

(No Model.)

M. M. MOORE.  
GATE LATCH.

No. 409,797.

Patented Aug. 27, 1889.

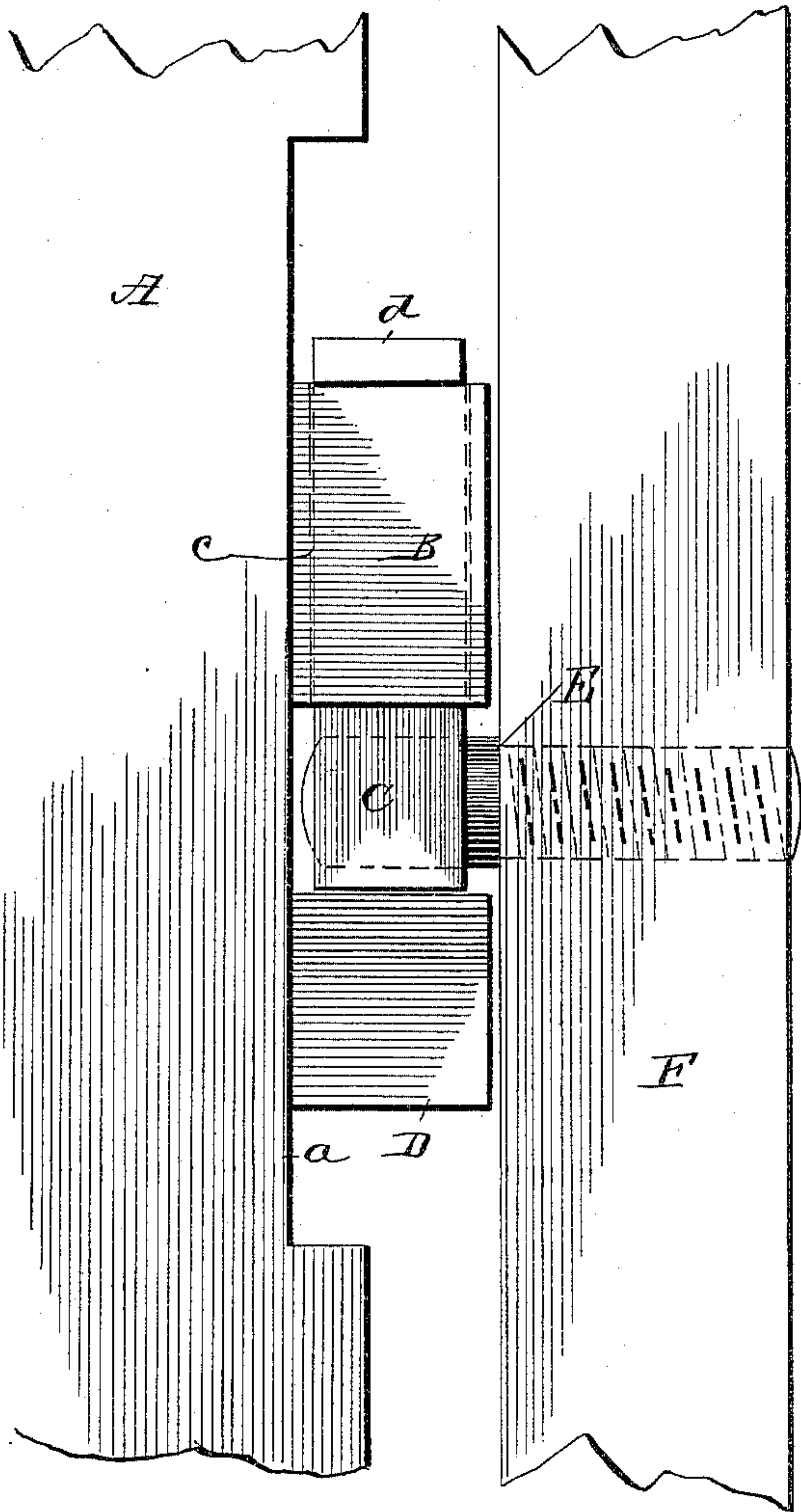


Fig. 1.

