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Latch for Fastening Gates, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures and letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of the invention consists in the peculiar construction and operation of the said latch. The said latch is to be made of iron, brass, or any other suitable metal.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I proceed to describe its construction and operation as follows:

The latch consists of a slide (represented by D D of No. 1 of the said drawings,) which said slide is provided with a latch, K, a handle, E, and a slot, L, all of which are represented by said No. 1 of said drawings. The sliding latch operates in a suitable cover, (represented by A A of the said drawings,) the same being, when arranged for its proper operation, as represented by A A E K of No. 2 of the said drawings. Through the said slot L of the slide D D passes a proper screw, which secures a proper parting-plate to the said cover A A, and the said slot being of sufficient length the said slide is free to move unobstructed by the said screws. The said cover is provided with a shield or basket (represented by M F F M of No. 3 of said drawings) to protect the said handle E and prevent said latch from being improperly opened by animals or by accident. This said basket or shield is provided with two thumb-rests, one directly above the other. Connected with each is a proper aperture, (represented by B of No. 3 of said drawings,) whereby the thumb is enabled to rest on the edge of the said shield or basket at F, thereby

obviating the necessity of a shoulder for that purpose. By means of constructing the upper and lower half of said latch exactly similar it can be used either as a right or left hand latch at pleasure, the whole being, when properly attached to the gate, as represented by No. 3 of the said drawings.

When the motion of the gate in closing has carried the latch K far enough it will impinge upon the beveled edge of the catch G. The said slide D D, being free to move, will be raised and caused to slide upward in said cover by the said latch K moving on the inclined plane made by beveling the edge of the said catch G, and thereby allow the said latch K to pass over the said catch G. When the said latch K has passed beyond the beveled edge of the said G the weight of the said slide D D will cause it to fall into a proper notch of the said catch G, where it will be firmly held. To open the latch the thumb is placed on the said thumb-rest F, and the said handle E is drawn up with the forefinger, which lifts the said latch K out of the notch of the said catch G, and the gate is then free to open.

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

1. The said sliding latch, when the same is constructed with the projecting portion K, the slot L, and handle E, and operated substantially as set forth.

2. The said shield or basket M F F M, when constructed and applied substantially as set forth.

3. The improved device as a whole, constructed and operated substantially as set forth.

E. OTIS FRINK.

Attest:

C. E. W. DONALD,  
H. A. MOORE,  
H. DAVIS.