

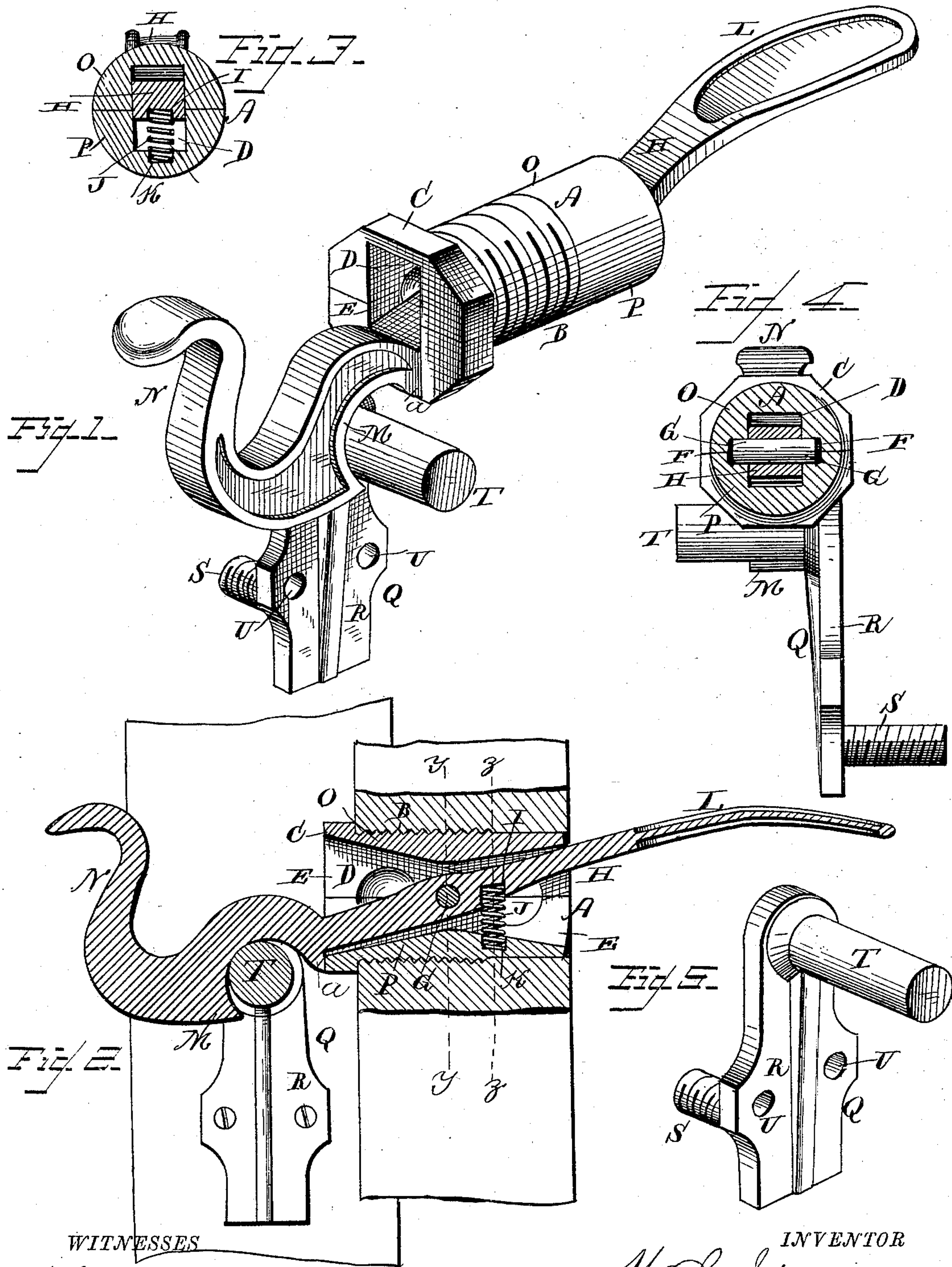
(No Model.)

W. L. STOVALL.

GATE LATCH.

No. 277,807.

Patented May 15, 1883.



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WASHINGTON L. STOVALL, OF WINONA, MISSISSIPPI.

## GATE-LATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 277,807, dated May 15, 1883.

Application filed January 24, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WASHINGTON L. STOVALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Winona, in the county of Montgomery and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Gate-Latch, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to gate-latches, and has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient latch that can be readily applied to the gate and conveniently operated.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a gate-latch embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same in position on the gate. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the latch on the line *z z*, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view on the line *y y*, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the catch.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a cylindrical casing that is exteriorly screw-threaded at B, and is provided with a circumferential flange, C, at one end. This casing is provided with a longitudinal perforation or bore, D, that is enlarged at its ends, as at E. In the bore D are formed recesses F F, one at each side, that form bearings for lateral pivots G G, that project from the latch-bar H, which works inside the said bore. In its under side the latch-bar is provided with a recess, I, which accommodates one end of a coiled spring, J, the other end of which is received into a corresponding recess, K, in the under side of the bore D. The latch-bar is actuated by this spring, and comprises an operating-handle, L, and a hook-shaped engaging end, M, from the nose of which hook projects an extension, N, forming an operating-handle at that end of the latch-bar. The cylindrical casing consists of two separable half portions, O and P, respectively, that are clamped securely together and hold the latch-bar when the casing is screwed into an interiorly-screw-threaded perforation in the gate. This application of the latch to the gate can be effected by means of an ordinary monkey-wrench adapted to engage the flange C of the casing.

Q is the catch, which is arranged to be se-

cured to the post adjacent to the gate, and to be engaged by the hooked end of the latch-bar. This catch comprises a base-plate, R, having a screw-threaded shank, S, by which it is secured to the post, and provided with a projecting pin or stud, T, that is engaged by the latch-bar. The plate R is also provided with perforations U, through which screws can be passed to hold the catch from lateral displacement. By means of these screws, as the catch will turn on its screw-threaded shank, this catch-plate can be adjusted laterally to take up the sag of the gate.

The operation and advantages of my invention are obvious. It is simple, inexpensive, and efficient, and can be readily applied to or detached from the gate.

I am aware that gate-latches comprising a spring-actuated latch-bar fulcrumed inside a cylindrical exteriorly-screw-threaded chamber that is adapted to be secured through a perforation in the gate is old; and such I do not claim, broadly, as of my invention, my claim being limited to my own novel construction and arrangement of parts.

I claim as my invention—

As an improvement in gate-latches, the combination of the casing A, exteriorly screw-threaded, and having the perforation or bore D, enlarged or flaring at its ends, as shown at E, and provided with the interior recesses, F F, at its sides, the latch-bar H, having pins or gudgeons G G, that are received into the said recesses, and comprising the flat handle L and engaging end M N, formed with a flange, a, that comes against the edge of casing, a recess, I, being formed in the under side of the latch-bar, corresponding to a recess, K, in the under side of the bore, and the coiled actuating-spring J, vertically disposed, and having its ends received into the recesses I and K, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WASHINGTON L. STOVALL.

Witnesses:

C. W. GADDY,  
J. C. SPIVEY.