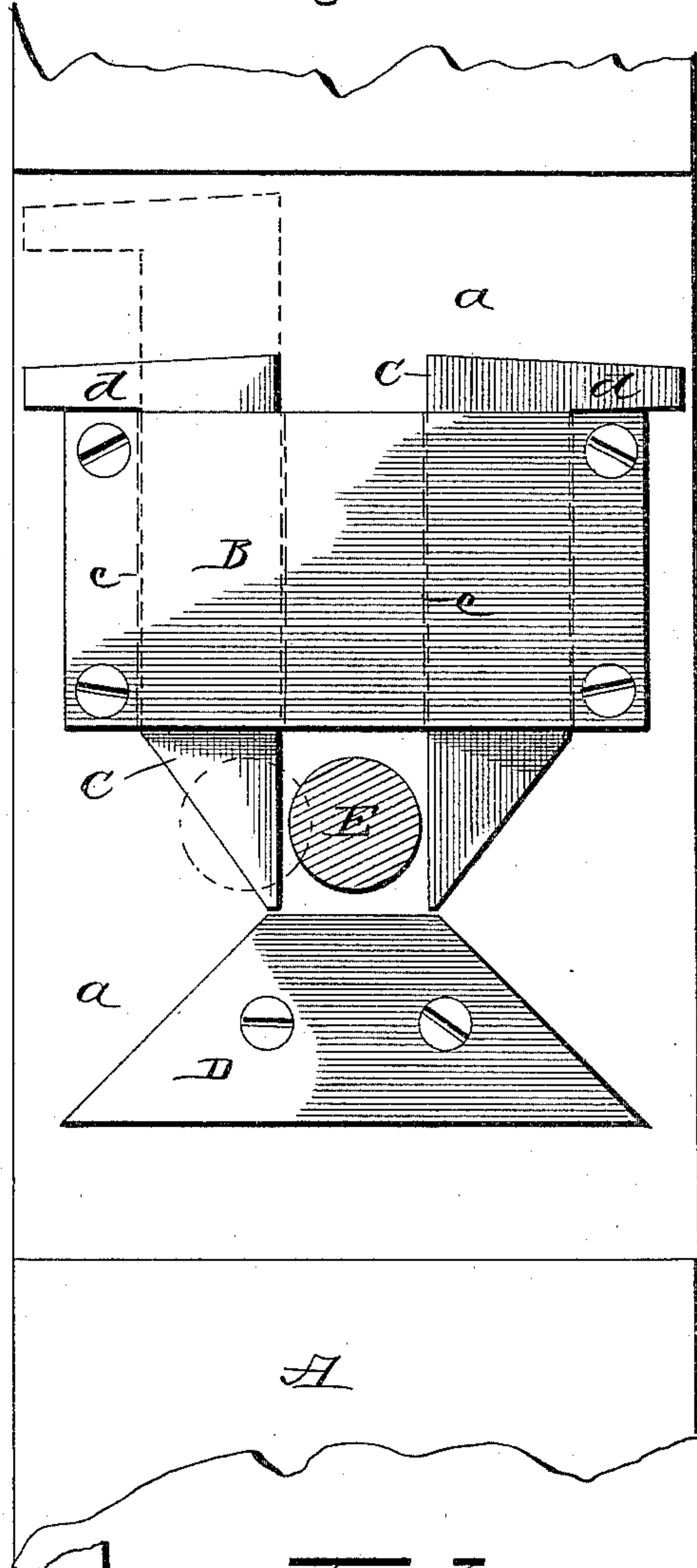
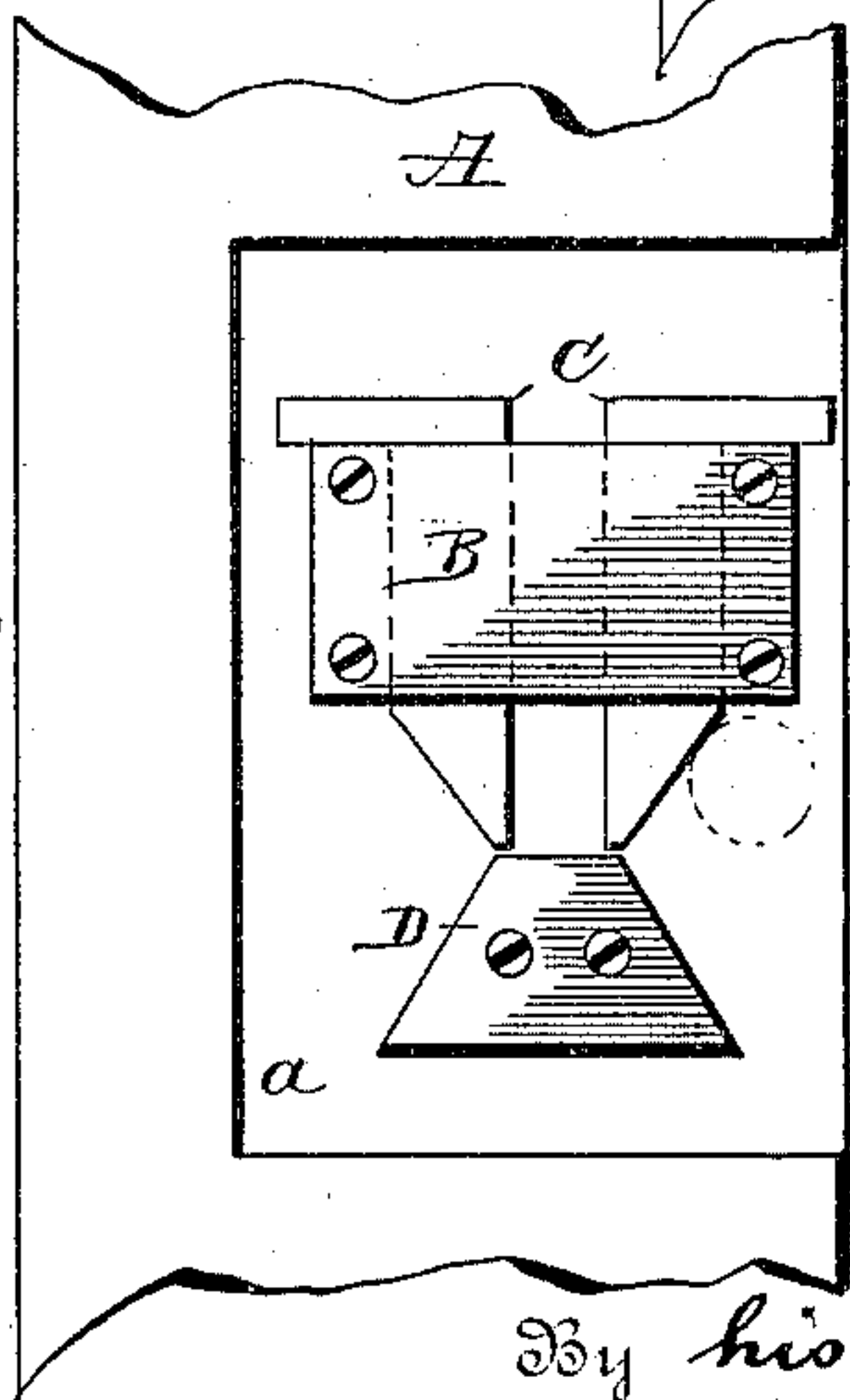


