Geselbracht & Frey,

Gate Latch.

No. 97,498. Patented Dec. 7. 1869.

Fig. 1.

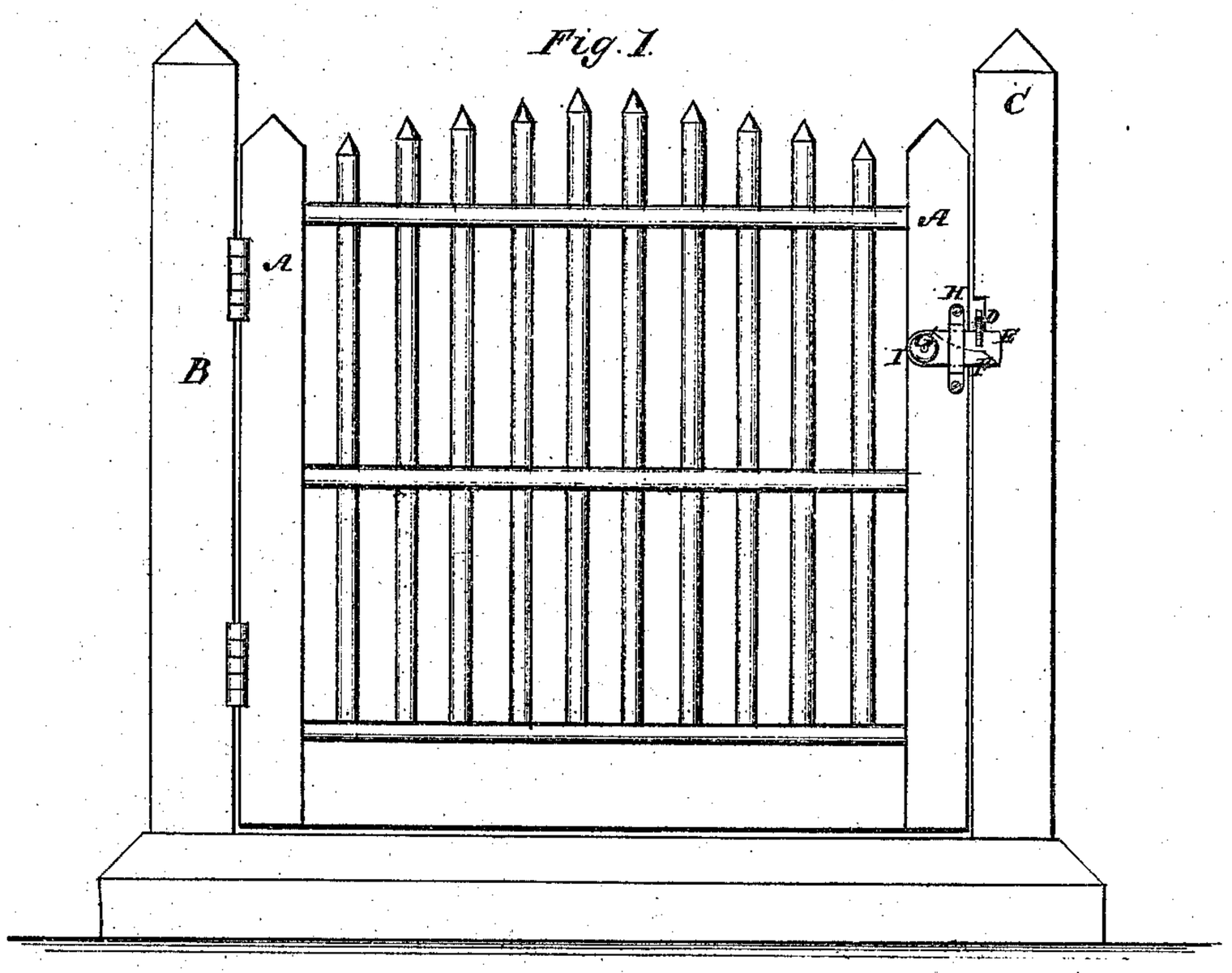


Fig. 2.

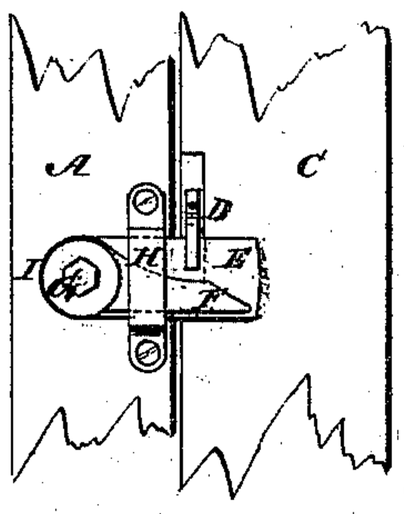


Fig. 3.

