S. H. WHEELER.

Farm-Gates.

No. 151,068. Patented May 19, 1874.

Fig. 1.

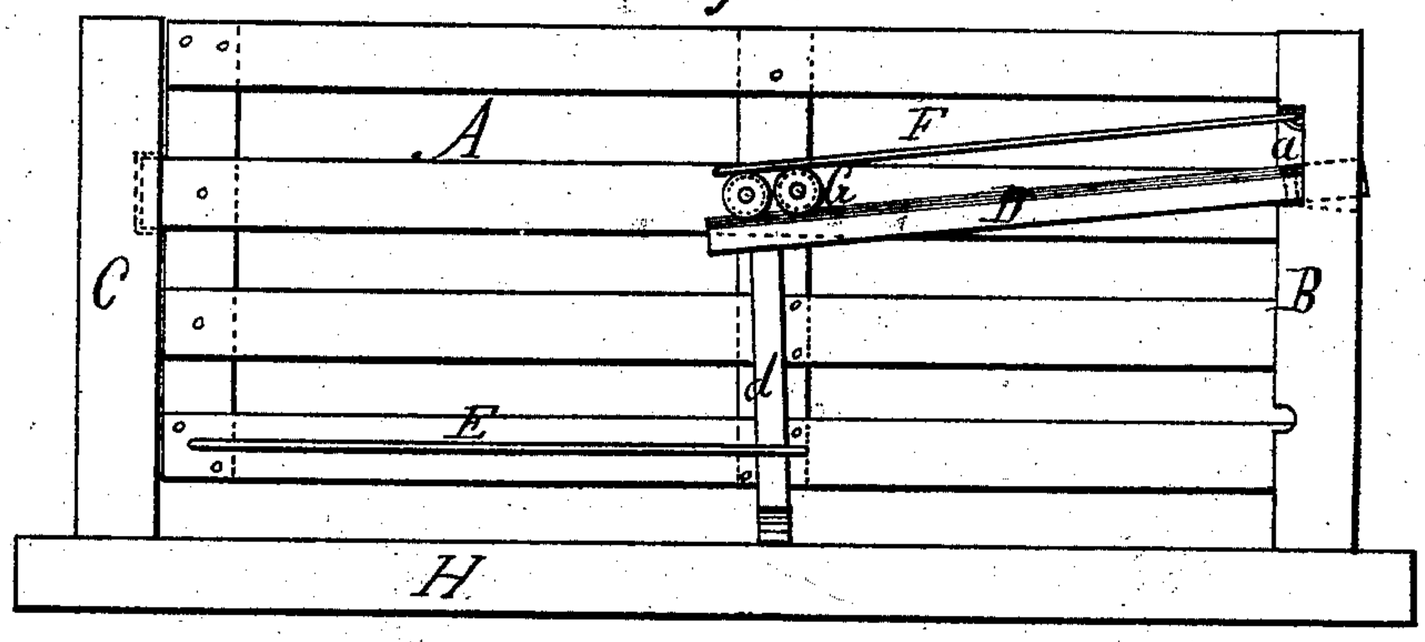
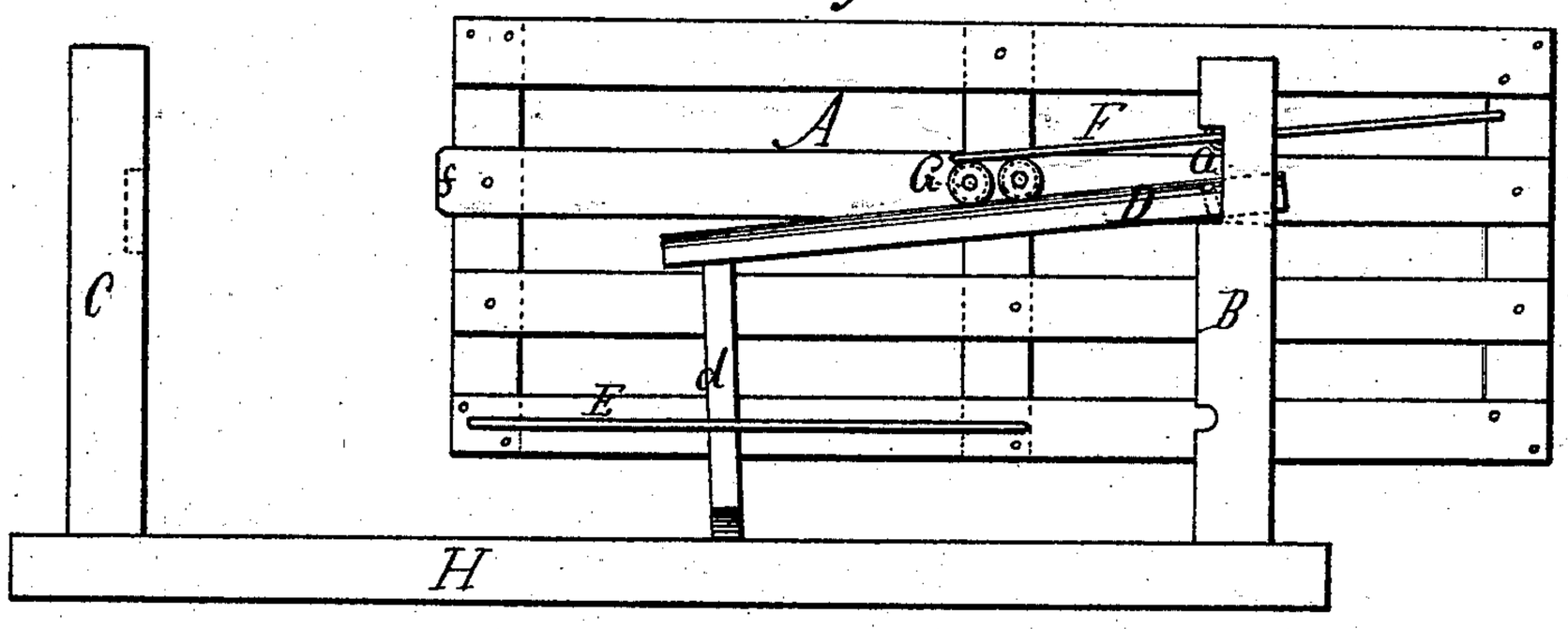


