

No. 879,266.

PATENTED FEB. 18, 1908.

O. M. HURST.

FARM GATE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 6, 1907.

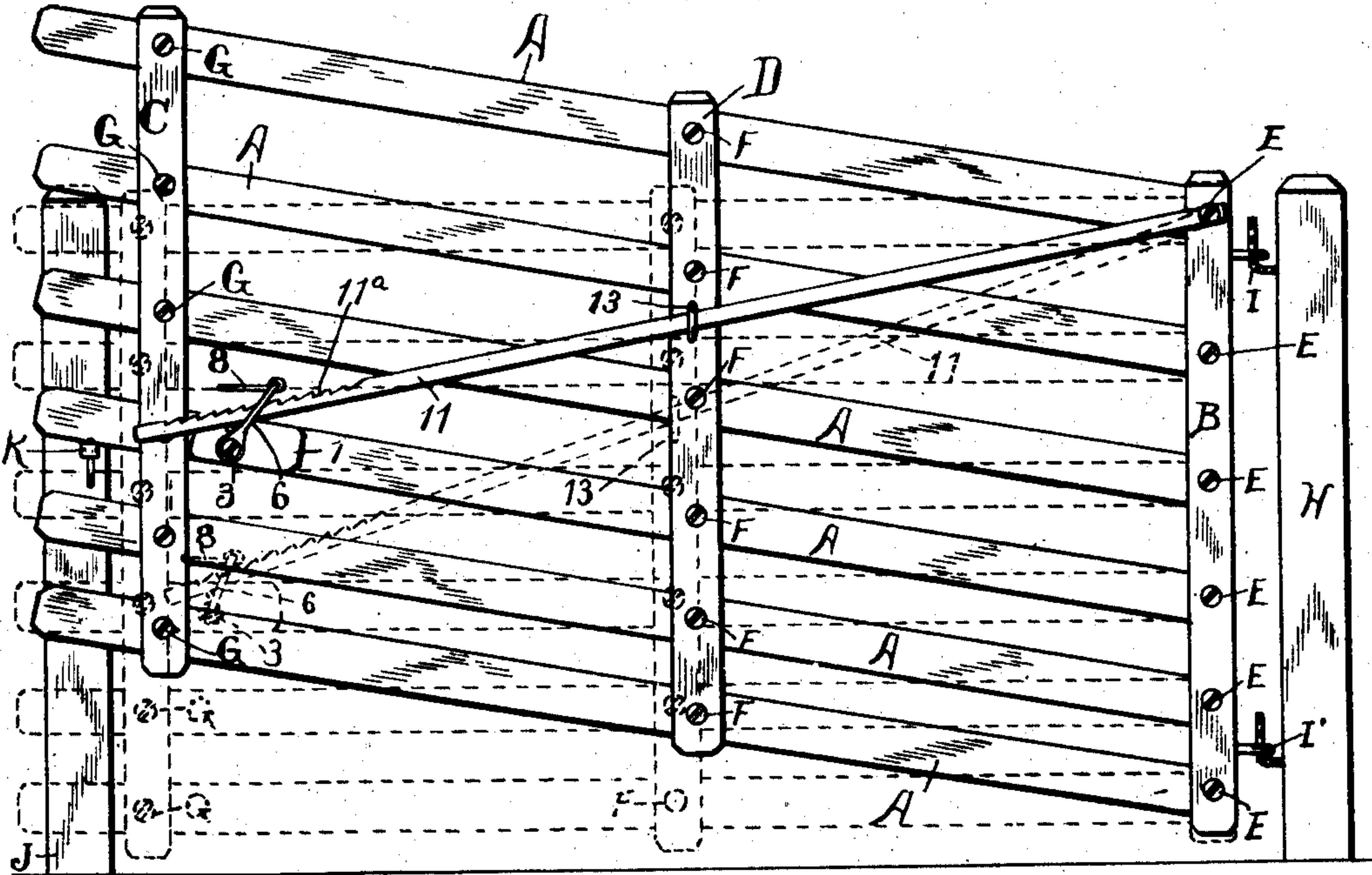


Fig. 1.

