

No. 666,425.

Patented Jan. 22, 1901.

A. S. JONES.
GATE LATCH.

(Application filed May 29, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

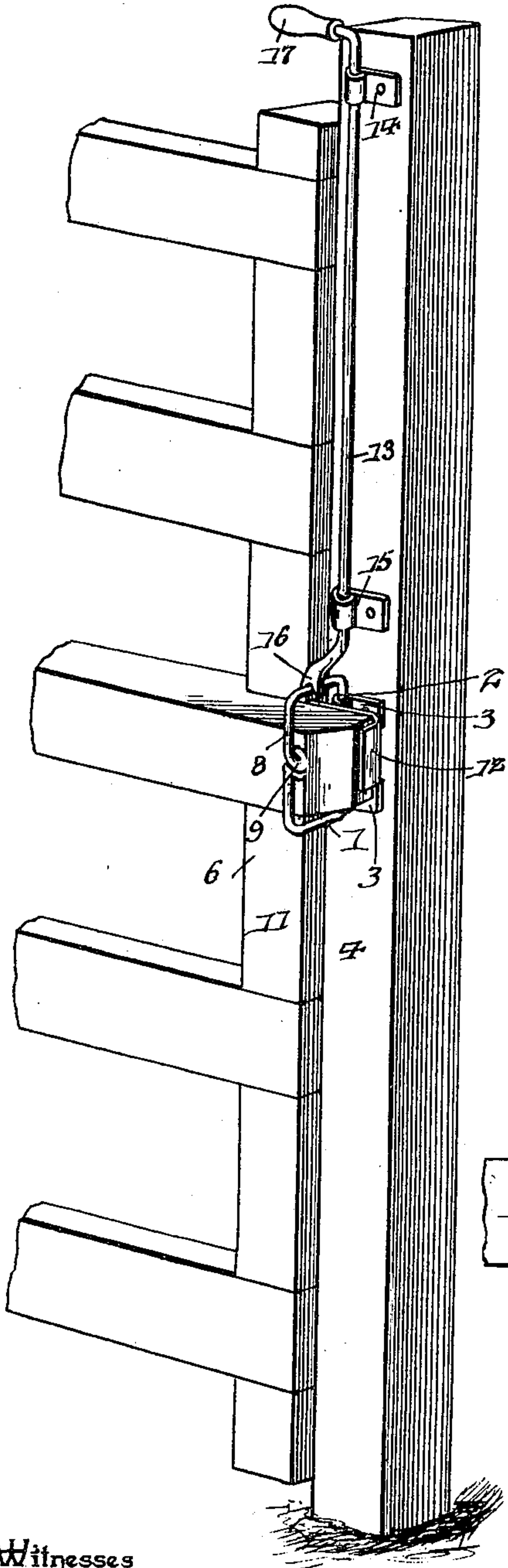


Fig. 2.

