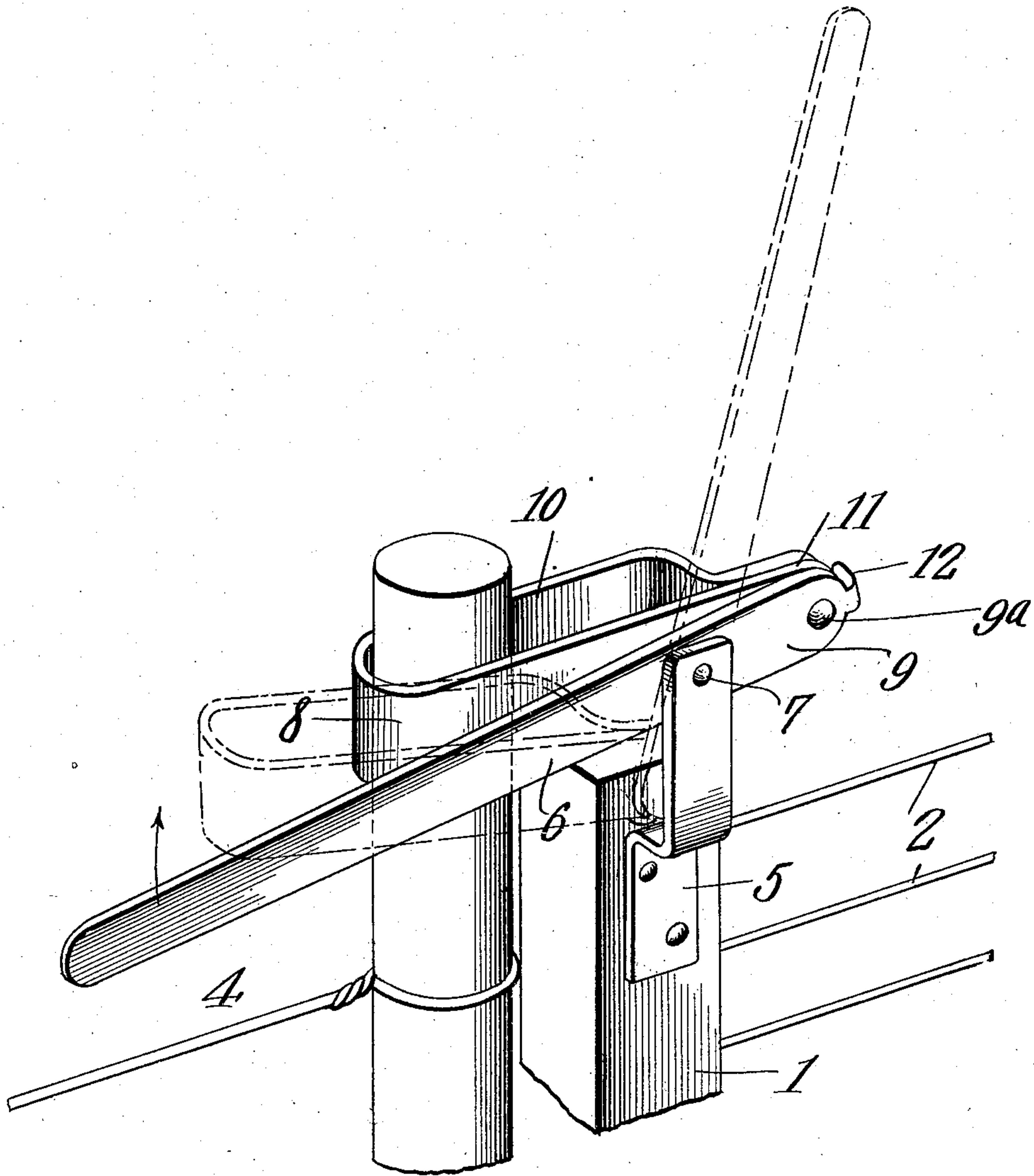


No. 889,492.