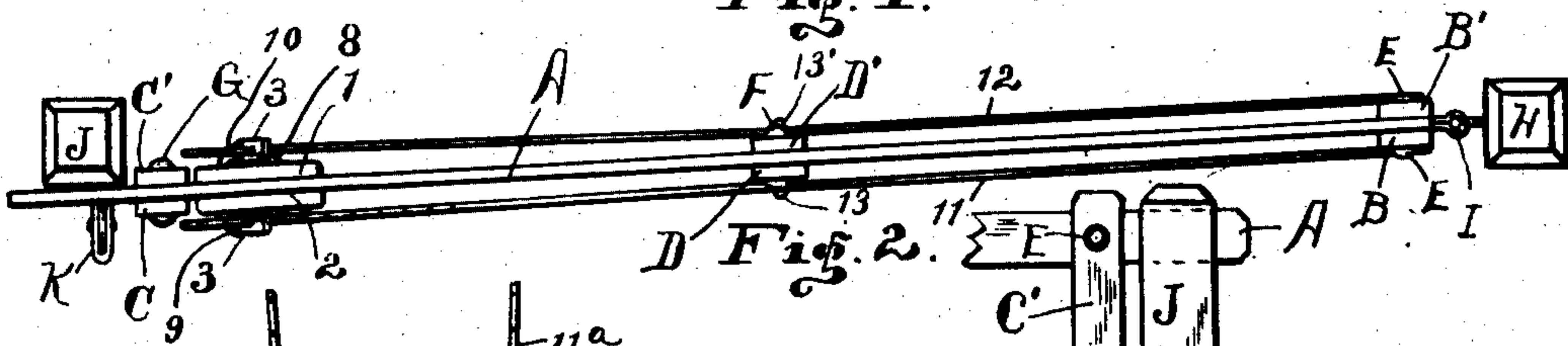


Fig. 2.

