

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SETH W. PERKINS, OF CAMBRIDGE, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN WAGON END-GATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,079**, dated May 21, 1878; application filed February 14, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SETH W. PERKINS, of Cambridge, in the county of Henry and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Fastening the End-Gates to Wagons, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to end-gates for wagon-bodies; and it consists in novel means for locking and unlocking such gates, as hereinafter specified and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings illustrates a section of a wagon-body with my gate closed. Fig. 2 represents a like view with my gate open, and Fig. 3 is a detail.

A of the drawings represents the bottom of a wagon-body; B, the sides; and C, an end-board for the same. This board is secured in position on its front side by the cleats T T, and on its rear side by the hinged gates D, one of which is applied to each side of the wagon-body, and in a vertical position, as shown on Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

The letter G represents a strap-hinge, one end of which is attached to the side of the wagon-body, and is turned up in the rear of cleat, as shown. I usually connect a small bolt or pin to this cleat at each end, which passes through the end-board, and aids in keeping the same in place.

The letter *g*, Fig. 2, represents a rectangular opening through the strap-hinge, beneath which I form a recess in the side-board for the purpose of receiving the locking-button on the end of the lever, as hereinafter described.

My gate (marked D) is connected with the end of a side-board by the strap-hinges, as illustrated on Fig. 2, in such manner as to be folded inward at will, and, when so folded, its outer square end rests against and supports

the rear side of the end-board, in the manner shown on said figure.

The letter *a* represents a bent lever, which usually is provided with a screw-thread, passing through the plates *h*, and has a button, *e*, which is arranged to pass into the recess in the side-board below the opening *g* of the hinge, thereby locking the gate to the side-board. The outer bent end of this lever is designed to be operated by hand to lock or unlock the gate.

Said gate is locked when the lever is turned downward, as shown on Fig. 1, and its outer end is secured in a small recess in the gate at *i*; and it is unlocked by turning the same at right angles with the gate, as shown in Fig. 2.

To hold the gate open, I rest the end of the lever in a staple, *b*.

It is obvious that the locking and unlocking process is effected by the peculiar shape of the button, operating, in conjunction with the recess in the side-board and the rectangular opening *g*, through the hinge.

I claim as my invention—

1. The bent lever *a*, having button *e*, in combination with the hinge G, having opening *g*, substantially as specified.

2. The lever *a*, having button *e* and screw-thread, as described, in combination with a gate, D, having plate *h* and opening *g*, substantially as set forth.

3. The gate D, provided with lever D and hinge G, and recess *i*, in combination with an end-board, C, cleats T, and staple *b*, substantially as described.

S. W. PERKINS.

Witnesses:

CHARLES R. WHEELER,
E. D. RICHARDSON.