No. 751,450. PATENTED FEB. 9, 1904.

A. P. BECK.

LATCH.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 16, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

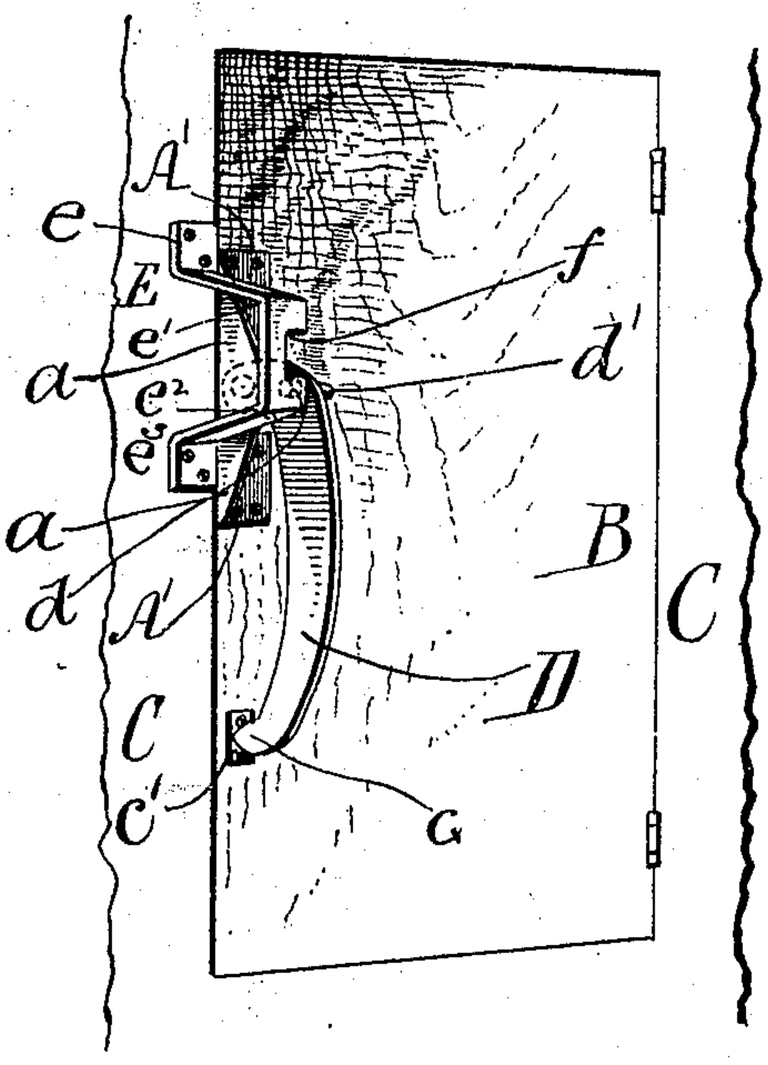


Fig. 2.

