



(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

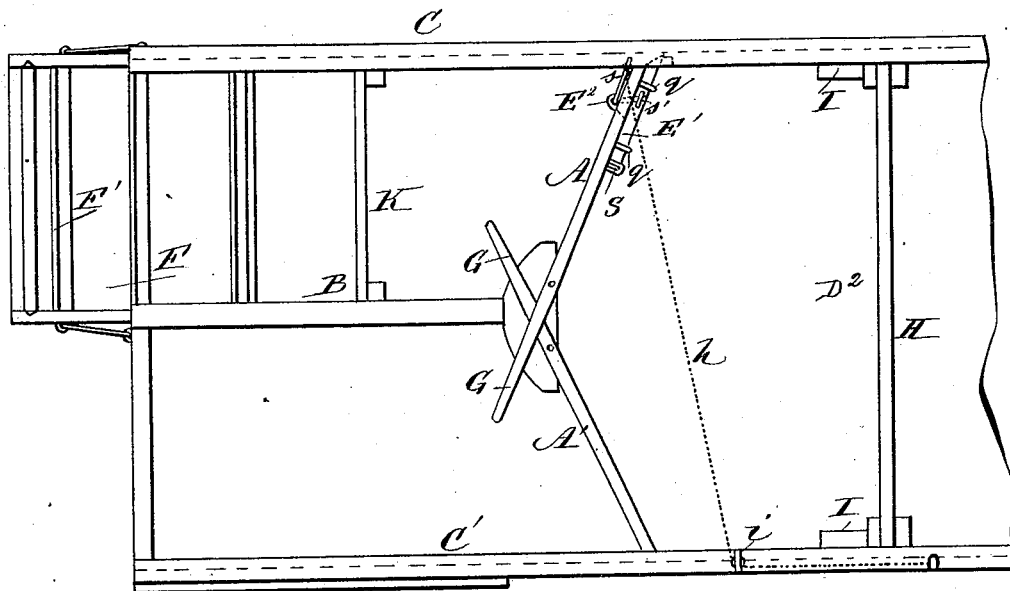
C. F. SHEDD.

DEVICE FOR ASSORTING ANIMALS.

No. 342,977.

Patented June 1, 1886.

*Fig. 4*



*Fig. 5*

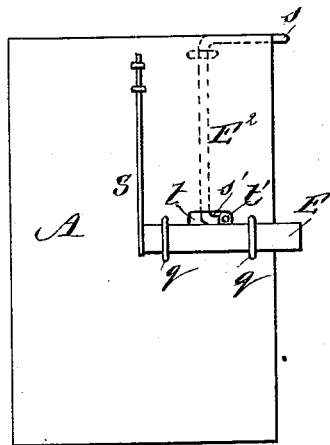
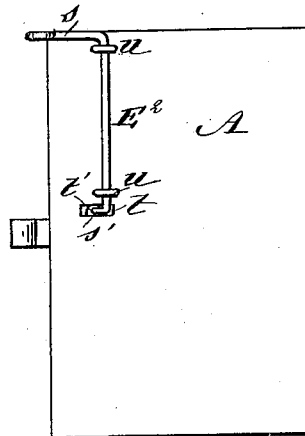


Fig. 6



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. SHEDD, OF FAIRFIELD, NEBRASKA.

## DEVICE FOR ASSORTING ANIMALS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 342,977, dated June 1, 1886.

Application filed December 9, 1885. Serial No. 185,134. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. SHEDD, of Fairfield, in the county of Clay and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and Improved Device for Assorting Animals, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an assorting stock gate or apparatus, and to its application to inclosures and appliances for assorting and loading live hogs, calves, or sheep into wagons and other conveyances.

The invention consists of the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a broken plan view of my new device for assorting and handling animals, showing the assorting-gates closed. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional elevation taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional elevation taken on the line *yy* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a plan view showing a modified form of the latch for the gates *A A'*; and Figs. 5 and 6 are respectively front and back views of one of the gates, showing the modified form of latch.

*A A'* represent the assorting-gates. These are hinged to the inner end of the short wall or partition *B*, which is built central, or thereabout, to the main parallel side walls, *C C'*.

The gates *A A'* are adapted to open toward each other back to back, and are adapted to close, respectively, against the side walls, *C C'*, thus separating the side compartments or pens *D D'* from the main front compartment or chute, *D<sup>2</sup>*. The rear end of the compartment *D'* is closed by the wall or fence *E*, while the rear of the compartment or pen *D* is closed by inclined platform *F* and sliding door *F'*, to be hereinafter described.

The gates *A A'* are arranged to be operated from a distance, so the animals may be separated and worked from one compartment or pen to another without the necessity of a person entering the inclosures.

For operating the gates I attach to them, by the cords *a*, that pass over pulleys *b*, the weights *c*, which normally hold the gates

closed. The latches *E' E'* of the gates engage with notches *e*, made in the boards *e'* of the side walls of the inclosure, for locking the gates in closed position, and the latches are held drawn downward by the springs *d*, so that the latches will act promptly in dropping into the notches *e* when the gates are closed by the weight *c*. The latches turn on the pivots *f*, and are held at their outer ends by the staples *f'*, that permit the latches to move up and down through a limited space.

