L. I. WATHEN.
Flood-Gate.

No. 209,529. Patented Oct. 29, 1878.

Fig. 1

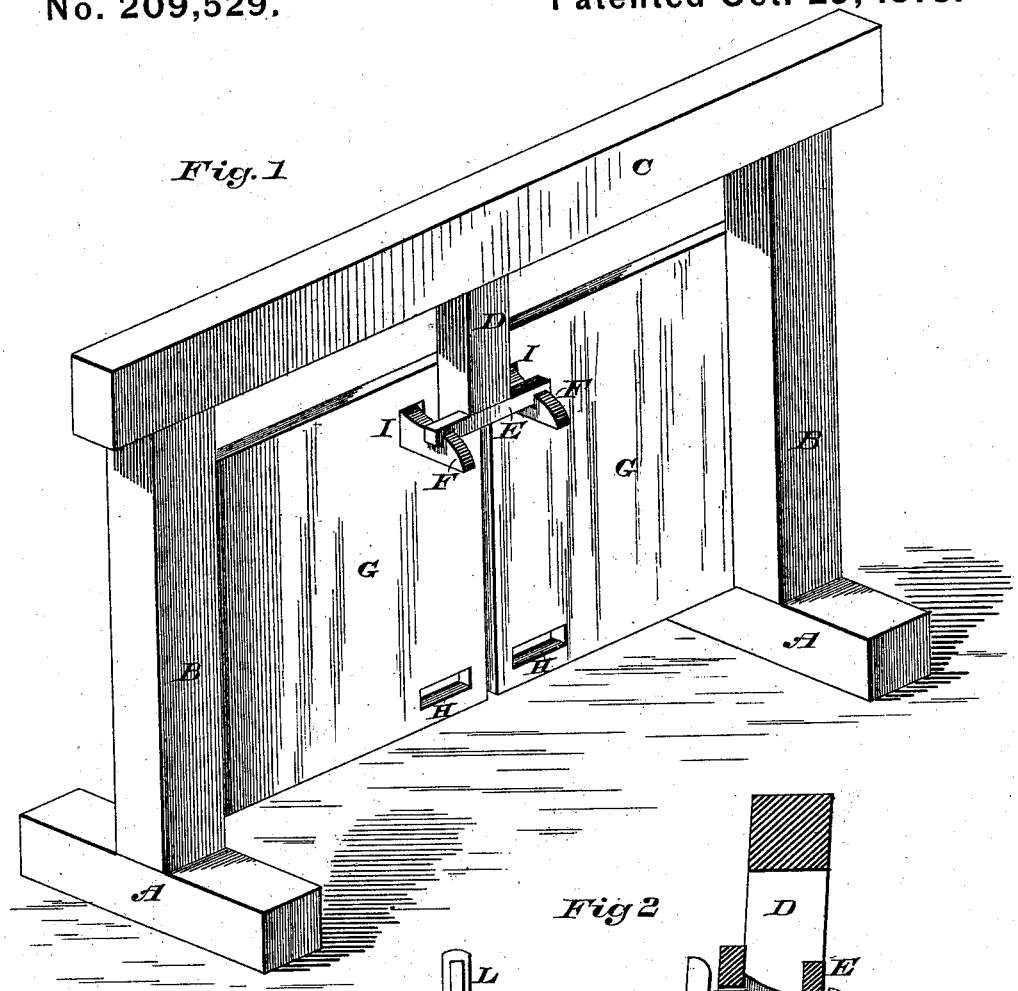


Fig 2

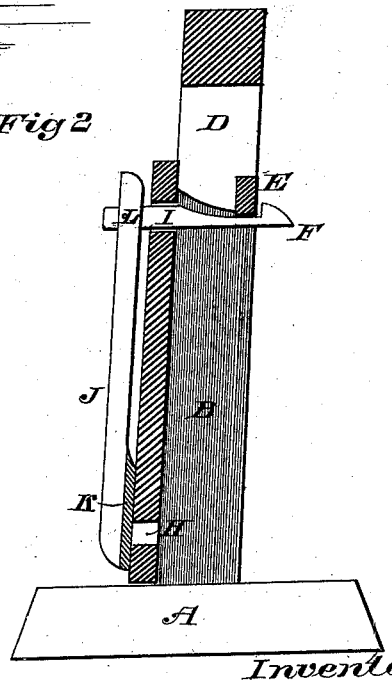
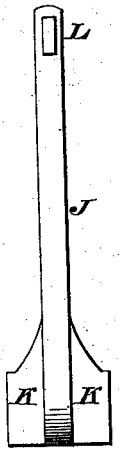


Fig 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS I. WATHEN, OF MORGANFIELD, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLOOD-GATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **209,529**, dated October 29, 1878; application filed June 22, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS I. WATHEN, of Morganfield, in the county of Union and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Flood-Gates, of which the following is a specification:

The invention relates to a mechanical device which I claim to be self-acting, depending upon two natural forces for its complete and successful operation.

The object of my invention is to provide a flood-gate that is self-acting, and which offers no resistance to drift, and is stock-proof.

In the accompanying drawing, in which similar letters of reference represent like parts, Figure 1 is a perspective of a device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same; and Fig. 3 represents the paddle-shaped lever herein referred to.

The powers referred to operate, first, by the action and force of flowing water through the openings H near the lower edge of the gates G, acting upon the paddle-shaped lever J K, connected at L with the latches F, which latches are substantially fastened by pivots to the gates G, and passing through mortises I and by the notches and beveled ends F, making a substantial fastening under the cross-bar E, which cross-bar is attached to the pendant D, which pendant is from the cross-beam C, and is above high water.

The action and force of the water when it has raised above the openings H in the gates G, which openings are just above low water, force the paddle-shaped lever J K down the stream, thus relieving the latches F at E, and forcing the gates open to any angle less than ninety degrees (90°) from the posts B down stream, thus permitting the flood of water, together with all drift, to pass through between the upright posts B under the cross-beam C, in the manner as set forth.

By the action of gravitation my gates are self-closing in the following manner: The gates G, which are hung on strong hinges to the posts B, which posts, with the cross-beam C, lean up stream five or more degrees (5°) from a vertical line, and thus the gates G, not being permitted to open beyond a right line with the inside faces of the mud-sills A, must by gravitation close and fasten themselves by the catches F under the bar E.

I claim—

The combination, with the frame A B C, of the inclined gate G, having holes H, paddle-levers J K, and the fastening device, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

LOUIS I. WATHEN.

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