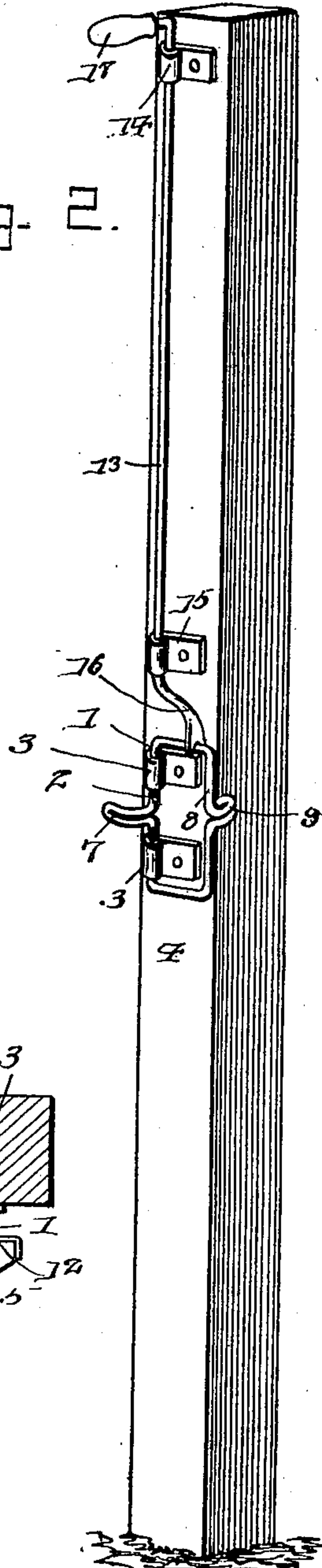
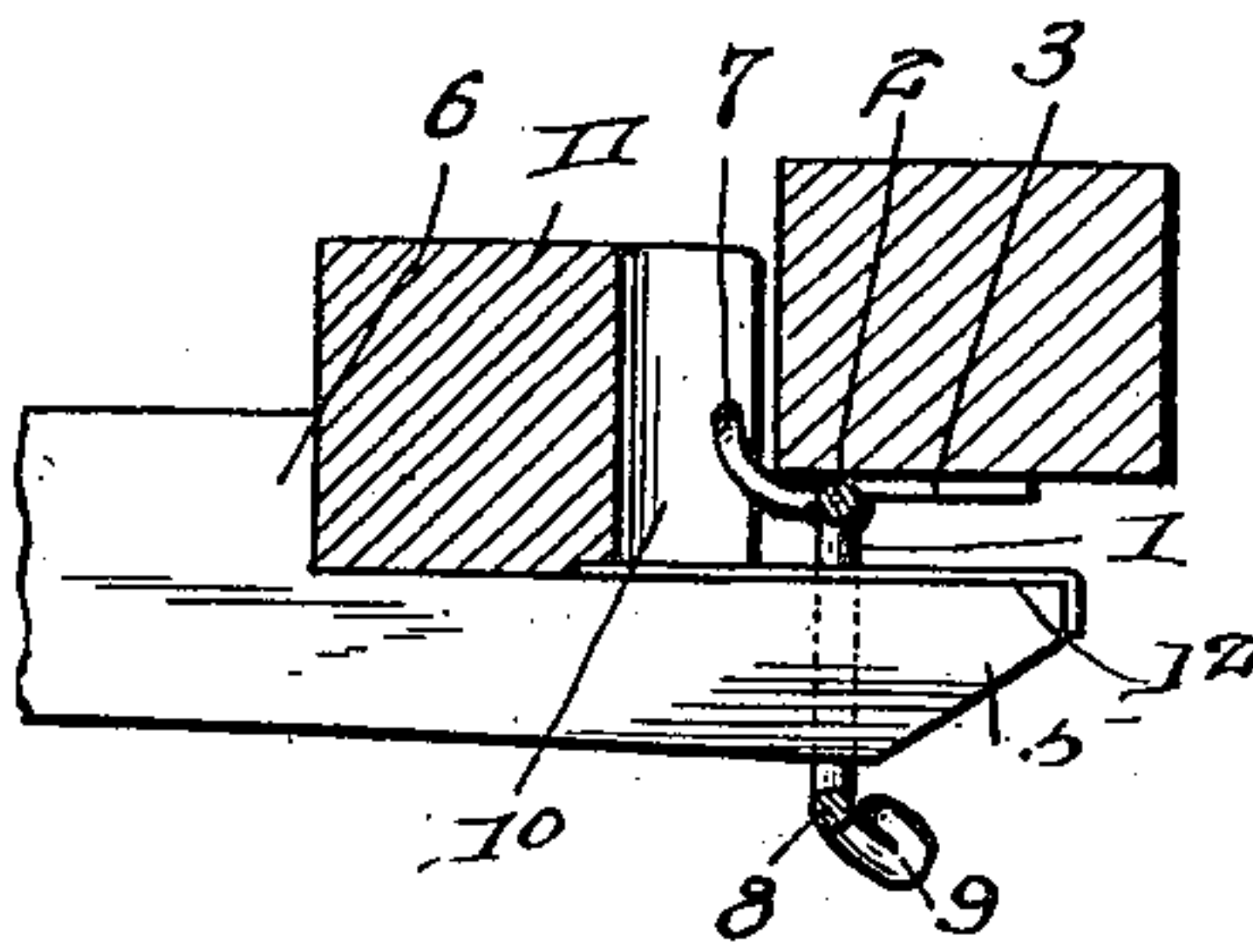


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

F. E. Alden.
H. H. Riley

A. S. Jones, Inventor

by C. A. Snow & Co.
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT SIDNEY JONES, OF BELMONT, TEXAS.