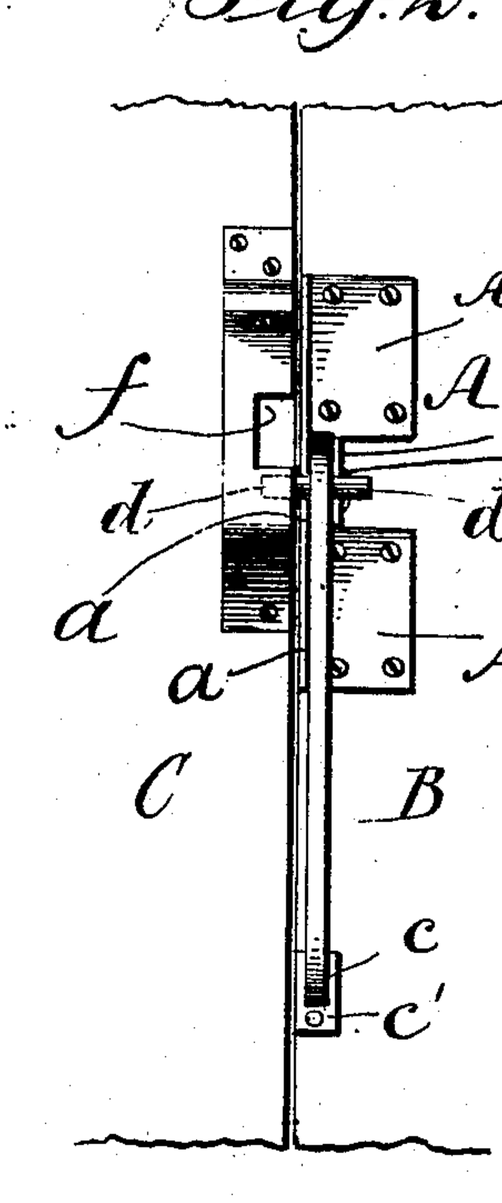
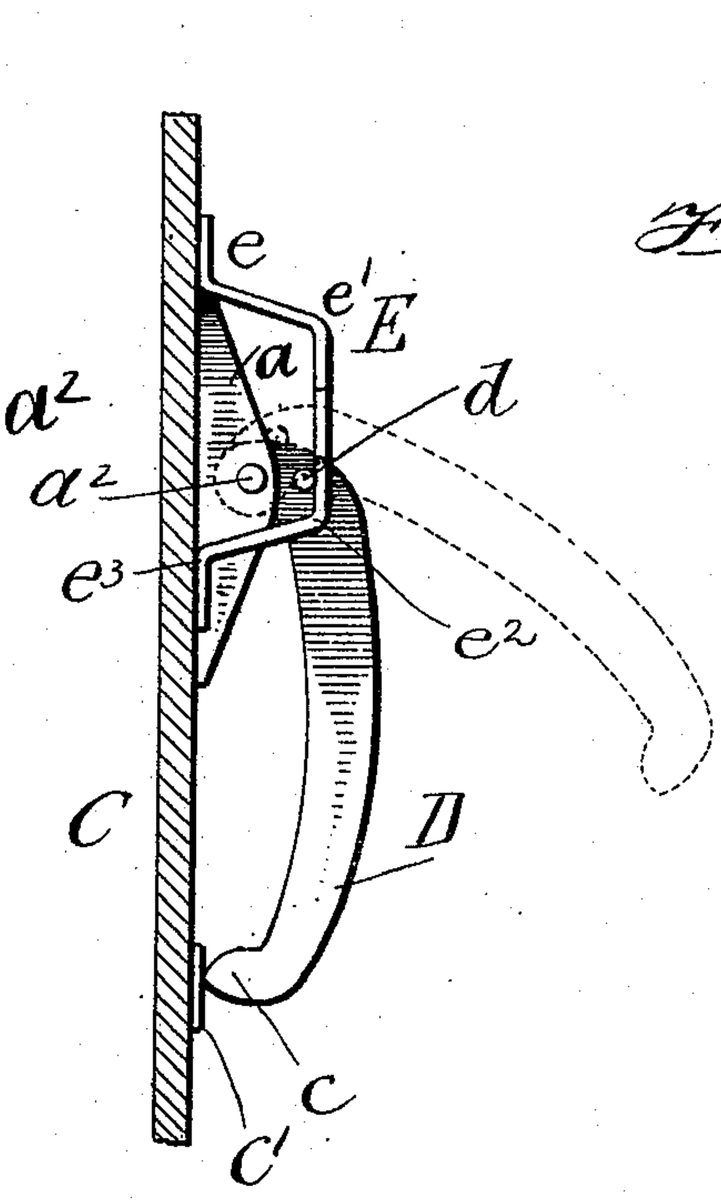


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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By his Attorneys
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No. 751,450. Patented February 9, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW P. BECK, OF GREENVILLE, MICHIGAN.

LATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 751,450, dated February 9, 1904.

Application filed January 16, 1903. Serial No. 139,260. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW P. BECK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Greenville, county of Montcalm, and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Latch and Handle, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to combined latches and handles.

The invention has for its object to provide an effectual and inexpensive combined latch and handle for the doors of refrigerators and doors of the same character.