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses  
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By his Attorneys  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GATE-LATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 409,797, dated August 27, 1889.

Application filed June 21, 1888. Serial No. 277,797. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MELVILLE M. MOORE, of Springfield, in the county of Greene and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gate-Latches; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use same.

My invention relates to an improvement in latches for gates, and has for its object to provide a gate-latch by means of which a gate hinged to swing from either or both sides is automatically locked.

A further object is to produce a gate-latch which shall be simple in construction, effective in operation, cheap to manufacture, occupy but little space, and present a neat appearance.

With these objects in view my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and peculiar combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a gate, showing my improved latch applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a view of a gate-post, showing my improved latch adapted to a gate which swings but one way. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view of the block and reciprocating latching-bolts.

A indicates a gate-post having a recess *a* cut in its inner face. Located centrally within this recess is a block B, of wood or other suitable material, provided with two vertical perforations *c* for the reception of vertically-sliding bolts C C. The bolts C C are furnished at their upper ends with shoulders *d*, which project slightly from the top surface of the block, and thus provide means by which the bolts may be raised by hand when it is desired to open the gate. The lower ends of the bolts C are beveled in opposite directions and adapted to bear upon the top surface of a block D, secured in the recess *a*. The ends of this block are beveled outwardly and serve as guides for a locking-pin E, carried by the gate F. The pin E may be screw-threaded throughout a portion of its length and screwed

into the gate, or it may be secured to the gate in any preferred manner. With a gate adapted to swing but one way the recess *a* may be made to extend only a portion of the width of the post, as shown in Fig. 2. The gate F will preferably be hung so as to shut of its own accord when released. When the gate swings shut, the pin E will strike the beveled end of one of the bolts C and raise the same, being prevented from passing the post by engagement with the other bolt C. The bolt which has been raised will then fall by gravity, and the pin E will be retained between the two bolts.

Should the gate become sprung from any cause, and the pin E thus be lowered out of direct alignment with the bolts C, the beveled ends of the block F will guide the pin in alignment with the beveled ends of the bolts C.

By the employment of a gate-latch as above set forth springs and pivot-pins are dispensed with, and the device thus rendered very simple and not liable to get out of order.

Slight changes might be made in the constructive details of my invention without departing from the spirit thereof; hence I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details of construction herein set forth; but,

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

The combination, with a vertically-movable angular bolt provided with a lateral projection and a beveled lower end, and a block or casing having a seat corresponding in shape to the cross-section of the bolt, so as to permit the bolt to slide therein, but prevent it from moving laterally, of a block located below the bolt and having a flat upper face, forming a rest for the pin or bolt on the gate, and a beveled face which forms a guide for the pin or bolt on the gate, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MELVILLE M. MOORE.

Witnesses:

H. T. BENNETT,  
CHAS. P. OLLIS.