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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID T. DEFFENBAUGH, OF LILLY CHAPEL, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLOOD-FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 154,378, dated August 25, 1874; application filed June 13, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID T. DEFFENBAUGH, of Lilly Chapel, in the county of Madison and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Improved Flood-Gate, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of the same, taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

The invention is an improvement in the class of flood-gates whose lower fastenings are disengaged or loosened as the water rises, thus allowing the gates to swing out with the current. The improvement relates chiefly to the mode or means of suspending the gate at its upper end, as hereinafter described and claimed.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A are two posts, which are set in the ground at such a depth that they will be firmly supported, and which may also be braced upon the lower or down-stream side. B is the gate or panel, which may be of any length that will be self-supporting. To the upper corners of the panel B are pivoted the lower ends of two arms or bars, C, the upper ends of which are pivoted to the inner sides of the upper ends of the posts A, so that the panel B may be supported by, and may swing freely upon, the said bars C. To the lower parts of the ends of the panel B are attached two latches, D, to catch upon two catches, E, attached to

the lower part of the inner sides of the posts A, to hold the panel in place and adapt it to serve as a fence.

With this construction, as the water rises it raises or floats the panel B, so as to unlatch the latches D from the catches E, which allows the panel to swing down with the current. Should, however, the panel not rise with the water, the pressure of the water against the upper part of said panel will cause said upper part to swing forward, which will draw the latches D out of the catches E, when the panel will swing down with the current.

When occasion requires, the gate may be suspended to swing horizontally by detaching bars C and connecting the hook H to the upper part of the gate by catching it around one of the pickets, or in any other suitable manner, and by reversing bar F so that it may form with hook G the lower hinge.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

In combination with the gate B, having the lower fastenings D E, the flexible means of suspension, consisting of the bars C C, pivoted at their respective ends to the top of the posts A, and the gate or panel, as shown and described, for the purpose specified.

D. T. DEFFENBAUGH.

Witnesses:

JEREMIAH HARDWICK,
HENRY LILLY.