GATE-LATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 666,425, dated January 22, 1901.

Application filed May 29, 1900. Serial No. 18,426. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT SIDNEY JONES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Belmont, in the county of Gonzales and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Gate-Latch, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in gate-latches.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of gate-latches and to provide an automatic one adapted to lock the gate when the latter closes and capable of automatically setting itself in proper position for engaging and locking the gate should it be closed instead of open or in position to receive the gate.

20 The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

25 In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a gate-latch constructed in accordance with this invention and shown in engagement with a gate. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the latch, the same being open or in position to be engaged by the gate. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view, the parts being arranged as shown in Fig. 1.

30 Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a swinging latch consisting of an approximately oblong loop constructed of any suitable material and having its inner side 2 constituting a pintle and arranged in vertically-alined eyes 3 of the latch-post 4. The loop is adapted to lie against the face of the latch-post, as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the accompanying drawings, in which position the latch is open, and it is capable of swinging away from the face of the latch-post to a position at right angles to the same to engage a projection 5 of a gate 6, whereby the gate is locked against the latch-post. The inner side 2 of the rectangular latch is provided with a projecting arm 7, extending from the loop toward the gate and arranged to be engaged by the projection 5 thereof to swing the latch on its pivot or pintle, and when the gate is closed the arm 7 is located between the latch-post and the end bar of the gate,

whereby the latch is prevented from accidentally opening. The outer side 8 of the latch is provided with an arm 9, located at the center of the outer side, and the inner arm 7 is also located at the center of the inner side at a point between the upper and lower eyes 3. The inner arm is arranged in a recess 10 of the end bar 11 of the gate 6 when the latch is closed, and the latch is adapted to be automatically opened and swung to the position illustrated in Fig. 2 by reason of the projection 5 engaging the outer arm 9, which is arranged at an angle, as clearly shown in Fig. 3 of the accompanying drawings. The projection 5 preferably consists of an extension of the adjacent horizontal bar of the gate, and it is reinforced by a plate 12 to prevent it from being worn away through continual contact with the arms of the latch.

The latch is operated by means of a vertical rock-shaft 13, journaled in suitable bearings 14 and 15 of the latch-post and provided at its lower end with a bifurcated arm 16, which straddles the upper end of the rectangular latch. The upper end of the rock-shaft is provided with a handle 17, by means of which the latch may be readily operated. The rock-shaft also assists in preventing the latch from accidentally swinging as it engages the loop at a point between the ends of the top and rests upon the same.

It will be seen that the latch is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction and that it is adapted to operate automatically in either its open or closed position. It will also be apparent that when the latch is closed the gate will first engage the outer arm 9 to open the latch and that it will then engage the inner arm to close the latch.

The loop which constitutes the latch and which forms the opening for the projection of the gate may be constructed of wire or similar material, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, or the latch may consist of a casting or the like. When the latch is constructed of wire, the arms are preferably composed of closed loops or extensions of the sides and the terminals may form one of the arms, in which case they will be preferably twisted.

What I claim is—

1. A latch comprising a horizontally-swing-

ing loop adapted to receive a projection of a gate and hinged at one side, and an arm extending from the hinged side of the loop and rigid therewith and arranged to be engaged
5 by the gate to cause the loop to swing over the projection, substantially as described.

2. A latch comprising a horizontally-swinging loop hinged at one side, and arms projecting from the opposite sides of the loop
10 and rigid therewith and adapted to be engaged by the gate to open and close the latch, substantially as described.

3. A horizontally-swinging latch hinged at one side and provided with an opening, arms
15 extending from opposite sides of the latch and rigid therewith, and means for operating the latch by hand, substantially as described.

4. A horizontally-swinging latch hinged at

one side and provided with an opening adapted to receive a projection of a gate, and a vertical rock-shaft provided with an arm connected with one end of the latch, substantially
20 as described.

5. A horizontally-swinging latch provided with an opening and having rigid arms at opposite sides thereof, said latch being hinged
25 at one side and adapted to engage a projection of the gate, substantially as described.

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

ALBERT SIDNEY JONES.

Witnesses:

W. D. C. JONES,
YANCEY HOLMES.