

J. PEARD.
COUPLINGS FOR CHAIRS.

No. 177,548.

Patented May 16, 1876.

Fig. 1.

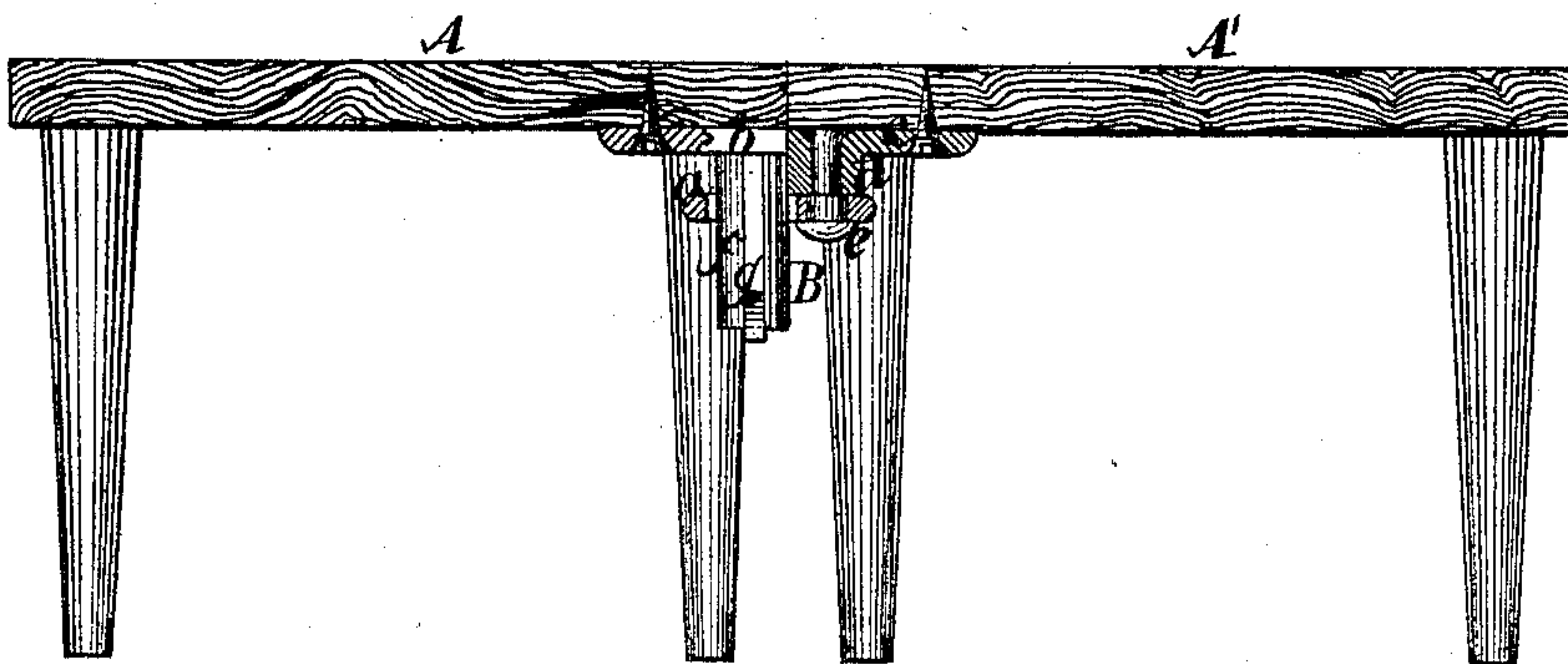


Fig. 2.