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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SHEPHERD H. WHEELER, OF NILES, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN FARM-GATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **151,068**, dated May 19, 1874; application filed January 8, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SHEPHERD H. WHEELER, of Niles, Berrien county and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Farm-Gates, described as follows:

The nature of this invention relates to the construction of farm-gates of the class that slide endwise about half of their length in opening and then swing to a position at right angles to the gateway, the object being to provide for supporting the entire weight of the gate on rollers by means of a portable tramway.

The accompanying drawing forms a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows a side view of the gate when shut. Fig. 2 is a view of the same, showing the gate part open.

Letters of reference are marked on the drawing, of which A represents the gate. This may be made without braces, and of ordinary construction generally of gates of this class, and needs no further description here. B C represent the gate-posts. The rear post, B, is provided with (on the inner and front faces) a shoulder near the upper end, as seen at *a*. D represents a bar, one end of which rests on the shoulder *a*, to which it is loosely pivoted. The other end is supported at about the middle of the gateway by the short post *d*. This post rests on the ground or other suitable foundation, and stands between the guide-bar E and the lower rail of the gate for the purpose of steadying the gate. F represents a similar bar attached to the middle and rear end of the upper part of the gate. This bar is set parallel to the bar D, and slides in the notch formed by the shoulder *a*, and is confined in said shoulder by means of a pin or staple so applied as to allow the gate to swing to a position at right angles to the gateway. This bar prevents the rear end of the gate from being raised, and confines the top of the gate to the post B. G represents one or more friction-rollers pivoted to the gate at about midway of the length, so that the gate will balance on the roller or rollers, and at such height as that when the roller or rollers rest on the bar D the gate will be held sufficiently high from the ground. The end of the bar D that is supported by the short post *d* is some lower than the end that is supported on the shoulder of the post B. This causes the gate to run shut of its own gravity when opened less than half of its length.

Now, it will be seen that the bar D rests on the inner corner of the shoulder *a* when the gate is shut; but when the gate is shoved open, so that the roller or rollers G pass over the shoulder *a*, the heft of the gate will cause the bar D to lie parallel with the shoulder, which will raise the post *d* off the ground, and the tramway or bar D will swing with the gate to a position at right angles to the gateway.

C represents the front post. This is mortised to receive one of the projecting ends of the gate-rail *f* to form a latch. H represents a foundation for the posts which I may employ, but is not strictly necessary, as the posts B C can be set in the ground in the usual manner.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a sliding gate, the portable tramway or bar D, loosely pivoted at one end to the post B, and supported at the other end by means of the short post *d*, as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In combination with the gate A and its posts B and C, and guide-bars E and F, and friction-roller G, the bar D and post *d*, as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

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Witnesses:

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