

No. 753,323.

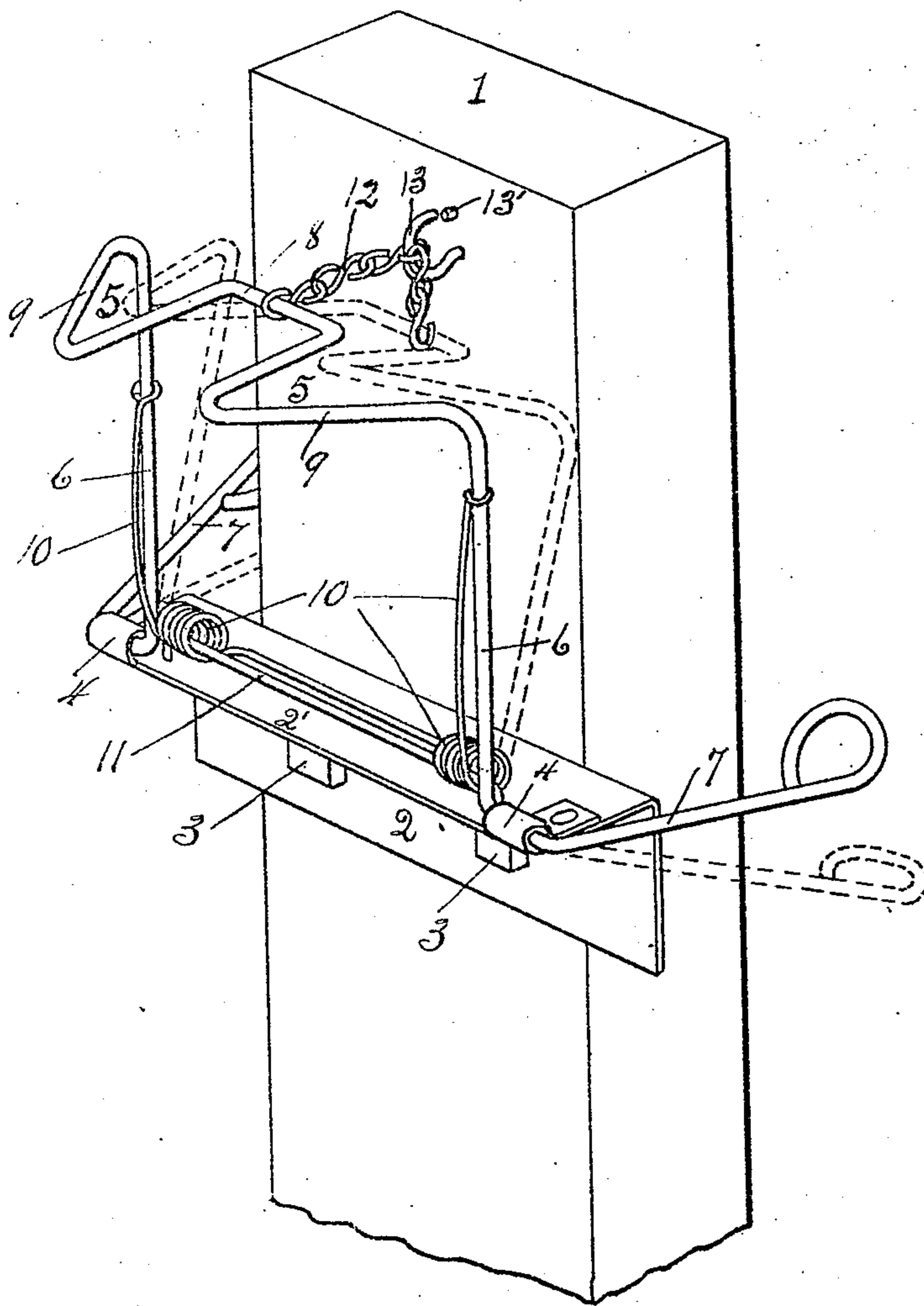
PATENTED MAR. 1, 1904.

W. A. SEBRING.

GATE LATCH.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 19, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER A. SEBRING, OF BLISSFIELD, MICHIGAN.

## GATE-LATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 753,323, dated March 1, 1904.

Application filed October 19, 1903. Serial No. 177,570. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALTER A. SEBRING, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Blissfield, in the county of Lenawee and State of Michigan, 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 the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which forms a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improved form of gate-latch for use in connection with any of the ordinary forms of swinging gates, and has for its object to provide an article of this class that is simple and cheap in its construction, efficient in operation, and capable of adjustment to compensate for the shrinkage or falling away of the gate from the gate-post.

