(No Model.)

J. G. BECK.

HINGE.

No. 256,816. Patented Apr. 25, 1882.

Fig. 1

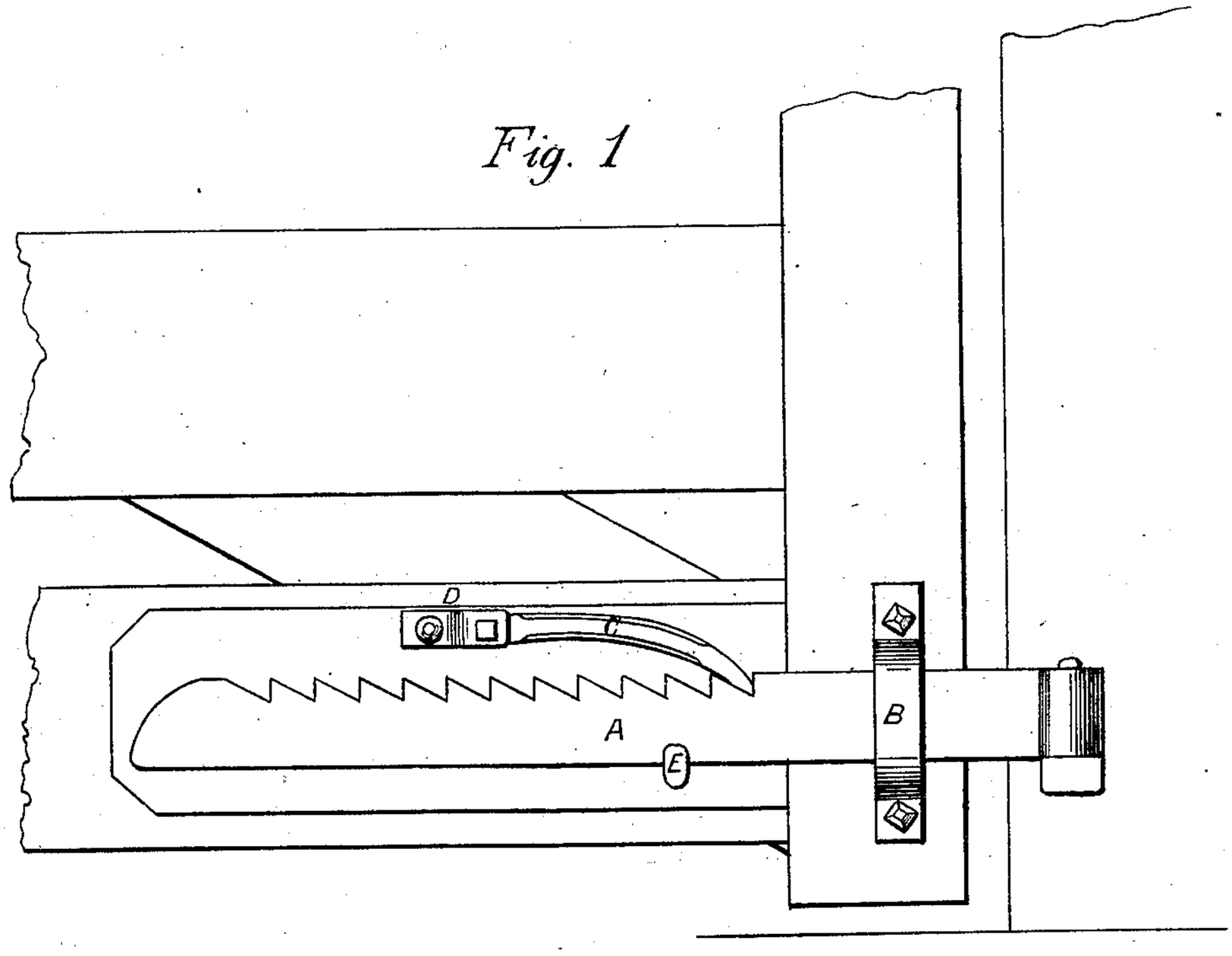


Fig. 2

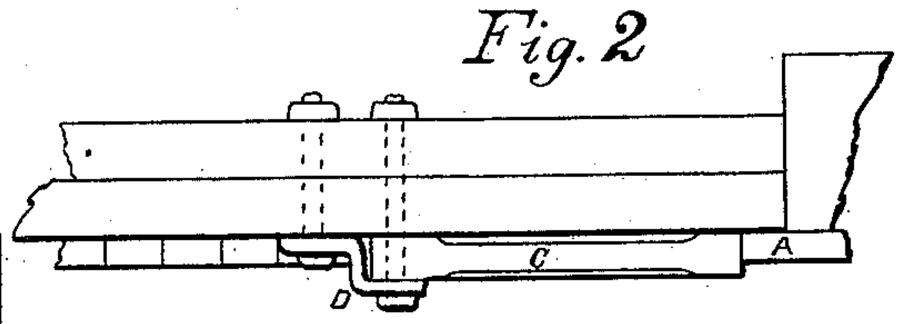


Fig. 3

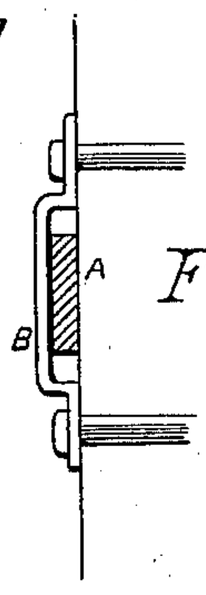
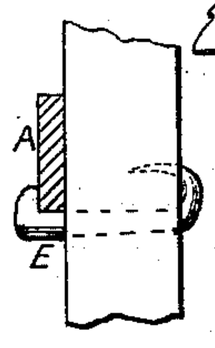


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. BECK, OF MECHANICSBURG, ILLINOIS.

HINGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 256,816, dated April 25, 1882.

Application filed September 24, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. BECK, of Mechanicsburg, in the county of Sangamon and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Gate-Hinges; and I do hereby claim that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, hereinafter referred to, forms a full and exact specification of the same.

The object of my invention is to obviate the difficulties met with in using farm-gates when the outer end has sagged from its original position. This I do by constructing the lower hinge of the gate in such a way that the gate plate or strap will be adjustable on the gate and be held in any position by a pawl and ratchet gate-plate, so that the outer end of the gate may easily be raised or lowered sufficiently to meet the requirements. At the top of the gate any common form of hinge may be used.

In the accompanying drawings. Figure 1 is a view of the hinge properly adjusted when the gate is closed. Fig. 2 is a vertical view, showing the pawl C and stay-plate D. Fig. 3 is a side view of the guide-plate B, and Fig. 4 is a side view of the guide-pin E.

In all the figures, A represents the ratchet gate strap or plate of the hinge; B, the guide-plate; C, the pawl; D, the stay-plate; E, the guide-pin.

The gate-strap A is made to run on a common pintle, and is not permanently attached to the gate, but is held in place by the guide-plate B and pin E. D is the stay-plate, held in place by bolts. The pawl C, which moves on the pivot at its upper end, works in the notches on the upper edge of plate A. When the weight of the gate is set upon the hinges the ratchet, guide-pin, and pintle hold the plate A immovably in place

In case the gate sags, or in case of snow or other obstacles preventing the free use of the gate, the outer end may be raised. The pawl C, falling in the notches of A, will substantially support it at the desired height. The gate can be lowered by lifting the ratchet, when it will resume its place. As the gate can be adjusted without wrench or other tool, it can be quickly set to allow the passage of small animals under; or a gate seldom used may be allowed to rest half its weight at the outer end on a stone or piece of wood, instead of hanging entirely from one post.

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

The combination of the ratchet-plate A, guide-plate B, with pawl C, stay-plate D, and guide-pin E, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose herein represented and described.

JOHN G. BECK.

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