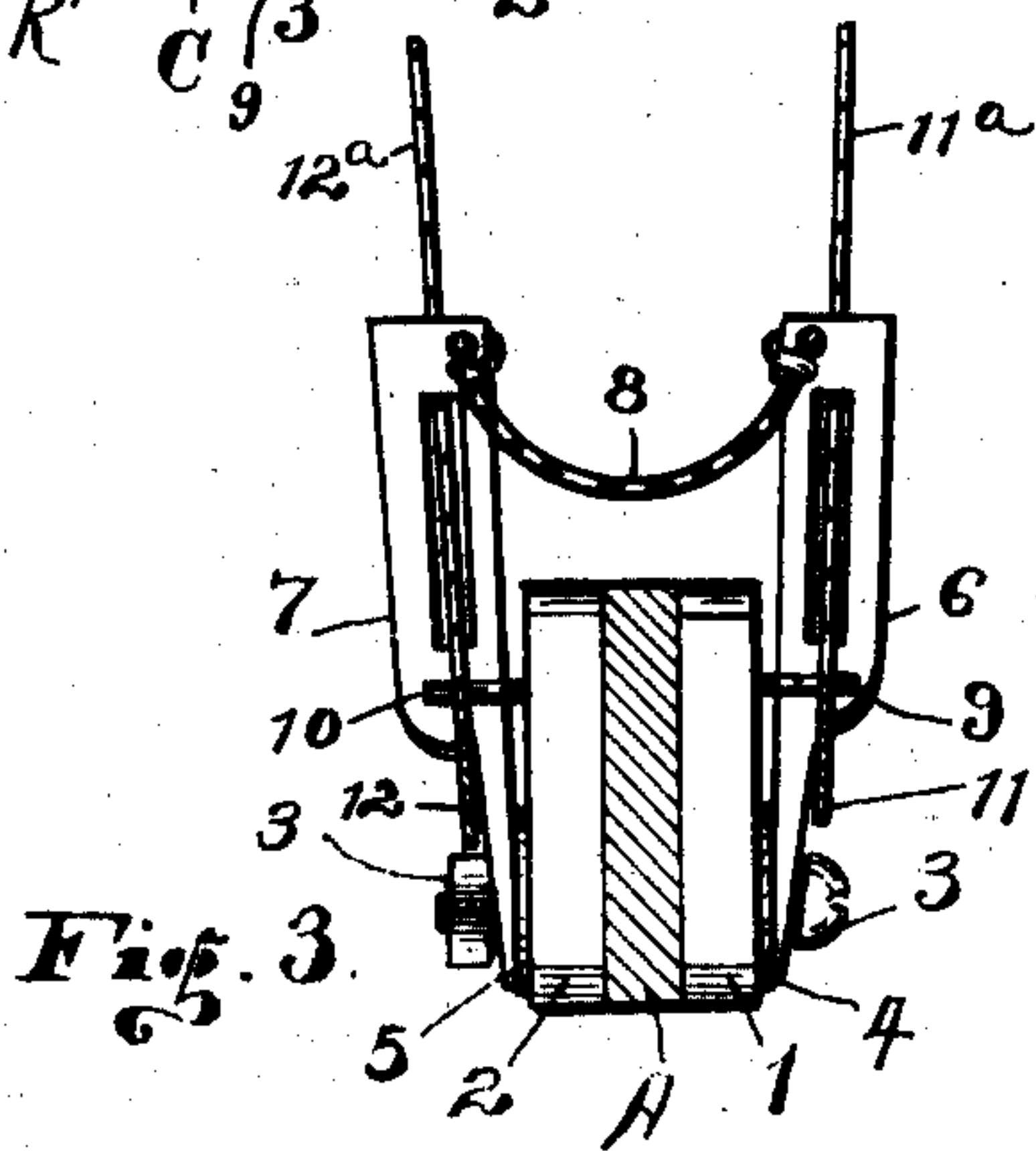


Fig. 3.

