J. PETERMAN.

Gate-Latch.

No. 168,525. Patented Oct. 5, 1875.

Fig 1.

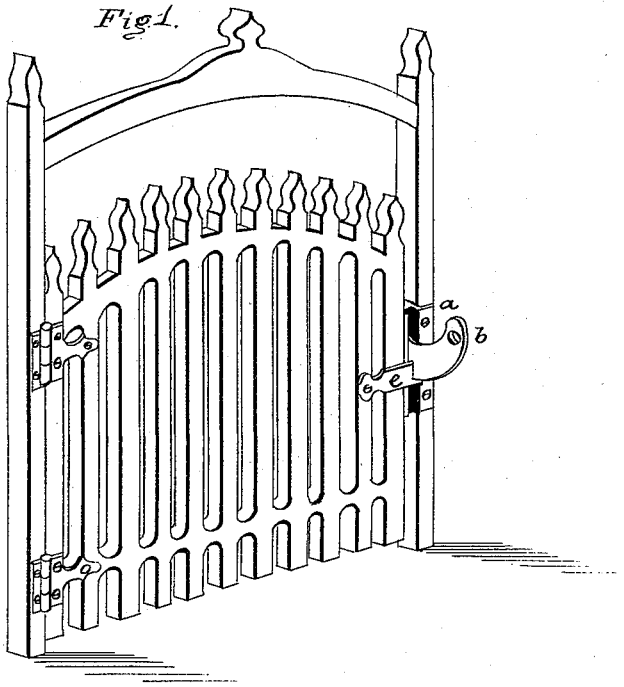


Fig 2.

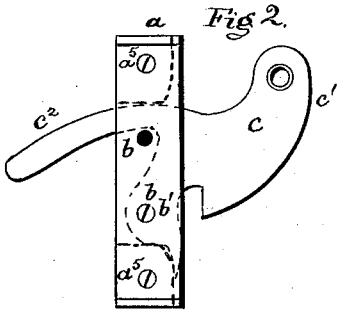


Fig 3.

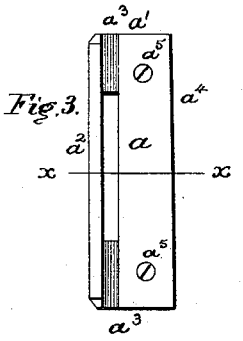
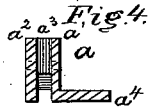


Fig 4.

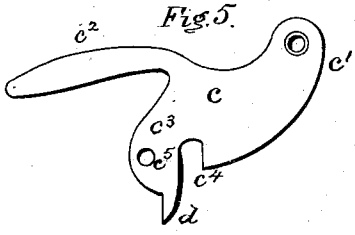


Witnesses:

F. B. Townsend

Colborne Brookes

Fig 5.



Inventor:

Jacob Peterman

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attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB PETERMAN, OF SHORT CREEK, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN GATE-LATCHES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,525**, dated October 5, 1875; application filed September 7, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB PETERMAN, of Short Creek, in the county of Harrison and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gate and Door Latches; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in gate and door latches; and consists in a flanged casing, in which is pivoted the latch, the whole being constructed so that it can be reversed and used on a gate or door opening either to the right or left, and that will catch and hold the gate or door when closed rapidly.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a gate with my device attached. Fig. 2 is the casing and latch complete; and Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are detail views.

a is the casing, formed of the two side plates a^1 a^2 and end pieces a^3, so as to provide a central opening or slot for the reception of the latch. The inner plate a^1 is provided with the flange a^4, turned at a right angle, to fit over the corner of the post to which the device may be secured. It is held to the post by retaining-screws passing through the holes a^5 a^5. *b* are holes for inserting a screw, *b'*, which forms the axis on which the latch turns. The screw is inserted in one or the other of these holes, as may be required, in applying the device to a gate opening either to the right or left. *c* is the latch, which has its inner end c^1 made in usual form, to facilitate its operation, and the outward-projecting arm c^2, by which it can be raised from the outside of the house or inclosure. It is provided with the under arm c^2, forming the notch c^4, the hole c^5 being for the passage of the axis or screw *b*, on which it turns. *d* is a projecting finger attached to the lower end of the arm c^2. It is so arranged that when the latch is down it will lie in the groove formed by the plates a^1 a^2, and flush with their inner edges, and so that when the latch is raised it will extend outward from the casing, and receive the blow of the bar *e* on the gate as the latter closes.

In the act of closing the gate, the bar *d* presses against the curved under edge of the end c^1 of the latch *c*, and raises the latter, so that the gate closes, with the bar resting against the flange a^4, when the latch drops, and the notch c^4 receives the bar and holds the gate.

With an ordinary latch, the gate, when thrown violently to, by wind or other cause, will bound back before the latch can drop over the bar *e;* but with my device, the latch is instantly forced down, so as to catch the bar by reason of the latter's striking the finger *d*.

The latch may be reversed in the casing by removing the axis *b'*, and turning it so as to put the axis in the other of the holes *b*.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The combination of the casing *a*, composed of the plate a^1, having the flange a^4, and plate a^2, having holes *b*, and the latch *c*, constructed as described, and all arranged to be reversible, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JACOB PETERMAN.

Witnesses:

GEORGE FURBAY,

GEORGE ADAMS.