PATENTED JUNE 2, 1908.

T. J. THOMPSON.
GATE FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 25, 1908.



Witnesses

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THEODORE J. THOMPSON, OF LAKESIDE, NEBRASKA.

GATE-FASTENER.

No. 889,492.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 2, 1908.

Application filed January 25, 1908. Serial No. 412,661.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE J. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lakeside, in the county of Sheridan and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Gate-Fastener, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to gate fasteners, more especially to such gates as are formed in wire fences; and has for its object to provide a fastening for the top of the gate which shall be cheap, simple and secure, and besides forming a fastener for said gate it also acts on the gate end to hold the wire strands thereof under tension.

With this object in view the invention consists of the construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawing which represents a perspective view of a portion of a wire fence, a wire gate, and the fastener therefor complete and in locked position, 1 indicates a terminal fence post to which the ends of the fence strands 2 are attached, 3 the end post of the gate and 4 one of the gate strands.

Bolted or otherwise fastened to one side of the fence post 1 near its top is an offset bracket 5 extending above the top of the post and carrying on its upper end a straight hand lever 6 fulcrumed to the inner side of the bracket by a pivot pin or bolt 7 intermediate its ends. The hand lever 6 is approximately parallel to the fence and its longer arm projects some distance rearwardly of the gate post 3 and serves to operate the fastener 8. To the shorter arm 9 of the hand lever, one end of the gate fastener 8 is pivoted, the other end of the fastener when in operative position is in engagement with the end post 3 of the gate. The fastener 8 is made of metal and preferably in the form of an elongated loop 10 adapted to fit over the gate post 3, and having a projection 11 at one end by means of which the fastener is pivoted to the short end of the hand lever 9 by a bolt 9^a. Either strap or plate, or cast metal may be used in the construction of the fastener but strap or plate metal is preferred as it can be

quickly bent into shape and is stronger than cast metal.

On the short end 9 of the hand lever is a finger 12 which projects over that end 11 of the fastener which is pivoted to said short end of the lever.

Assuming that the gate is closed and it is desired to open it, the lever is grasped by the hand and raised in the direction indicated by the arrow. During this movement of the lever the fastener 8 is being lowered at its end pivotally connected to the lever and carried rearwardly away from the gate post 3. This movement of the gate fastener continues until the hand lever 6 reaches about the position indicated by dotted lines, at which point the finger 12 having been carried below the projection 11 on the fastener 8, engages said projection and lifts the loop 10 on further movement of the hand lever, and swings it over the top of the gate and fence posts behind the latter leaving the passageway free of any projections extending thereinto. After passing through the gate it is fastened by a reverse movement of the loop and hand-lever, the grip end of the latter being carried below its pivot bolt so that the pivotally attached end of the fastener will be raised above said pivot bolt and thereby self locked.

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

1. A gate fastener comprising a bracket fastened to a fence post and extending above the same, a hand lever fulcrumed intermediate its ends on the upper end of said bracket, an elongated metal loop adapted to fit over the gate post and having a projection pivoted to the shorter arm of said lever in such manner that the gate post is drawn towards the fence post or relieved from strain as the hand lever is moved toward or away from said gate and means on said lever adapted to lift said loop over said gate post.

2. A gate fastener comprising a bracket fastened to a fence post and extending above the same, a hand lever fulcrumed intermediate its ends on the upper end of said bracket, an elongated metal loop adapted to

fit over the gate post and having a projection
pivoted to the shorter arm of said lever in
such manner that the gate post is drawn to-
wards the fence post or relieved from strain
5 as the hand lever is moved toward or away
from said gate, and a lug on said lever adapt-
ed to extend beneath said loop and raise the
same.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my own, I have hereto affixed my signature 10
in the presence of two witnesses.

THEODORE J. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

F. S. McCLAIN,
A. H. MALASKI.