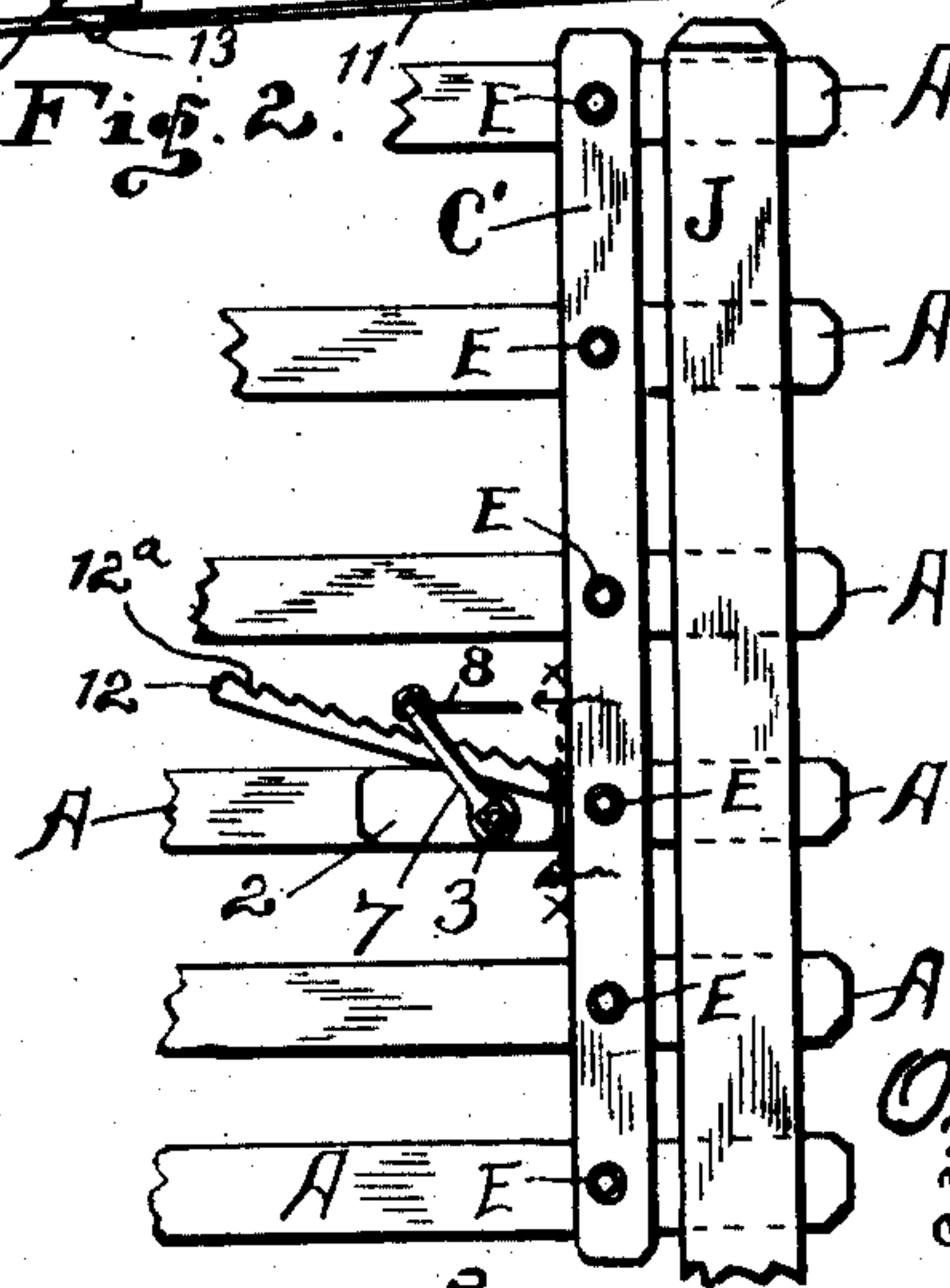


Fig. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR M. HURST, OF CENTERVILLE, INDIANA.

## FARM-GATE.

No. 879,266.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 18, 1908.

Application filed September 6, 1907. Serial No. 391,585.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, OSCAR M. HURST, of Centerville, in the county of Wayne and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Farm-Gates, of which the following is a full and accurate specification and exposition, being such as will enable others to make and use the same with absolute exactitude.

My present invention contemplates certain specific improvements in adjustable and horizontally swinging farm-gates.

The object of my invention, broadly speaking, is to provide a farm-gate which will be strong and durable in construction, neat and attractive in appearance, which may be easily operated and controlled, and which can be manufactured and sold at a comparatively low price.

A more specific object is to provide a farm-gate formed of double end-stiles, a plurality of rails pivotally connecting to the stiles at either end, and means for suspending the gate whereby it may be supported at any desired inclination vertically.

Other objects and particular advantages will be brought out in the course of the ensuing specification, and the points which are new will be set forth in the appended claims.

The preferred manner for the construction of my invention and that which in practice I have found to be the most practical is shown most clearly in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a gate embodying my invention, showing the free end of the gate partly raised, and with dotted lines showing the gate in normal position. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the invention. Fig. 3 is a sectional view, taken in the direction indicated by the arrows on the line  $x-x$  of Fig. 4. And Fig. 4 is a detail side elevation of a portion of the gate, taken on the opposite side of the gate from that shown in Fig. 1.

Similar indices denote and refer to like parts throughout the several views of the one sheet of drawings.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, the letters A denote a plurality of bars, of equal lengths, which are spaced the desired distances apart as indicated. I employ three stiles, of equal lengths, each being composed of two members: the inner stile being composed of the members B and B'; the outer stile composed of the members C and C'; and

the center stile being composed of the members D and D'. The members B, C and D are located vertically in contact with one side of the rails A, and the members B', C' and D' are located opposite thereto on the other side of said rails as shown. At the center of the intersections of each of the rails A with the members B—B' of the inner stile are bolts E which form pivotal connections between the stiles B—B' and the respective bars A. In like manner the members D and D' of the center stile are pivotally connected to the rails A by the bolts F. And like unto the above the members C and C' of the outer stile are pivotally connected to the rails A, a short distance inward from the ends of the rails, by the bolts G.

The letter H refers to the inner or hinge post for the gate, to which it is connected by the hinges I and I'.

The letter J denotes the outer or latch post, with which the free or outer end of the gate may be detachably connected by the latch K.