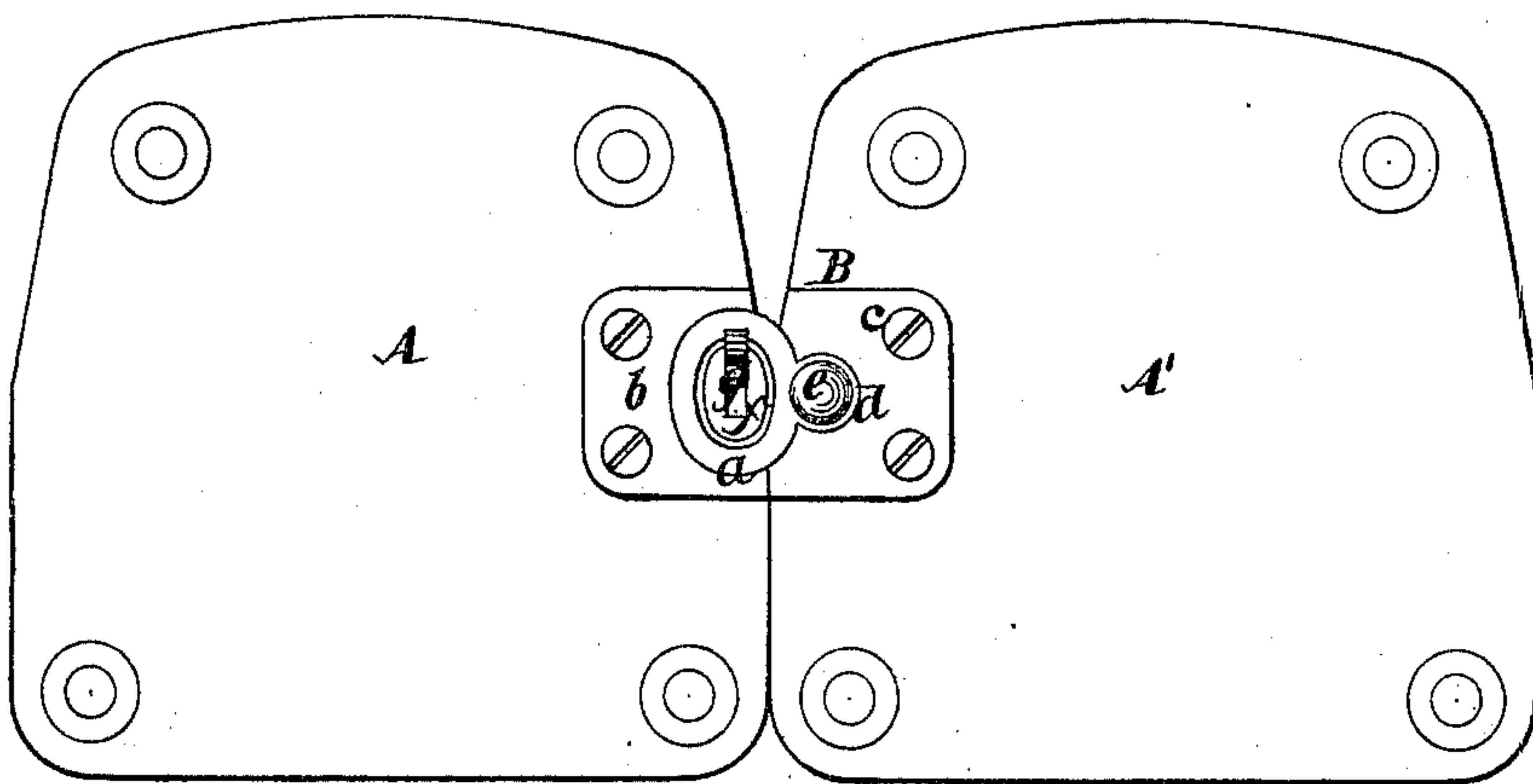
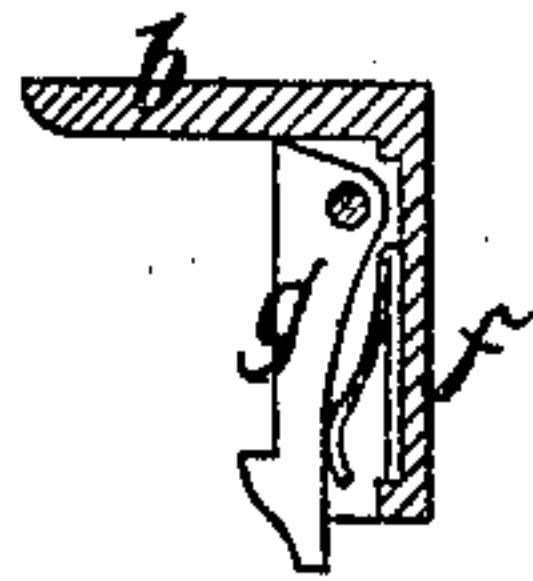