For lifting the latches and opening the gates from a distance, I employ cords *h h'*, one for each gate. The cord *h* is connected to the latch *E'* of the gate *A*, and is passed across the inclosure *D<sup>2</sup>* to the pulley *i*, situated upon the side wall or fence, *C'*. The cord *h'* is connected with latch *E'* on the gate *A'*, and passed across the inclosure *D<sup>2</sup>* to the pulley *i'*, situated upon the side wall or fence, *C*. From the pulleys *i i'* the cords *h h'* pass along the walls or fences *C C'*, respectively, to any desired distance, and the extremities of the cords may be provided with the rings *j j*, as shown in Fig. 1, for convenience in drawing the cords to open the gates.

The cords *h h'* may be connected with the latches by various means, or they might be connected directly with the latches and passed over a pulley at the top of the gates; but I prefer to employ the bell-crank levers or plates *k k'*, pivoted at the top of the gates *A A'*, respectively, to the upper ends of which levers the cords *h h'* are connected, the opposite ends of the levers *k k'* being connected to the latches *E' E'*, respectively, by the cords *l l'*, so that by drawing upon the cords *h h'* the upper ends of the bell-crank levers will be thrown backward and the lower ends upward, which will lift the latches out of their notches and release the gates. The gates being thus released, by drawing still further upon the cords the gates may be swung open on their hinges. The opening of the gates will lift the weights *c*, so that when the cords are released the weights will instantly draw the gates closed. Arms *G G* are attached to the upper edges of the gates *A A'*, so that the gates may be conveniently opened by a person sitting upon the wall *B*.

In the compartment *D<sup>2</sup>* is placed the gate or

panel H. This is not hinged, but is used to cut out the animals one at a time, and then placed against the upright cleats I I and held thereto by the hooks *m m*. The hooks *m m* are attached to the center of the width of the cleats I I, so that the gate or panel H may be placed upon either side of the cleats and held by the hooks, as shown in full and dotted lines in Fig. 1.

10 The animals may be admitted to the device through the chute D<sup>2</sup> by removing the gate or panel H; or they may be admitted first to the side compartment, D', by removing or sliding the door J. (Shown in Fig. 1.) When admitted at the door J, the panel H will be put across the chute to form the compartment D<sup>2</sup>, and the animals desired will be worked from compartment D' into said compartment D<sup>2</sup> through the gate A'. From compartment D<sup>2</sup> the animals will be worked to compartment D through the gate A. From compartment D the animals (hogs, calves, or sheep) may be loaded into wagons or other conveyances by backing the conveyance against the upper edge of the inclined platform F and removing the vertically-sliding door F' and forcing or driving the animals up the inclined platform into the conveyance. For driving the animals up the inclined platform F, the person in the inclosure D will take the loose gate or panel K in hand, and hold it across the inclosure D behind the animals, and move slowly forward, thus forcing or driving all the animals before him up the platform until they are all in the wagon.

35 In case the device is used simply for grading or separating animals, the platform F, door F', gates K H, and wall E will be dispensed with, and the animals will enter the chute D<sup>2</sup> and pass out through compartment D or D' according to grade, the gates A A' being properly operated by the cords *h h'* or by the arms G G.

In place of weights *c c* for closing the gates A A', suitably-arranged springs may be used for the purpose, and in place of pivoted and vertically-movable latches applied to the gates A A'. I may use on each gate a sliding latch, E', (shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6.) This form of latch is held loosely by the staples or keepers *q q*, and is pressed forward by a flat spring, S, attached to the gate and arranged to press against the inner end of the latch, as shown clearly in Fig. 5.

55 For operating the latch E', I use a bent rod,

E<sup>2</sup>, which is bent to form the upper horizontal arm, *s*, and lower horizontal arm, *s'*, which latter reaches through a slot, *t*, made in the gate and enters the eye, *t'* formed upon or attached to the latch E', as shown clearly in Figs. 5 and 6. The arm *s* of the rod E<sup>2</sup> stands at an acute angle to the lower arm, *s'*, and when the latch is forced outward by the spring S the arm *s* stands parallel with the gate and the operating-cord *h* is attached to the outer end of the arm *s*, so that by drawing upon this cord the rod E<sup>2</sup> will first be turned in its keepers *u*, which will cause the lower arm, *s'*, to throw back the latch E' against the pressure of the spring S and release the gate. Then by drawing still further upon the cord *h* the gate may be swung open. When the cord *h* is released, the spring S will return the latch E' and operating-rod E<sup>2</sup> to their original position for locking the gate when closed by the weights.

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

1. In a device for assorting and handling animals, the combination, with the side walls, C C', and the short partition B, of the gates A A', pivoted to the said partition, weights for closing the gates, and spring-latches, and cords connected to the said gates and latches, each cord being passed over a pulley on the wall opposite to that against which the gate closes, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. In a device for assorting and handling animals, the combination, with the side walls, C C', provided with pulleys *i i'*, and the short partition B, of the gates A A', pivoted to the said partition, the cords *a*, weights *c*, for closing the gates, the spring-latches E' E', the bell-crank levers *k k'*, pivoted to the said gates, the cords *l l'*, connected to the latches and bell-crank levers, and cords *h h'*, connected to the bell-crank levers and passed over the said pulleys *i i'*, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. An assorting and handling device for animals, consisting of the side walls, C C', the short partition B, the removable panel H, the inclined platform F, the sliding door F', the hinged gates A A', weights *c*, latches E' E', and cords *h h'*, substantially as herein shown and described.

CHARLES F. SHEDD.

Witnesses:

IRA TITUS,

JOHN PRALL.