My invention proper lies, more particularly, in the construction which I will now describe: Secured on either side of one of the rails A and located adjoining, or near, the members C and C' are the blocks 1 and 2 which are of thicknesses the same as the members C and C'.

The numeral 3 denotes a bolt which is disposed transversely through the blocks 1 and 2 and through the rail A to which the blocks are secured. Strung on said bolt 3 are two washers 4 and 5 contacting with the faces of the respective blocks 1 and 2.

The numerals 6 and 7 denote independent ratchets, of identical construction, having a flattened portion to contact with the respective washers 4 and 5, each having an eye therethrough for the bolt 3, and retained pivotally in place by the bolt 3 as indicated. Each of said ratchets has an upwardly extending flattened portion which is at right angles to the lower flattened portion, and formed in said upwardly extending portions are substantially vertical slots, for the purposes presently appearing. The upper or free ends of said ratchets are connected by a bale or link 8. Extending out, oppositely to each other, from the blocks 1 and 2 are the pins 9 and 10 located immediately above the bolt 3, with which the respective ratchets 6 and 7 engage to prevent them from being thrown over forward, for the purposes presently to be explained.



The numerals 11 and 12 designate two identical metal bars both pivoted at their upper ends on the upper bolt E and contacting with the faces of the respective members B and B' of the inner stile. Said bars 11 and 12 extend downwardly and forwardly from the upper bolt E, crossing at an angle the members D and D', and extending even with or slightly beyond the members C and C'. The bar 11 passes through the vertical slot in the ratchet 6, and likewise the bar 12 passes through the slot in the ratchet 7, as shown in Fig. 3. In the upper edges of the outward end portions of the bars 11 and 12 are formed series of notches, 11<sup>a</sup> and 12<sup>a</sup> respectively, in which may engage the inner upper edges of the respective slots, as is clearly indicated.

The numerals 13 and 13' denote staples which stride the respective bars 11 and 12 near their centers and by which said bars are held slidably in contact with the respective members D and D' in which said staples are secured.

From the above it is notably apparent that the outer or free end of the gate may be raised and lowered and suspended at any height at which it is left, by reason of the automatic engagement of the ratchets 6 and 7 with the notches of the bars 11 and 12 as shown. It will also be apparent that if it is desired to lower the gate, as to the position shown by dotted lines, then I have only to lift the free end of the gate enough to release the pressure from the ratchets, then by pulling forward on the link 8 to remove the ratchets out of engagement with the notches 11<sup>a</sup> and 12<sup>a</sup> I am then enabled to allow the free end of the gate to move down sufficiently, after which the link 8 is released thus allowing the ratchets to again become operative and support the gate in its new position.

It should be noticed that while my invention is very simple it provides a positive support for the outer end of the gate, and that there is no danger that the vertical position of the gate will change after being adjusted by the operator.

Having now fully shown my invention and its intended operation what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a farm-gate, the combination with a gate formed of rails and stiles pivoted together with means for hinging the gate, a pair of ratchets located on the sides of the gate near its free end and below its center vertically, a metal bar located on each side of the gate and pivoted at one end to the upper end of the hinged portion of the gate and extending downwardly and forward through their respective ratchets and each having a series of notches on their upper edges to engage with said ratchets, means for normally retaining said ratchets in engagement with said notches, and means for releasing both of said ratchets at one time, all substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

2. In combination with a gate formed of a plurality of rails pivotally connected to end and center stiles and means for hinging one end of the gate to a post, two independent ratchets located on opposite sides of the lower forward portion of the gate, a bolt on which both of the ratchets are pivoted, the upper portion of said ratchets being flattened transversely with a vertical slot formed through said flattened portions, a flat metal bar pivoted on both sides of the gate to the upper hinged portion thereof and extending downward and forward and passing through the slot of the respective ratchets, a series of notches formed in the upper edges of said bars to engage with said ratchets, pins for retaining the ratchets in position, and a staple secured in the center stile for each of said bars to form guides and supports therefor, all substantially as shown and described.

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

OSCAR M. HURST.

Witnesses:

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R. E. RANDLE.