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
Chas. Wahlen.
Hugo Bruggemann

Inventor.
John Peard
per
Van Santvoord & Hauff
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN PEARD, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN COUPLINGS FOR CHAIRS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 177,548, dated May 16, 1876; application filed February 9, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN PEARD, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Couplings for Chairs and Seats, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal vertical section. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan. Fig. 3 is a detached section of the spring-latch which forms a part of my invention.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to an improvement in the couplings for that class of chairs or seats which, when coupled together, form a continuous seat, and can be given readily different forms, as may be desired, such as straight, curved, undulating, or horseshoe-shaped, without uncoupling or separating the chairs, as described in the patent of Alfred Taylor, dated January 30, 1872, No. 123,131.

The couplings heretofore used consisted of an eye-plate, which is secured to the under surface of the seat of one chair, and a pin-plate secured to the under surface of the seat of an adjoining chair, so that by causing the pin projecting from the pin-plate to catch in the eye of the eye-plate the chairs were coupled.

This device is of service for chairs of uniform height; but it cannot be used for chairs which differ in height as much as half an inch or more, and even if the difference in the height of adjoining chairs is less than half an inch, the parts of the coupling are liable to become broken or detached from each other, and the object of the coupling is destroyed. This disadvantage I have obviated by my invention, which consists in combining with the eye-plate of a coupling for chairs a supporting-plate provided with a boss, which projects from said supporting-plate, and forms a bearing for the pivot on which the eye-plate swings, so that when the supporting-plate is attached to the under surface of the seat of a chair, the eye-plate is thrown off some distance from said under surface of the seat, and if chairs of different height are coupled together, said eye-plate is not liable to break off. With the coupling-pin is combined a latch, which can easily be connected to the

eye-plate of the coupling, and which prevents the chairs, after the same have been coupled together, from getting detached accidentally.

In the drawing, the letters A A' designate two adjoining chairs, which are secured together by a coupling, B. This coupling consists of an eye-plate, *a*, and a pin-plate, *b*. With the eye-plate *a* is combined a supporting-plate, *c*, which is provided with a boss, *d*, projecting from its under surface, and said boss forms the bearing for a pivot, *e*, on which swings the eye-plate *a*. When the supporting-plate *c* is secured to the under surface of the seat of a chair, A', the eye-plate is thrown off some distance from the seat, as shown in Fig. 1.

The pin-plate *b* is provided with a long pin, *f*, and if the pin-plate is secured to the under surface of a chair, A, and its pin is made to catch in the eye of the eye-plate, the two chairs A A' are coupled together, and either of the chairs can be raised or lowered a certain distance without disturbing any part of the coupling or without detaching the chairs. If the chair A', for instance, is somewhat higher than the chair A, and the eye-plate is secured close to the under surface of the seat, the pin-plate *b* of the chair A will bear upon the eye-plate, and when the chairs are occupied said eye-plate is liable to break off. If the chair A is the highest of the two, and the pin *f* is too short, the two chairs cannot be coupled.

With the pin *f* I have combined a hook or latch, *g*, with or without a spring, which, when the pin is passed through the eye of the eye-plate, serves to lock the same and prevent it from getting detached accidentally.

When the chairs are required to be uncoupled, the latch *g* is simply pushed inward, so as to permit of sliding the pin *f* out of the eye of the eye-plate, the latch immediately resuming its normal position after the pin has been removed.

I do not claim, broadly, as my invention, the combination of a coupling with the seats of chairs, such being described in the patent of Taylor, above mentioned.

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

1. In a coupling for chairs, the combination

of a supporting-plate, *c*, having a downwardly-projecting boss, *d*, with the eye-plate *a*, so as to throw off said eye-plate from the lower surface of the seat, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with the eye-plate *a*, of a coupling-pin, *f*, having a latch, *g*, with or without a spring, substantially as and for the object specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 7th day of February, 1876.

JOHN PEARD.

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.