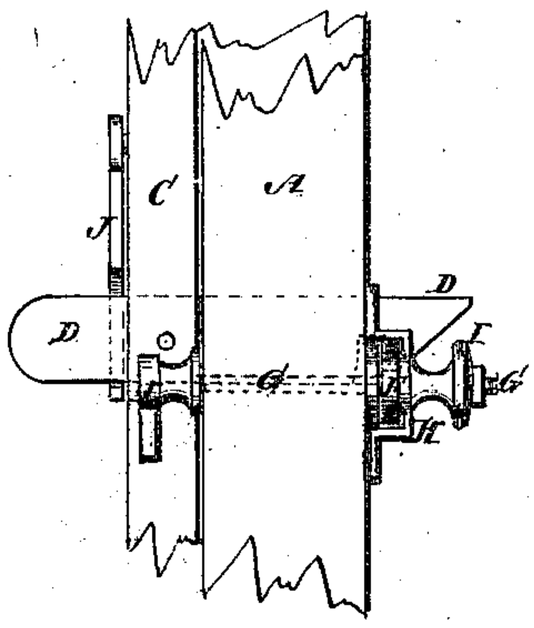


Fig. 4.

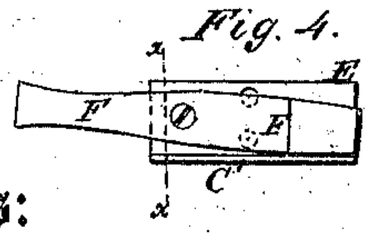
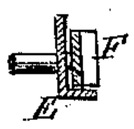


Fig. 5.



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RUDOLPH GESELBRACHT AND FREDERICK FREY, OF GALENA, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 97,498, *dated December* 7, 1869.

IMPROVED LATCH.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, RUDOLPH GESELBRACHT and FREDERICK FREY, of Galena, in the county of Jo Daviess, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Gate and Door-Latch; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a gate, to which our improved latch has been attached.

Figures 2 and 3 are detail views of the same.

Figure 4 represents a modification of the catch.

Figure 5 is a cross-section of the same, taken through the line *x x*, fig. 4.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Our invention has for its object to furnish a simple, strong, convenient, and effective latch for gates and doors; and

It consists in the latch, constructed as hereinafter more fully described.

A represents the gate, B, the rear post, and C, the front post, about the construction of which parts there is nothing new.

D is a latch or bar, which is pivoted to the post C, as shown in fig. 3.

The lower edge of the forward part of the latch or bar D is notched, to catch upon the catch-bar E, rigidly attached to the side of the front vertical bar of the gate A.

The lower edge of the forward end of the bar D is bevelled off, as shown in fig. 3, so that when the gate or door is swung shut, the latch-bar D may be raised by the catch-bar E, and may fasten the gate by dropping down, by its own weight, upon the said catch-bar E.

F is a lifter, attached to the spindle G that passes through the gate.

The lifter F extends along the outer side of the catch-bar E, and is kept in place by a keeper, H, attached to the gate, so that by turning the spindle G, the lifter F will be raised, lifting the forward end of the latch-bar D, and allowing the gate to be opened.

The upper edge of the forward end of the lifter F is bevelled off, as shown in figs. 1 and 2, so that it can never be raised above the upper edge of the catch-bar E, and can thus never interfere with the proper operation of latch-bar D.

To one or both ends of the spindle G may be attached levers, knobs, or other handles I, for convenience in operating the latch.

The latch-bar D may be secured in place, locking the door or gate, by an ordinary button or hook, J, pivoted to the post C in such a position that it may be turned beneath the lower edge of the rear end of the latch-bar D, so as to prevent it from moving downward, as it must do when its forward end rises, to unfasten the gate.

In the modification shown in figs. 4 and 5, the catch-bar or plate E has a flange, *e'*, formed upon its lower edge, to serve as a stop to the lifter F, and the inner end of the lifter is extended, as shown in fig. 4, to serve as a handle in unlatching the gate.

In this case no knobs or levers are required to be attached to the spindle G, which thus becomes simply a pivot.

We are aware that a rigid latch, lifter, and keeper have been combined before, and that a latch of the form above described has been in public use; but, having thus described our invention,

We claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of a keeper, of the form described, with the rigid latch and lifter, as and for the purpose specified.

RUDOLPH GESELBRACHT.
FREDERICK FREY.

Witnesses:

HENRY MARFIELD,
JOHN W. LONGDON.