



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. NEVIN, OF OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK.

## DEVICE FOR OPENING AND CLOSING GATES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 27,304, dated February 28, 1860.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN H. NEVIN, of Ogdensburg, in the county of St. Lawrence and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gates; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a face view of my gate when the same is closed in black outlines, and an end view of ditto when open in red outlines. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same, the line  $x, x$ , Fig. 1 indicating the plane of section.

Similar letters of reference in both figures indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in arranging a gate or door with a double spring hook in combination with a double hand lever and with two posts whereby the door fastens itself when it is shut, as well as when it is opened.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

The object of this invention is to fasten a gate or door as well when the same is shut as when it is opened, so that the same when it is exposed to the action of the wind is not thrown about and injured. To accomplish this object, I have secured to the upright bar A of the gate or to its outer edge a hook B with two noses  $a, a'$  and connected by a rod  $b$  to a double armed hand lever C, one end of which extends to the inside and the other to the outside of the gate. The hook B turns freely on a pivot  $c$  and it is subjected to the action of a spring  $d$  which is secured to the upright bar A as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The nose  $a$  of the hook B extends to the outside of the gate, and if the gate is shut it catches over a post D the upper surface of which is a little inclined in order to allow the nose to slide up it, and to catch more readily over its outer edge. Said post is furnished with a shoulder  $e$  which prevents the gate passing beyond the required point.

When the gate is opened, the nose  $a'$  catches under a lip  $f$  formed by nailing and

screwing a metal plate  $g$  over a mortise  $h$  in a post E, and this post is so placed that it allows the gate to open to the desired point, but no further. When my fastening is used for a door, mortises in the sill and in the wall may take the places for the posts D and E.

The spring hook B is operated by means of the double armed hand lever C and both the noses  $a, a'$  are released by lifting up the end  $i$  of said lever, and by depressing its other end  $i'$ . A staple  $j$  is placed over the spring hook B in order to keep it always in the proper position to act.

It will be noticed, that this arrangement is equally applicable to gates, barn doors, or in fact to all doors which are exposed to the influence of the wind or which require to be fastened both ways. If such a gate or door is left open and without my fastening the wind will slam it to and fro to the great injury of the hinges and other parts of the door or gate and to the great annoyance of the inmates of the house, or of neighboring houses if such slamming of the door or gate takes place at night. With my fastening on the other hand the door will be slammed once only, either one way or the other, and it will then be fastened so that the wind has no further influence on the same.

By connecting the hand lever C with the double spring hook B, the operation of my fastening is made quite convenient, and it will be found of great advantage, also; to doors on steamboats and particularly when the same are provided with one or more panes of glass which are very liable to get broke if the door is left to the influence of the wind.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent; is

Arranging a gate or door with a double spring hook B in combination with a double hand lever C and with posts D and E, to operate substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN H. NEVIN.

Witnesses:

BENJ. NEVIN,  
JAMES C. BARTER.