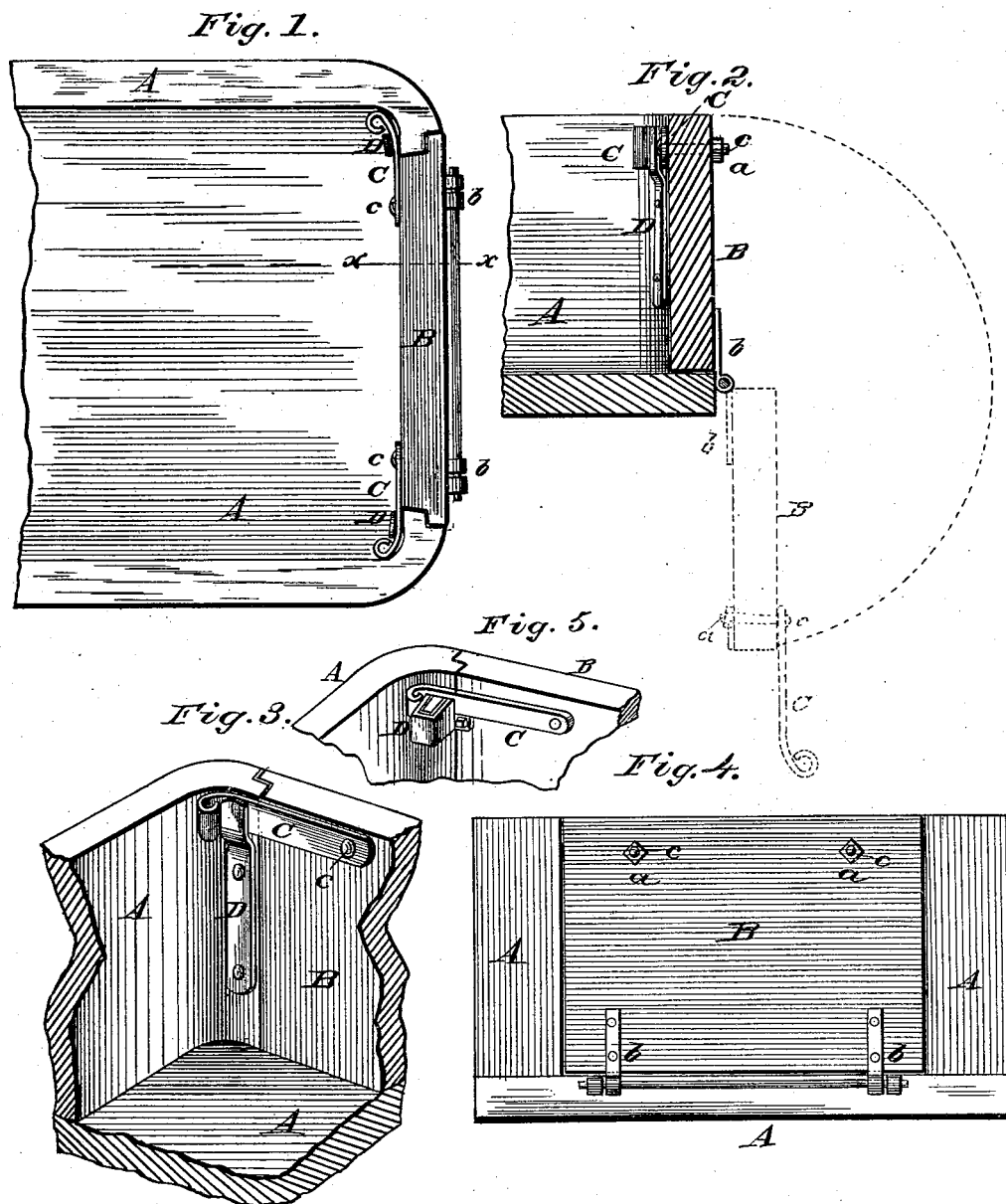


(No Model.)

L. M. FITCH.  
END GATE FASTENING.

No. 261,146.

Patented July 18, 1882.



WITNESSES:

*Fred. L. Dieterich.*  
*F. C. Dieterich.*

INVENTOR.

*Lauren M. Fitch*  
per *Dr. M. C. Allen* ATTORNEY

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAUREN M. FITCH, OF ROME, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE ROME SPRING WAGON COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## END-GATE FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 261,146, dated July 18, 1882.

Application filed April 15, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LAUREN M. FITCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rome, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fastenings for Wagon End Boards or Gates; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in fastenings for end boards or gates of wagon-bodies, and has for its object the production of a cheap, simple, and durable fastening so arranged as to be easily manipulated while not being in the way; and to this end the invention consists in the combination of a hinged or pivoted end-gate, having metallic straps or latches pivotally secured to its inner sides and near its ends, and metallic clips secured to the inner side of the wagon box or body, with which said straps or latches are adapted to engage, all as will be hereinafter fully described, and set forth in the claim hereto annexed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a top view or plan; Fig. 2, a sectional view; Fig. 3, an inside view; Fig. 4, a rear end view; Fig. 5, a detailed view.

In the drawings, A represents the wagon box or body, and B the end board or gate, secured thereto in the usual manner by the usual hinged metallic straps.

C C represent metallic straps or latches pivotally secured to the inner side, near the top ends of the end board or gate, by bolts c, passing through said straps or latches and end board or gate, and secured by nuts a, or riveted thereto, or held by a screw or such other practical means as may be deemed most desirable, all as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

D D represent metallic clips secured to the inner sides of the wagon-body near the corners thereof or near the end opening, which corners of the box may be square or round, as shown, and when the end-gate is closed the free ends of the latches or straps are forced down between the clips and the wagon-body, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, thus securing the end-gate in its closed position.

The above-described construction forms a very strong and effective fastening, as when any pressure is brought to bear on the end gate or board when closed the strain is brought to bear on the outer or free ends of the straps or latches C C, which strain or pressure will come on the wagon-body, and also on the clips D D, thereby to a great extent relieving the pivotal points of the straps or latches from any strain, and while being arranged on the inside of the wagon box or body they are out of the way, and not liable to be interfered with, get out of place, or cease to be efficient for the purpose intended. These can also be used upon an end or tail board not connected by hinges to the body of the wagon, if desired.

Instead of having the metallic clips D, metallic sockets D' may be used, having side flanges, through which pass bolts or screws for securing them in position, or any other mechanical or practical means; and the metallic straps or latches and a retaining-spring or other suitable device may be arranged therein, if deemed expedient, to keep the strap or latch in position, provided with projecting lugs adapted to fit in said sockets, all as clearly shown in Fig. 5.

I am aware that corner-iron end pieces having projections with which pivoted hooks connected to the end-gate are adapted to engage are old; and such I do not wish to claim as of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of a wagon-body having metallic clips D D secured to its inner side near the end-gate opening thereof, and the end-gate having the pivoted metallic straps or latches secured to the inner side and near its ends, which straps or latches pass between the clips and wagon-body when the gate is closed, substantially in the manner herein shown and described.

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

LAUREN M. FITCH.

Witnesses:

C. D. PRESCOTT,  
LOUIS ROTH.