While the essential and characteristic features of my invention are necessarily susceptible of modification, the preferred embodiment thereof is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, which is a perspective vertical elevation of the same in normally extended position as it appears attached to a post.

Referring to the drawing, 1 represents a gate-post or other stationary object in contiguous position to the free edge of a gate, to which the supporting-bracket 2, having the horizontally-disposed flange 2' thereon, is rigidly secured by means of the bolts or other fastening means 3. The flange 2' of the bracket 2 is provided at its outer edge with the bearings 4 4, in which is pivotally mounted the latch 5 of my invention. The said latch 5, which I have shown as comprising a single piece of wire, is bent to form the vertical arms 6, extending upwardly from said pivotal point, the thumb-levers 7 extending rearwardly from said pivotal point and a horizontal portion connecting the upper end of said arms 6, said portion forming the reentrant bend or recess 8 for the reception of the contiguous edge of a gate adapted to be engaged thereby. The rear or closed portion of said recess 8 is substantially in horizontal alinement with the upper

ends of the arms 6 of the latch, and the forward portions thereof are connected to said arms by the diagonally-disposed rearwardly-extending portions 9 9, which act as beveled ways for receiving the thrust of the gate and forcing the latch back when the gate is being closed. The bevels 9, being provided on either side of the recess 8, permit of the locking of the gate when swinging in either direction with relation to the latch 5.

It will be apparent that while I have shown the latch 5 as being formed from a single piece of wire, the same may be cast or otherwise made from metal or other suitable material, so long as the spirit of my invention is not departed from.

To adapt the latch 5 to be normally retained in extended position from the post 1 and in engagement with the contiguous portion of a gate, I provide the spring 10, which is coiled about a retaining-bar 11, secured to the flange 2' and has its ends extended and engaging the arms 6 6 of said latch.

The outward swinging movement of the latch 5 is limited by the chain 12, which has one end secured to the portion 8 of said latch and its other end removably secured to the screw-hook 13 on the post 1. Owing to the fact that gates are generally located in exposed places they are subject to frequent changes in size and shape depending upon the condition of the weather, and it is therefore important to be able to lengthen or shorten the chain 12, thus varying the oscillatory movement of said latch and permitting of a nice adjustment thereof with relation to the gate to be engaged. This may be accomplished by turning the hook 13 away from the lug 13', removing the engaging link of the chain 12 therefrom, and reengaging it at the desired point.

While I have shown the latch 5 as being mounted on the bracket 2 slightly in advance of the post 1, it will be apparent that said latch may be mounted within a transverse recess or niche provided in the face of the post 1, and it will also be apparent that my improved latch may be secured to the moving edge of the gate as well as to the gate-post, as shown.



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

1. In a gate-latch, a member having a horizontally-disposed recess therein, beveled ways leading rearwardly from the mouth of said recess, and one or more vertically-disposed pivotally-mounted supporting-arms, means in engagement with said arms for normally retaining said member in one position, and means for limiting the oscillatory movement thereof, substantially as described.

2. In a gate-latch, a member having a horizontally-recessed portion and vertically-disposed pivotally-mounted supporting-arms, beveled ways leading rearwardly in opposite directions from said recess, a spring in engagement with said arms for normally retaining said member in one position, and means for limiting the oscillation of said member, substantially as described.

3. A gate-latch comprising a supporting-bracket, a vertically-disposed member pivoted thereto and having a recess in a portion thereof adapted to receive a contiguous object, beveled ways leading from the mouth of said re-

cess, one or more arms on said member, means for normally retaining said member in one position, and adjustable means for limiting the oscillatory movement thereof, substantially as described.

4. In a gate-latch, a pivotally-mounted member having a horizontally-disposed recess in a portion thereof, means for normally retaining said member in one position, and adjustable means for limiting the oscillatory movement of said member.

5. A gate-latch comprising a gate-engaging member pivotally secured to a stationary object and having a recess therein adapted to receive and engage the contiguous edge of a gate, means for normally retaining said member in such engaged position, and adjustable means for limiting the pivotal movement of said member, substantially as described.

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

WALTER A. SEBRING.

Witnesses:

CORNELL SCHREIBER,

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