W. Foskett,

Gate Latch.

No. 111,626. Patented Feb. 7. 1871.

fig. 1.

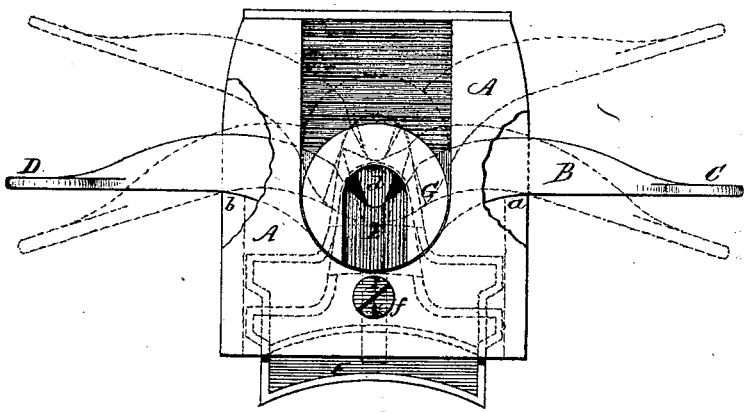


fig. 2.

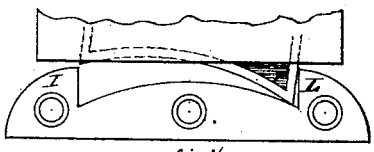


fig. 4.

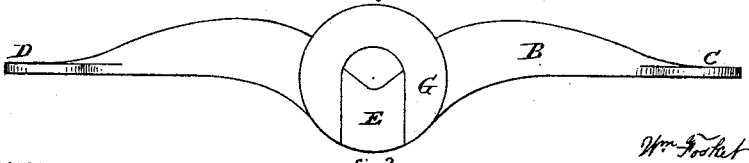
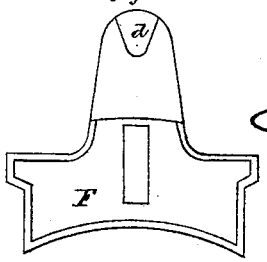


fig. 3.



Witnesses.

J. H. Shumway

A. J. Tibbits

Wm. Foskett
Inventor
By his Attorney
John E. Earle

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM FOSKET, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO CHARLES PARKER, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 111,626, dated February 7, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN GATE-LATCHES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM FOSKET, of Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Gate-Latch; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawing constitutes part of this specification, and represents in

Figure 1, a front view;

Figure 2, a detached view illustrating the operation of the latch;

Figure 3, the latch detached; and in

Figure 4, the lever detached

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of gate-latches which is constructed to allow the gate to swing in both directions, the object of the invention being to insure the catching of the latch into the keeper, and also the construction of the lever to operate the latch whether the lever be raised or pressed down; and

It consists in constructing the latch and its connection, in combination with the lever, so that either end may drop while the other end is raised in its passage over the keeper.

A is the case, a portion of which is broken away to show the fulcrums *a* and *b*, upon which the lever B rests, and which said lever extends through the case and is formed into convenient shape at each end, C D, for operation.

Within the case the lever is curved down, as at E, to form a stud, *d*, on the latch F, the latter extending down through the bottom of the case, as denoted in fig. 1. Therefore, when the lever is depressed upon one side, say C, it bears upon the fulcrum *a* and raises the bolt; but when the lever is raised upon the side C, then the fulcrum is upon the opposite side, at *b*.

The operation upon the reverse side is the same, and the latch is raised whether the lever be raised or depressed upon either side.

The latch is guided by any convenient construction to insure a vertical movement, here represented as by a screw, *f*, extending through the case into a slot in the latch.

The lever is retained in position by a boss, G, formed thereon, working in a slot in the case, as seen in fig. 1. The bearing of the stud *d* upon the lever is so far independent of the lever as to allow the latch to tip, as denoted in fig. 2, which is facilitated by the curved lower end of the latch, as seen in fig. 3; hence, when the latch is swung to its place of rest the latch passes over the end I of the keeper, and the edge of the latch which first passes over falls by its own gravity as it approaches the opposite side L, so that it will strike the side L and arrest the movement of the gate at that point, allowing the latch to fall into its place and secure the gate.

I claim as my invention—

In a latch in which the lever B is arranged to operate the bolt as described, the latch-bolt constructed with a concave end, and hung to the said lever in the manner described, to allow of a rocking motion of the latch as it passes onto the keeper.

WM. FOSKET.

Witnesses:

N. H. CAMP,

CHAS. L. TAYLOR.