The invention also has divers other objects more fully hereinafter set forth.

The nature of the invention consists in the combination, with a door, a bracket comprising two rectangular plates, an ear, and a flange, all integral and fastened on said door, and a curved lever having lateral extensions pivoted between said flange and ear, of a bowed jamb-plate notched in its edge and arranged so that being engaged by one of the extensions of said lever such lever is enabled to hold said door in closed position and said jamb-plate and said lever so arranged that they are both reversible, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

The nature of the invention also consists in divers other novel features, which will be fully understood from the following general description and the annexed drawings and will be subsequently pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, which are hereby made a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a refrigerator-door and a part of the jambs thereof with my invention attached. Fig. 2 is a face view in elevation of my invention. Fig. 3 is an edge view in elevation of the same, showing a part of the door-jamb in section.

A designates a bracket embodying the plate A′, which is substantially of rectangular form, the flange *a* forming an integral part of and extended at right angles to the plate A′ and the ear *a′*, which is also integral with said plate A′ and extended parallel with the flange *a*. The flange *a* and the ear *a′* are so arranged that there will be enough space between them to pivot the end of a lever therein, as hereinafter set forth.

B designates a door to which this bracket is fastened by means of screws, bolts, or in any other available way. D designates a lever which is bent as illustrated and has at one end the extension *c*. It has also the side extensions *d* and *d′* opposite to each other and standing at right angles to the body of the lever. This lever is pivoted by one end between the flange *a* and the ear *a′* by a pin a^2, passing through said ear, lever, and flange.

c′ designates a plate fastened on the door to prevent the end of the extension *c* from marring the door.

E designates a metallic plate having the bends *e* e' e^2 e^3, as illustrated. This plate E, which is the jamb-plate, is also cut with the notch *f* and is to be fastened to the jamb, as illustrated, by screws, bolts, or in any other convenient and available way. It is here shown as being so arranged that when the door is closed the extension *d* of the lever D will pass through the notch *f* and engage the inner face of the plate E.

To use my invention, the parts are to be assembled and fastened as illustrated. To close the door, the operator, grasping the lever with his hand, raises it into the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3. He then pushes the door to, still holding the lever in the same position. Just as the door closes the extension *d* of the lever D passes through the notch *f*. Then if the operator deflects the lever D into the position illustrated in full lines in Fig. 3 the extension *d*, engaging the inside surface of the jamb-plate E, as illustrated, will drive the door home, and the lever, resting with its extension *c* on the plate *c′*, will hold the door firmly in such closed position. To open the door, the operator lifts the lever again into the position illustrated in dotted lines in said Fig. 3. The extension *d* will then register the notch *f* and when the operator pulls on said lever D will come out through the notch *f* and the door will be free

to be opened. The lever D may thus be used both as a lever to clamp the door in closed position and also as a handle for the latching device. It will also be seen that the lever D is provided with extensions on each side, so that it may be inverted, and that the jamb-plate E is also constructed so that it can be inverted. In this way this latch may be used with a door opening to the right or a door opening to the left, as may be required.

In the example of my invention here given I have illustrated my invention as applied to the door of a refrigerator; but it is evident that it can be successfully applied to divers other doors used for divers other purposes. I therefore do not confine myself strictly to the construction and arrangement here shown and described, as it is evident that under the scope and spirit of my invention I am entitled to such changes of form and arrangement as can be made without departing from the scope thereof.

Having now described what my invention is and how the same is constructed and used, what I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination with a door, a bracket embodying two rectangular base-plates, an ear and a flange, all integral, and fastened to said door, and a curved lever pivoted between said flange and ear, and having lateral extensions, of the bowed jamb-plate having a notch in the edge thereof, and arranged so that by being engaged by said extension of the lever, said lever is enabled to clamp said door in closed position, the bowed jamb-plate and the lever being reversible for use in connection with either a right or left hand door, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 11th day of December, 1902.

ANDREW P. BECK.

Witnesses:
CHAS. KYLE,
C. M. CHITTICK.